Enhancing anticipatory care planning through partnership working

the STACCATO approach



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BACKGROUND

Scotland has an ageing population
– government estimates suggest a 50% increase in over 60s by 2033

The Scottish Government is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of the people of Scotland by "shifting the balance of care". This means increasing our emphasis on health improvement and anticipatory care, providing more continuous care and more support closer to home

Crucially, this requires an integrated, partnership approach between the NHS and Local Authorities and relevant agencies from the voluntary sector.

The involved agencies in the STACCATO project are

- NHS Borders
- Scottish Borders Council
- Borders Carers Centre
- Red Cross
- Dementia Service and other service providers.

WHAT IS A STACCATO ASSESSMENT?

STACCATO is the **ST**ow **A**nticipatory **C**are **C**ommunity **A**ssessment **TO**ol

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This is a computer-based tool, developed jointly between Health and Social Work, assessing both health and social care needs. It comprises a full assessment of what a person is able to do for themselves and what help they are currently receiving.

Using information gained, families will be helped to form a care plan for when the person being assessed is unwell. The aim is to help health and social care staff ensure people are getting all the assistance they need to try and prevent problems and to keep them as independent as possible at home. If people have a relative or friend who helps look after them (their carer) then the assessment will also help to make sure they are receiving the support they need to continue to do this.

METHODS & RESULTS

A preliminary process evaluation assessing the efficacy and ease of use of the new tool was conducted and followed up with a qualitative study encompassing interviews with those who have completed a STACCATO assessment and their carers.

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mani carer and outer mornial carers.				Current situation		Patient unwell	Main carer absent
isit Time	Tasks to be completed	Degree of assistance required	Comments: details of specific tasks to be undertaken	Task undertaken by (Please select)	Additional care need identified at this assessment (Tick if yes)	Anticipated care tasks to be undertaken by (please select)	Anticipated care tasks to be undertaken by (please select)
Early morning	Assistance with transfers	Independent		Patient/client receives no help		One professional carer	Patient/client requires no help
	Assistance with toileting	Independent with or without equipment		Patient/client receives no help		Patient/client receives no help	Patient/client requires no help
	Assistance with washing	Independent with or without equipment		Patient/client receives no help		One professional carer	Patient/client requires no help
	Assistance with dressing	Dresses independently with or without equipment		Patient/client receives no help		One professional carer	Patient/client requires no help
	Provide breakfast	Independent with or without frozen meals		Patient/client receives no help		Main informal carer	Patient/client requires no help
	Assistance with feeding	Independent		Patient/client receives no help		Main informal carer	Patient/client requires no help
		Awara and able to drink					

Identifying unmet need:

Only 6% of clients had an existing Anticipatory Care Plan in place in the event of them being unwell and no-one had an Anticipatory Care Plan in place in the event of their main carer being absent. In two thirds of cases, the STACCATO assessment identified at least one unmet medical or social care issue.

Impact of a care plan being implemented from a carer perspective:

"Once it [care plan] was in place, it seemed to go like clockwork. Without it, I would have been lost, because she would have had to go somewhere. I don't worry so much now because I know that if it ever happens again, it's going to be there. I feel more reassured in myself."

CARER

Impact of STACCATO assessment from a social work perspective:

"I can't stress enough how fantastic it was to see it all written down, what had to be done. It just made life a whole lot easier. Work had obviously been done beforehand and you could tell that."

DUTY SOCIAL WORKER

CONCLUSION

STACCATO shows great promise as a comprehensive functional and social assessment tool and leads the way in providing integrated, joined up support for the increasing numbers of people living into older age, many with multiple, complex support needs.

REFERENCES

http://www.shiftingthebalance.scot.nhs.uk/ Integration of Adult Health and Social Care in Scotland: Consultation on Proposals (2012), The Scottish Government, Edinburgh.



