On care pathway maturity

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Belgium

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Belgian Dutch Clinical Pathway Network
988 acute beds – 3000+ employees – 300+ physicians. 37924 inpatient admissions – 57972 outpatient treatments.
Care pathways: °1999, # 57, 25% of total volume
NIAZ accredited (compliments for care pathway methodology and management)
Reflection on pathways and maturity
Pathway maturity

How do you define maturity?

When do you consider a pathway to be mature?

When is a care pathway matured to perfection?
Let’s ask Donabedian

STRUCTURE

PROCESS

OUTCOME

How do we translate this to care pathways?
Clinical pathway audit tools: a systematic review

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17 characteristics found in literature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Context/ mechanism/ outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organizational commitment</td>
<td>Context</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathway project management</td>
<td>Context</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perception about concept of pathways</td>
<td>Context</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Format of document</td>
<td>Mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content of pathway</td>
<td>Mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multidisciplinary involvement</td>
<td>Mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Variance management</td>
<td>Mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBM/guidelines</td>
<td>Mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance of pathway</td>
<td>Mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accountability</td>
<td>Mechanism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patient involvement</td>
<td>Mechanism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development of pathway</td>
<td>Mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional support systems and documents</td>
<td>Mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational arrangements</td>
<td>Mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementation of pathway</td>
<td>Mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outcome management</td>
<td>Outcome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety (risk management)</td>
<td>Outcome</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BUT:
- Most of the papers describe “the pathway” as a document part of the patient record
- Probably pathways are more than a piece of paper...
• Care Pathway Document Audit Tool (CPDocAT)
The 7-phase method to design, implement and evaluate care pathways

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Phase 1: Screening if pathway is appropriate tool for that problem

Phase 2: Project Management

Phase 3: Diagnose the problem (“as-is”)

Phase 4: Development of pathway

Phase 5: Implementation of pathway

Phase 6: Evaluation of pathway

Phase 7: Continuous Follow-up

Present Situation

Ideal Future
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Klassefiche</th>
<th>Ja Actief?</th>
<th>Ja</th>
<th>Neen</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Borstkanker</td>
<td>Neen</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stervendaze</td>
<td>Ja</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Radiotherapie bij niet-gemetaaliseerd prostaatcancro</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vallen</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hartalen</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reproductieve geneeskunde</td>
<td>Neen</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
OUTCOME

29 items in 6 dimensions:
- Patient Focused Organization
- Coordination of the care process
- Communication with patients & fam
- Collaboration with primary care
- Follow-up of the care process

Outcomes:
- Quality of care is facilitated within the organization
- Coordination of the care process
- Communication with patients & family
- Collaboration with primary care
- Follow-up of the care process

Outcome scores:
- Patient Focused Organization: 29 items in 6 dimensions
- Coordination of the care process: 25
- Communication with patients & family: 62
- Collaboration with primary care: 62
- Follow-up of the care process: 62

Development and validation of a care process self-evaluation tool
Kris Vanhaeacht, Karel De Witte, Roeland Depreitere, Ruben Van Zelm, Leentje De Bleser, Karin Proost and Walter Sermeus

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Outcome of the pathway: EQCP trial on COPD
- Team indicators (S. Deneckere)
- Process & outcome indicators (Belgian Data)
  - 10-50% better results on process indicators
  - Lower length of stay & 30-day readmission
Reflection on pathways and SPO
Pathway maturity and SPO

Discussion:
on what you’ve seen: what are your thoughts?
How do you manage?
(How) do you make the process-outcome link?
What are your strengths, weaknesses?
What are take home messages?
Which one is most realistic?
So let’s not forget Lucy Savitz ...
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