Intermediate care: An important contribution to integrate care for older people, in Osona.

Project abstract

Geriatric care, has been playing a key role in the integration of services. Development of intermediate care is a good example. In modern hospitals alternative services to hospitalization had been developed, especially those for elderly patients who are the main users of hospitals. There is an internationally significant interest to create services that occupy the virtual space between primary and hospital care, which is known as intermediate care. The main functions of intermediate care is to provide different options to hospitalization, like preventing admission or easing discharge. The process should last less than 6 weeks and can take place in hospital or at home.

Objectives

Description of intermediate care results in Osona during 2014.

Methodology / Materials

Osona intermediate care is supplied by Consorci Hospitalari de Vic and Fundació Hospital de la Santa Creu de Vic. There are three kinds of intermediate care hospitalization (convalescence, post-acute and subacute). Intermediate care at home is included in the hospital at home. The whole intermediate care program can be described in two models; the “Step-Down model” where patients come from an acute hospitalization episode and the "step-up model" where patients come from the community or A&E services.

Conclusions

The Intermediate care Step-Down model was carried out in 16% of acute care hospital discharges, and the step-up model in 2% of A&E events. This classification facilitates the comparison between other territorial areas and aids planning.

We are seeing a gradual increase in the Step-Up model which will force changes in the organization of intermediate care model.

Intermediate care has been a great enabler of clinical integration in our area.

Bibliography


