Enhancing Care Partner Support and Team-Based Care with the Dementia Care Partner Hospital Assessment Tool (D-CHAT)

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Wisconsin Current Fast Facts

110,900+
People living with dementia[1]

205,000+
Residents are unpaid care partners to people living with dementia[1]

Care partners (CPs) feel…

- Excluded from loved one's hospital care[2]
- Unprepared for caregiving after hospitalized person living with dementia is discharged[3]

Hospital systems...

- Lack tools to include and prepare care partners in the care process for hospitalized people living with dementia[4,5]

Outcomes include…

- Poor care partner health outcomes (burden, depression, preparedness)[6]
- Time delays in receiving necessary support and services[7-9]

Methods

Creating the D-CHAT *(Co-Design)*

10 Sessions via Zoom

- **5** sessions with hospital clinicians (n=7)
- **5** sessions with CPs of people living with dementia (n=5)

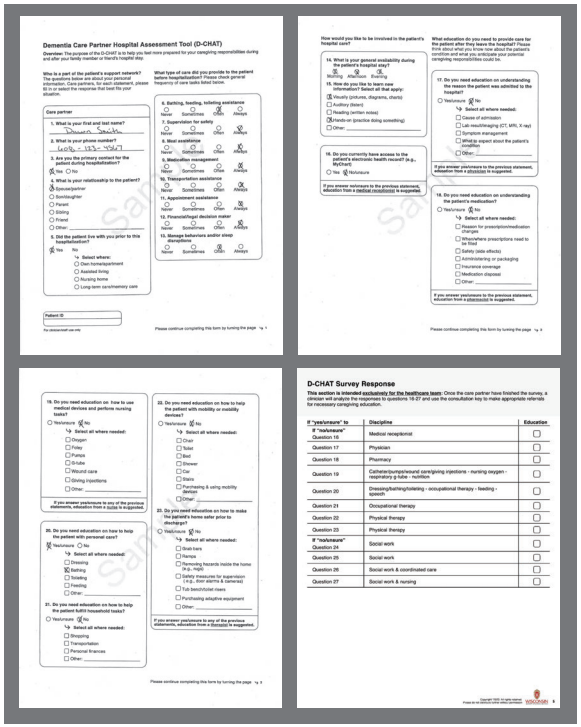
Testing the D-CHAT *(Clinical Trial)*

- 3 inpatient units across 2 hospitals
- Recruiting 128 CPs of hospitalized people living with dementia
- Assessing D-CHAT's impact on CP burden, preparedness, depression

Results

Creating the D-CHAT *(Co-Design)*

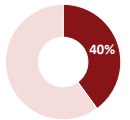
- **Self-report,** paper-based assessment
- **27 Items**:
  - 15 items assess CPs' current caregiving context
  - 12 items assess CPs' needs across caregiving activities
- **Screening-Referral Pathway**:
  - When a caregiving activity is selected on the D-CHAT, then it initiates a consultation with a hospital clinician who can provide the requested training before the patient is discharged from the hospital



**Page 4 of the D-CHAT is not included in this image.*

Testing the D-CHAT *(Clinical Trial)*

To date, 51 (40%) CPs of hospitalized people living with dementia have enrolled.



Implications

The main goal of the D-CHAT is to better include and prepare family members or friends who help care for people living with dementia after they leave the hospital.

The D-CHAT…

✓Enables care partners to identify caregiving needs for which they seek additional support

✓Provides hospital clinicians with a systematic way to assess care partners' needs

In the ongoing clinical trial…

✓We expect that care partners who received the D-CHAT will report decreased burden, increased feelings of preparedness, and decreased depression compared to those who did not receive the D-CHAT

Moving forward…

✓We will be conducting interviews with care partners who received the D-CHAT and hospital clinicians to explore their experiences with the D-CHAT, as well as perceived strengths and areas for improvement within hospital care processes

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Additional Information

GHSRL Website

References