



Category: Personalisation of Care

Award Reference Number: 1073
Region: South East
Disease: Nutrition/intestinal failure
Organisation Type: In pat/community
Intervention: Earlier return home
Key words:

Clinical Nutrition

Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust

Setting: Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust is a large District General Hospital with approx 1200 beds and 7000 members of staff, serving a diverse population in excess of 600,00. The Nutrition Nurse Team provide expert advice and support to patients requiring artificial feeding both within the acute Trust and in the community setting.

Introduction: The Intestinal Failure programme was developed to facilitate the early discharge of patients with intestinal failure through novel methods of enteral feeding and out patient management by the Nutrition MDT. This particular group of patients have often had abdominal surgery resulting in disconnection of the upper bowel from the lower bowel and formation of a loop ileostomy. This means that they have "short bowel syndrome" and are essentially unable to keep themselves hydrated due to increased stoma losses. Historically these patients would have remained in hospital until such a time as they had further surgery to rejoin the bowel, often for a minimum of 3 months, requiring intravenous food and fluid treatment. We started treating the patients with salt supplemented enteral feeds/solutions via nasogastric/enteral tubes negating the need for intravenous treatment. Once the patient was stable we then realised that it would be possible to discharge the patients with the right training and support; hence the IF programme was developed. The expected outcomes would be an improvement in quality of life, person centred patient experience and a benefit to the Trust in financial savings regarding the number of in patient bed days saved.

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