STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVES ON PATIENT EXPERIENCE WITH TRANSITIONAL CARE AFTER AN ACUTE NEUROLOGICAL EVENT IN ARGENTINA

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PROJECT SUMMARY: The lack of a hospital to home transitional care strategy represents a gap in services that threatens patients’ ability to heal after an acute injury or illness and unduly burdens their caregivers. This study uses Brofenbrenner’s ecological systems theory to ethnographically explore perceptions and attitudes of caregivers, healthcare providers, and service leaders about patients’ experiences with transitional care after an acute neurological event in Argentina. Findings can inform development and improvement of patient and family-centered care across the care continuum.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

AIM 1: To qualitatively explore patient and family experience with newly acquired disability while transitioning from hospital to home after an acute neurological illness or injury.

AIM 2: To qualitatively explore patient and family experience with newly acquired disability while transitioning from hospital to rehabilitation center after an acute neurological illness or injury.

AIM 3: To understand the Argentinean healthcare system, specifically relating to disability.

METHODOLOGY

10 weeks of direct observation of daily patient rounds by providers in an Intensive Care Unit

23 qualitative, semi-structured interviews
• 15 family caregivers (unpaid family members)
• 4 providers (front line health professionals)
• 4 service leaders (hospital administrators, community program leaders, and health professionals not providing direct care)

Caregiver interview topics: caregiver experience, patient experience, challenges, coping, anticipated outcome, and obstacles

Provider and service leader interview topics: provider experience and knowledge, attitude, and practice questions regarding patient and caregiver experience

WHAT IS TRANSITIONAL CARE? A set of actions designed to ensure the coordination and continuity of health care as patients transfer between different locations/levels of care within the same location (Coleman, 2003).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: This project would not have been possible without the support and guidance of Dr. Janet Prvu Bettger, Dr. Fernando Goldenberg, Dr. Victoria Marquevich, Nadia Tessore, Dr. Foda Rosciani, Dr. Rolando Baez, Dr. Eduardo San Roman, Dr. Nico Ciarrochi, Dr. Karrie Stewart, Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires, Hospital Universitario Austral, and the Duke Global Health Institute.