

Integrating tobacco cessation interventions in the routine of care in a rehabilitation hospital serving rural patients in WA State, USA.

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Background

Before the project (May 2015):

- Tobacco use status was not asked. Documentation of tobacco use was done by transferring data from previous hospitalization (*).
- The hospital had a smoking area for patients and staff.
- No staff were trained or assigned to address tobacco use among patients.
- There were no protocols in place for relapse prevention support after discharge.



Goals and objectives

GOAL - implement an evidence-based tobacco cessation program for inpatients.

Objectives

- Educate clinical staff on evidence-based tobacco dependence interventions
- Modify inpatient medical record systems to support and document tobacco cessation interventions
- Implement a pharmacist-assisted tobacco use treatment program.
- Implement a discharge protocol
 - Prescriptions
 - Referral

(*) in the great majority of cases, rehabilitation hospital's patients are transferred from other hospitals.

Interventions: Trainings and EMR modifications

Education and Capacity Building

- Pharmacists have been trained as tobacco cessation specialists
- Nurses were trained to assess tobacco use at admission
- Clinical staff were trained on non-confrontational, non-judgmental approaches to tobacco users' possible frustration for not being able to smoke in the hospital

Electronic Health Records

Modified to:

- Prompt tobacco use screening
- Generate request to Pharmacy Department:
 - tobacco counseling
 - pharmacotherapy
- Document referral and pharmacotherapy at discharge

MediLinks - Data Entry

SELECT Do you need any type of tobacco treatment medication to keep you comfortable while you are in the hospital?

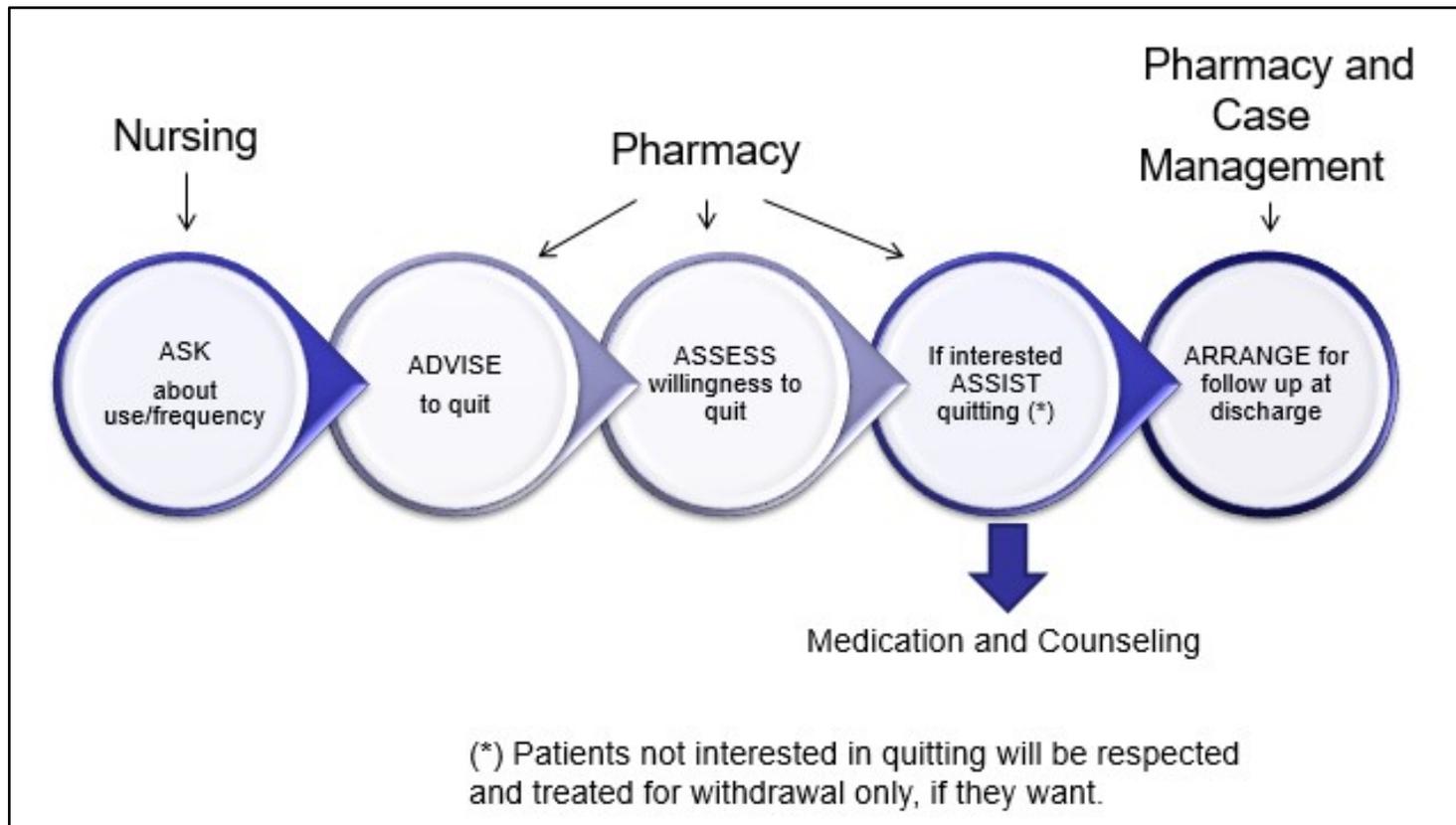
Yes
No

MediLinks - Data Entry

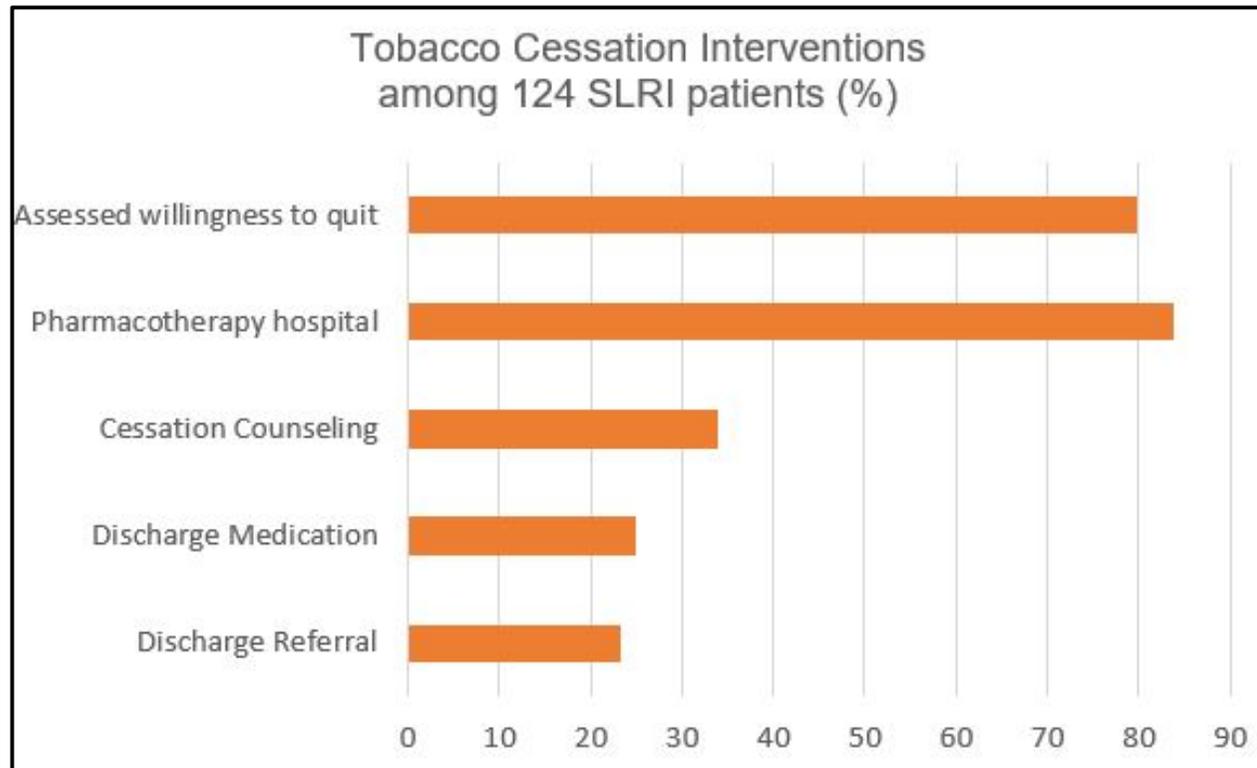
SELECT status of patient's willingness to quit tobacco products

Yes, interested in quitting
Interested in withdrawal symptoms relief only
Not interested in quitting or meds for withdrawal symptoms

Interventions: Technical Assistance and System Implementation



Results: Tobacco Cessation Interventions(*)



(*) 124 patients correspond to 53% of all tobacco users (n=232) identified at SLRI from the date of tobacco cessation program implementation (1.12.15) to 12.9.2016.

Impact on SLRI health care community

- Clinical System to address tobacco use among patients implemented.
 - All patients in 2016 were assessed for tobacco use. About half of them received some kind of tobacco cessation intervention.
 - After one year of new systems, there is a drive to improve the tobacco cessation program (instead of questioning its existence)
- SLRI closed down its smoking area and implemented a tobacco-free campus on 1.1.16, a month after implementation of new tobacco-related clinical interventions.
- Pharmacy students and Pharmacists are in charge of tobacco cessation interventions.