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Addressing Barriers to Care: Strategies for the Management of Patients with Schizophrenia

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- Physicians (CME)
- Nurses (CNE)
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Live Premiere/Release Date: December 16, 2009 • Credit Expiration Date: December 16, 2010
 Offered Until: December 16, 2010 • *NOTE: No live CE credit is being offered for this activity.*

STATEMENT OF NEED

Until the past decade, there was generally a pessimistic attitude about the treatment of patients with schizophrenia and their outcomes. One key concept that has been identified as critical in optimizing the care and outcomes of patients is continuity of care by a team of healthcare providers. Continuity of care is widely viewed as a key quality indicator for outpatient mental health care and is essential to prevention of relapse and re-hospitalization.¹

Yet, progress has lagged in the implementation and measurement of continuity of care in clinical practice. In a recent educational activity by CME Outfitters, over 220 psychiatrists responded that their main reason for not changing practice immediately regarding continuity of care was they did not know where to start, demonstrating a gap in knowledge and performance regarding the implementation of this process in clinical practice. A first step to improving care is identifying the barriers that exist. Patient barriers, physician barriers and system barriers can be significant obstacles requiring education of the entire mental healthcare team in order to begin to break down the walls and allow clinicians to provide the best care for each patient.

The identification of the barriers can be the first step in empowering both the provider and the patient. This can highlight to psychiatrists, other healthcare providers, payors, and healthcare systems what barriers may exist and how they are impacting the outcomes and lives of patients.

In this neuroscienceCME Live and On Demand activity, faculty will highlight barriers to optimal care and their impact on the outcomes and lives of patients with schizophrenia and propose practical strategies and tools that can be utilized to improve the care of patients with schizophrenia.

¹ Adair CE, McDougall GM, Beckie A, et al. *Psychiatr Serv* 2003;54:1351-1356.

ACTIVITY GOAL

To offer clinicians optimal strategies to more effectively manage individuals with schizophrenia across the continuum of care.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of this CE activity, participants should be able to:

- Assess key barriers in practice that impact continuity of care in the management of patients with schizophrenia.
- Implement treatment plans in concordance with patients that focus on improving continuity of care.
- Incorporate tools and measures in practice to improve discharge transitions of patients with schizophrenia.

The following learning objectives pertain only to those requesting CNE credit:

- Identify key barriers in practice that impact continuity of care in the management of patients with schizophrenia.
- Discuss treatment plans in concordance with patients that focus on improving continuity of care.
- Identify tools and measures in practice to improve discharge transitions of patients with schizophrenia.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, psychologists, social workers, certified case managers, pharmacists, and other healthcare professionals interested in the management of patients with schizophrenia.

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CREDIT INFORMATION

CME Accreditation (Physicians): Indiana University School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Indiana University School of Medicine designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)[™]. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Note to Physician Assistants: AAPA accepts Category I credit from AOACCME, Prescribed credit from AAFP, and AMA Category I CME credit for the PRA from organizations accredited by ACCME.

CNE Credit (Nurses): This continuing nursing education activity was approved by the New York State Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

It has been assigned approval code 7ZDR4H-100.1.0 contact hours will be awarded upon successful completion.

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Universal Activity Number:
 376-999-09-027-L01-P (live presentation)
 376-999-09-027-H01-P (recorded programs)
 Activity Type: knowledge-based

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