

Rolling out AlphaFIM® in Alberta

June 24, 09



History

- The Functional Independence Measure or FIM™ is the tool most commonly used in Rehab Centers in North America for measuring functional outcomes.
- FIM™ is the recommended tool in the Stroke Rehab Determinants Table (http://www.strokestrategy.ab.ca/PDFs/APSS_Rehabilitation_and_Community_Reintegration.pdf, p. 24).
- APSS recommended the use of this table in Alberta to determine the most appropriate rehab setting for Stroke patients.
- AlphaFIM® is a shortened version of the FIM™. It's validity and utility has just been described by Dr. Granger .



History Continued

- The AlphaFIM® tool was mandated by the Ontario Stroke Strategy.
- APSS has identified a need to monitor functional status of stroke patients in acute care. (Important for planning post-acute services.)
- APSS decided to pilot the use of AlphaFIM® provincially.
- 400 people will be trained in Alberta, excluding Jasper to Cold Lake area.
- Jasper to Cold Lake area initiated training prior to AHS.
- This area has 75-100 therapists already trained in 16 facilities.



Who will be trained and where?

- OT's/ PT's/ SLP's and/or Nurses will be trained.
- Distribution of the 400 training seats will be based on stroke incidence in Alberta acute care sites.
- Training will be done by CIHI in September 2009 via web-conference.
- An implementation Team has been established – needing more representatives
- Implementation team members will work with acute care sites to ensure consistent implementation



Jasper to Cold Lake area

- 18 Sites over a vast geographical area with no major centers.
- Took a complete regional approach to implementation.
- Cost was a major factor in deciding who will be trained. Looked at which group of employees will cover most sites with the lowest numbers.
- 100 Therapists vs. almost 3000 Nurses (FT+ PT).
- Limitation: Timeframe for initial assessments will be 72 hours without training Nursing due to weekends.



Jasper to Cold Lake area

- Cost : Annual Subscriber Fee: 18 sites x \$495.00 = \$8910.00
Testing and Training (one time only)
AlphaFIM Mastery Test/per exam: 100 x \$35.00 = \$3500.00
AlphaFIM System Decision Trees: 100 x \$25.00 = \$2500.00
- Total initial cost: \$14 910.00



Training in Jasper to Cold lake area

- We decided to divide the region in West, Central and East with resulting training sessions in Hinton, Westlock and ST.Paul.
- We also arranged a fourth session in Westlock for potential "missed" therapists.
- OT's, PT's and SLP's were trained at these sessions.
- We purchased the FIM™ training video from UDS.



Format for training sessions in Jasper to Cold Lake area.

- Providing each therapist with a binder with the Mastery test, Decision tree and AlphaFIM® Manual.
- Viewing FIM™ training video excluding categories not in the AlphaFIM® tool.
- Reviewing AlphaFIM® case studies as a group.
- Completing the AlphaFIM® Mastery Test.



Test results and interpretation for Jasper to Cold Lake area

- Jasper to Cold Lake area achieved a 55% success rate with the Mastery Test.
- This success rate was much lower than anticipated.
- Possible reasons: 98% of the therapists in this area were unfamiliar with this tool, FIM™ training video and Decision tree not specific to the AlphaFIM® and limited resources for training.



New and revised AlphaFIM® Tool

- Since the Jasper to Cold Lake area completed the Mastery test the AlphaFIM® tool was completely revised.
- We now have a new Manual, Helpful hints for rating the instrument, a Case study booklet, AlphaFIM® FAQ and a AlphaFIM® specific Decision tree.
- Testing are no longer paper-based and can be done at any computer with web access with immediate results available.



Jasper to Cold Lake area Implementation

- We are now in the process of completing our Credentialing for therapists that were initially unsuccessful.
- Short PowerPoint presentation are being developed to familiarize Physicians and Nurses with the tool.
- Will arrange several Telehealth dates to link all 18 sites for implementation.



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•QUESTIONS?

