

The Ideal Patient Journey – NSLHD Spinal Cord Injury Exit Block Redesign Project

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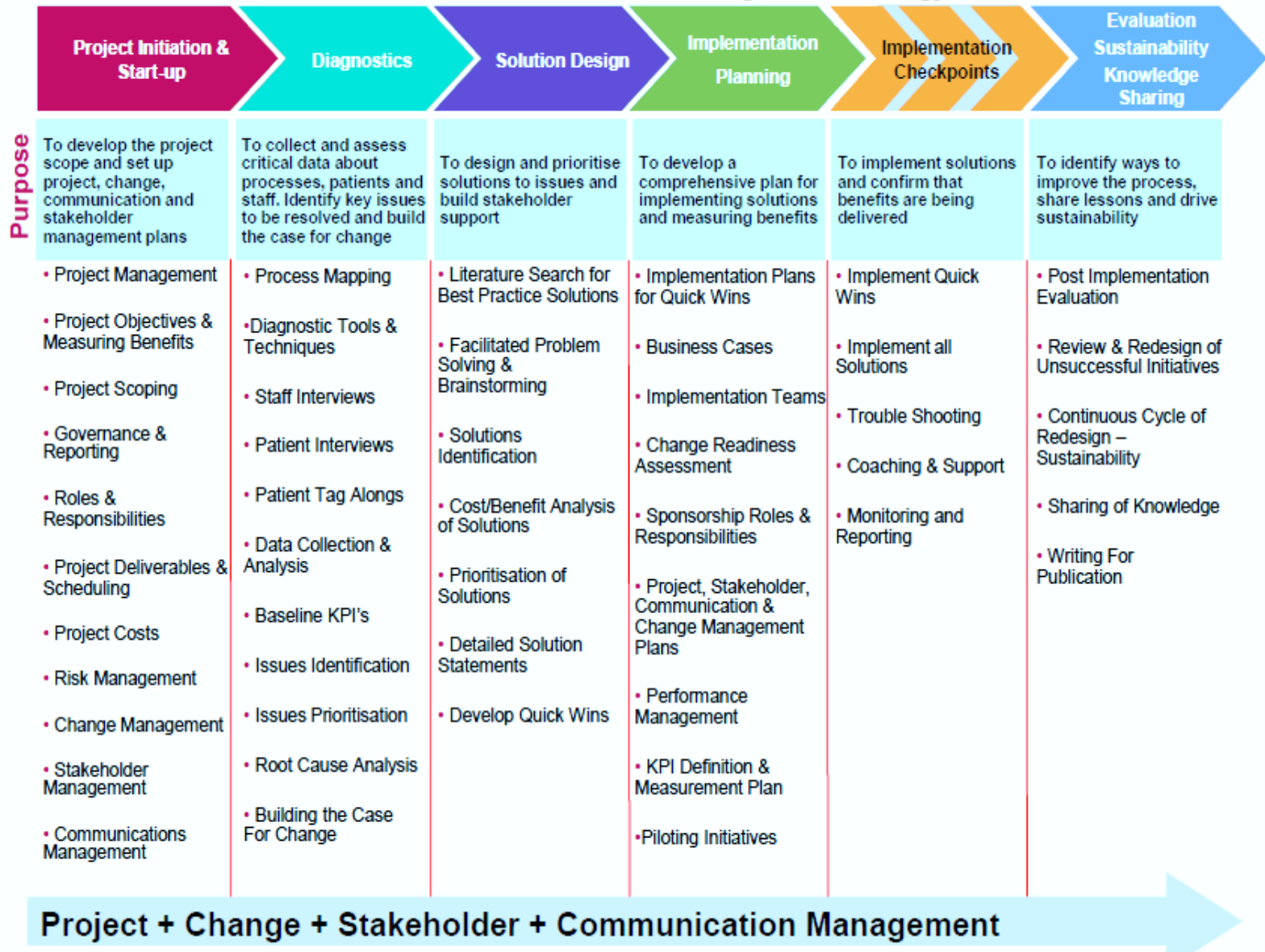
With input from Royal rehab spinal staff and RNSH spinal rehab physicians

Support and assistance by ACI:
Frances Monypenny

Executive sponsor: Dr. Andrew Montague



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Project Goal

- To improve efficiencies in the spinal cord injury services to allow for implementation of a service model that is flexible in meeting patient's needs and ensures timely access to optimal patient care across the continuum.
- To optimize access for spinal cord injury patients to appropriate services across the acute and sub-acute phase of their care.

	In	Out
Patient	<p>Patients admitted to RNS ICU with an acute spinal cord injury and referred to the spinal cord injury service.</p> <p>Patients admitted directly to 7E with an acute spinal cord injury which is the primary reason for their admission</p>	<p>Established spinal cord injury patients re-admitted to 7E;</p> <p>Patients discharged to rehab facility other than royal rehab, or home</p>
Process	Patients presenting to RNS ICU or 7E and are being referred to spinal service	Patients not being managed by spinal service
Organisation	7E SCIU, ICU, Spinal rehab ward at Royal Rehab	Other wards
Facility	RNSH, Royal Rehab	Other Hospitals

Diagnostics (July '14-Dec'14)

Are we having an extended LOS?

What subgroups of patients are having an increased LOS?

Are there any process issues we can identify? (file review, stakeholder interviews)

Activities

- Medical record audit (20)
- Medical record analysis
- Process mapping workshops
- Stakeholder interviews and workshops
- Data compilation and analysis
- Compilation of issues and Team Issue Prioritization



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Data

Average LOS	RNS – RR (n=20)	POW (n=18)	RNS- Other (n=22)
LOS Acute	69.1 (63.5-74.7)	14.8 (7.3-22.3)	39.0 (29.4-48.6)
Los Rehab	108.5 (101.6-115.3)	74.7 (36.9-112.5)	



Data

Average LOS by sub groups	ACUTE	REHAB
COMPLEXITY of injury (high level/multi trauma)		
Complex	96.7 (60.2-138.7)	150.4 (111.4-195.5)
Less Complex	57.3 (42.8-74.0)	93.5 (73.7-116.4)
Walker	65.2 (31.0-104.7)	110.1 (68.8-136.3)
Non walker	72.3(55.0-92.2)	150.4 (85.2-151.5)
AGE		
Under 65	66.7	103.7 (n= 17)
Over 65	76.3	93 (n=3)
Compensable status		
Compensable	64.4 (44.1-84.8)	96.3 (71.9-120.8) (n=9)
Non-compensable	76.1 (43.1-109.1)	129.3 (92.6-165.9) (n=11)
AREA		
Rural	70	107 (13)
Metro	64.5	93 (7)
Housing on discharge		
Transition	77.4	109.4 (n=7)
Own home	63.6	111.1 (n=10)
DOH	67	82.5 (n=2)
Significant housing issues	65.0 (49.7-82.6)	134.3 (101.1-172.7)
No housing issues	71.8 (40.6-107.9)	93.4 (68.6-122.0)

Data analysis

- Complexity statistically significantly increases LOS for more complex patients at RNSH by 39.4 days (22.5-56.2, $p=0.02$) and at Royal Rehab by 56.9 days (32.6-81.2, $p=0.009$).
- Walking ability does not statistically significantly increase LOS at RNSH ($p=0.68$) or at Royal Rehab ($p=0.45$). I.e. walkers stay as long as non-walkers on average!
- Compensability status does not significantly increase LOS at RNSH ($p=0.50$) or RRCS ($p=0.12$)
- Ability to easily access housing significantly increases stay at Royal Rehab. On average housing issues add **40.9 days (30.0-51.8, $p=.049$) to stay at royal rehabilitation**, but does not affect stay at RNSH ($p=0.70$)
- Significantly difference in LOS ($p=0.003$). Patients discharged elsewhere are generally medically well and have recovered bowel and bladder function and are ambulatory. IE, SCI has resolved.



Identified Issues

- Yes, there is an issues with LoS
- Rehabilitation and Discharge planning process is complex and highly dependent on external factors and patient adjustment to injury
- We are not clearly and consistently communicating between sites
- We are not clearly and consistently communicating with patients
- Unclear process and work allocation in relation to patient journey
- External factors beyond control of project team (enable, NDIS, LTCS)
- Access to housing and transition are major factors in delaying discharge



Solution Design- What we think could assist in tackling exit block issues

- A clearly identified clinical pathway that outlines timeframes for key rehabilitation points such as submissions or home visits
- Complex care coordinator that is a link between sites, external agencies and patients
- Regular combined case conferencing with attendance of both RNS and RR team-members
- Regular inter-site meetings to review operational processes and exit block issues
- Clear communication of pathway to patients
- A clinical psychologist to assist in adjustment and engagement in the rehabilitation journey.



Implementation Planning (Jan- Sept'15)

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Facility: RNS Royal Rehab

SPINAL CORD INJURY REHABILITATION CLINICAL PATHWAY

Key events in patient journey and episode of care

Key events in patient journey and episode of care	Date:
Spinal cord injury	
Referral to spinal cord injury unit	
Take over care by spinal rehabilitation team	
Type change to rehabilitation episode	
Referral to inpatient rehabilitation	
Transfer to Inpatient Rehabilitation or home	

Level of injury: _____
American Spinal Cord Injury Association Impairment Scale (AIS): _____

	Admission FIM score	Discharge FIM score
RNSH (rehabilitation episode)		
Royal Rehab		

Action	Complete	Date of completion	Comments (including additional verification)
Week 1 Commencing Monday / /			
1.1 Establish continence program	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
1.2 Psychosocial & financial assessment	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
1.3 Respiratory review +/- sleep study to identify OSA risk	Yes No N/A <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
1.4 Clinical psychology intervention for patient	Yes No N/A <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
1.5 Carerlink benefits application	Yes No N/A <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
Week 2 Commencing Monday / /			
2.1 Multidisciplinary team meeting 1	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
2.2 Referral to rehab (Patient Access and Transport Unit form and phone call)	Yes No N/A <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
2.3 Psychology and psychiatry assessment	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
2.4 D/C options discussed	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
2.5 SW to initiate discussions regarding requirements for applications week 4-6	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		

Development of Clinical Pathway

Approval of Pathway through Clinical Policies Stream

Development of PDs for approved positions

Approval of PD and grading through relevant governance streams

Piloting Pathway



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Next steps

- Trial Clinical Pathway
- Employ Case coordinator and Clinical Psychologist
- Monitor Exit Block and pathway implementation
- Introduce cross site meetings
- Need to involve consumers as a next step



Thank You



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