

Nursing Health Services Research Unit

a collaborative project of
the University of Toronto
Lawrence Bloomberg
Faculty of Nursing and
McMaster University
School of Nursing

Our mission is to develop,
conduct and disseminate
research that focuses on:

- design
 - management
 - utilization
 - outcomes
 - provision
- ...of nursing.

Lawrence Bloomberg Faculty
of Nursing University of
Toronto
155 College St, Suite 215
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
M5T 1P8
Tel: (416) 978-1966
Fax: (416) 946-7142

McMaster University
Faculty of Health Sciences
Michael G. DeGroote Centre
for Learning and Discovery,
MDCL 3500
1200 Main St. W.
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
L8N 3Z5
Tel: (905) 525-9140 x22581
Fax: (905) 522-5493

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Best Practice Guidelines in Long-Term Care Phase 2: An Impact Evaluation Fact Sheet I of III. OVERVIEW & METHODS

This fact sheet (I of III) is part of a series which presents selected content from a report produced for the Ministry of Health & Long Term-Care (MOHLTC) entitled *Promoting Awareness & Uptake of Best Practice Guidelines in Long-Term Care: An Impact Evaluation. Phase 2 Interim Report*. The full report is available online at www.nhsru.com.

INTRODUCTION

- In 2005 the MOHLTC announced funding for a project to promote the dissemination & uptake of nursing best practice guidelines (BPGs) in the long term care (LTC) sector.
- In July, 2005, 8 regional best practice guideline coordinators were hired for this 2.5 year project
- The 8 coordinators were each assigned a geographical region of Ontario.

PHASE 1 (PROCESS EVALUATION) SUMMARY (see www.nhsru.com for fact sheets series based on Phase 1)

- February 2006, the Nursing Health Services Research Unit (NHSRU) was asked by the MOHLTC to conduct a process evaluation of the BPG Coordinator initiative. This process evaluation (Phase 1) was conducted between July & November 2006 & the corresponding report entitled "*Promoting Awareness & Uptake of Best Practice Guidelines in Long-Term Care: A Process Evaluation-Summary of Phase 1 Findings*" is available online at www.nhsru.com.
- Additionally in February 2006, the NHSRU received new information from the MOHLTC regarding the timeline for the LTC BPG project.
- This information & additional funding created the opportunity for the NHSRU to extend the original study design (modified process analysis) to incorporate multiple data collection points in order to conduct an impact evaluation.

PHASE 2 (IMPACT EVALUATION) OBJECTIVES

The purpose of Phase 2 was to conduct an impact evaluation of the BPG Coordinator initiative. The specific objectives for Phase 2 were:

1. Examine which specific BPGs have been implemented in LTC.
2. Examine to what extent the BPG(s) have been implemented.
3. Evaluate the strategies that have been used to implement BPGs.
4. Elicit feedback from the users of BPGs (i.e., frontline staff) regarding the implementation of the BPGs (e.g., education/training provided, challenges, & level of understanding).
5. Identify the areas of impact of BPGs on resident care.

METHODS

8 randomly selected LTC facilities throughout Ontario were included in the research. The methods used to conduct the Phase 2 impact evaluation were as follows:

1. Interviews were conducted with the BPG Coordinators, Directors of Care (DOCs) (or designate) from each participating site, & the project managers at RAO & MOHLTC where interview notes were taken.
2. Focus groups were carried out with frontline staff, residents & family members in each participating site. The focus group discussions were tape recorded & then transcribed.

3. Analysis of the interview data (interview notes or transcripts) consisted of both quantitative (SPSS analysis) & qualitative (NVIVO) techniques.

DATA ANALYSIS

- Consisted of both quantitative & qualitative processes.
- Research team transcribed tape recorded interviews & interview notes & then compiled & sorted the qualitative data.
- Analysis of the focus group & interview transcripts was facilitated using NVIVO.
- Content analysis was used to identify major themes.
- Quantitative data from the interviews & focus groups were entered into SPSS (version) databases & descriptive statistical analyses were conducted.