Respiratory and Cardiac Collaboration: Technologies utilised for case based education

Sandy Dumas1,2, Katie Sutton1,3, Helen McLean1

WA Department of Health, Training Centre in Subacute Care Western Australia (TRACS WA)
1Training Centre in Subacute Care WA, 2Fiona Stanley Hospital, 3Curtin University

Background

The Training Centre for Subacute Care (TRACS) WA provides supportive educational forums for sharing and exchange of knowledge across WA. Using video conferencing (VC) and multimedia technologies, a case based learning session was developed and facilitated by a panel of expert cardiac and respiratory clinicians. This demonstrated collaboration between clinicians and optimised inter-professional practice and education (IPP and IPE). Using a case study of a patient with both CHF and COPD, the expert panel presented the patient journey from GP, to hospital, to community services and back to his home.

Aims

To use multimedia technologies to highlight communication and collaboration between the interprofessional team and present the most appropriate medical interventions, diagnostic tests, treatment, education, follow-up and ongoing patient care and prevention.

Methods

A panel of expert Medical, Allied Health and Nursing clinicians from tertiary and community services depicted a differential diagnosis for a patient presenting with cardiac and respiratory disease. The session explored an inter-professional problem solving approach, with collaboration for scenario development, planning and delivery. Video conferencing (VC) and multimedia technologies used in addition to the live session allowed metropolitan and remote clinicians from across WA to benefit. VC sites texted any questions they had of the panel members through to TRACS WA staff, so these could be addressed during the live session. Professional video recording provided high quality media for viewing on the TRACS WA website following the event.

Outcomes

Session was attended by 56 clinicians, managers and educators from various health disciplines. These included medical, nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology and social work to facilitate interprofessional collaboration. Video conferencing and multimedia technologies allowed metropolitan and remote clinicians from across WA to benefit. In addition, the filmed session is also being utilised by University of Western Australia medical students as a teaching resource.

Video Conference (VC) connections within the state

Albany
Boddington
Bunbury
Busselton
Cunderdin
Geraldton
Kalgoorlie
Merredin
Moora
Mt Magnet
Nanninity
Northam
Northampton
Porongry
Freemantle Hospital
Florence Stanley Hospital
Hollywood Private Hospital
Joondalup Health Campus
MS Society
Shenton Park
Sir Charles Gardner Hospital
WACHS Central Office

Implications for Practice

The case study highlighted communication, collaboration, and connections required by all clinicians to ensure person centred holistic care across the patient journey. The session promoted awareness of existing services, clinical and educational resources to support best practice. Respiratory and Cardiac collaboration provided the opportunity for clinicians working with patients with complex cardio-respiratory diagnoses to identify and connect with the experts. The use of multimedia technologies enhanced access to a wider audience to ‘spread the word’.

Complexities of Respiratory and Cardiac Collaboration

Conclusion

This forum provided clinicians with current evidence, demonstrated the importance of interprofessional practice and interprofessional education across the continuum of care, and utilised modern technology to disseminate clinical education.

The filmed session is available as an educational resource accessible at www.subacutecare.org.au