Embracing Technology to Deliver Patient’s Care

Institution Affiliation

Student’s Name

Date
**Project description**

The project majors on the different ways technology is used to improve services delivered to patients. It can be so helpful when physicians embrace this in caring for patients. It is going to major on telehealth as a technological aspect of handling patients. This involves the use of telecommunication and technology in delivering beyond the common health care services. It involves the use of wider range of information and telecommunication technologies.

Technology is on the rise and almost everything is done digitally. Many hospitals still rely on the manual way of doing things without the embrace of technology. For instance, when it comes to keeping data, most hospitals still keep the record of their patient's in books (Ali et al., 2015). This has proved to be more tedious and less effective as whenever physical disasters occur, like fire, the data cannot be traced. Hospitals that has embraced technology in their services undergoes less cost than the one which is offered during the face to face encounters.

Through this embracement, patients with chronic illness or the elderly may be guided by medical procedures while at home. This helps in the reduction of the length of stay of patients in the hospital, number of readmissions and emergency visits. When nurses are to be traveling to patient's house, it will help in reducing the frequency of visits. This further leads to increment in productivity.
Reaching rural communities to provide medical services to the elderly and chronically ill patients has proved to be hard and time impossible. This is due to the inaccessibility of rural areas. Patients traveling to visit health centers might be impossible a time too. This program can help in such cases. Telehealth technology can be utilized to follow up patients.

Change theory

The aspect of technology involved in this project is telehealth. This entails remote exchanging data between patients and their physicians at homes in order to help them in monitoring and diagnosis. It is mostly preferred in patients with long-term conditions like lung cancer and chronicle diseases. It has immovable units installed at homes meant to measure and monitoring of blood pressure, temperature, and other essential health parameters.

Healthcare industries continue to grow. This brings the need for the specialists to find most appropriate and innovative ways to, effectively and efficiently deliver to their patients (Wade 2014). Telehealth has influenced several aspects of health such as cost, accessibility, and health quality. Embracing this gives nursing a new outlook and approach. The first evident change is in cost.

Cost
This project greatly reduces the overall healthcare cost and in return increases revenue raised by the healthcare department. There will be a reduction of travel expense for those living in rural communities. Under normal circumstances, these people, under the usual healthcare services of face-to-face patient visit program, would be traveling in order to access health care services. This project reduces such. The number of workdays taken for routine visits can also be retained and thus adding up to the lost wages. In the case a patient used to video-consult with the doctor, when facial visits are not practical, the amount can be saved and used for other expenses. Telehealth in its own capacity is less expensive as compared to facial visits. The technicians involved charges less when it comes to consultation than when it is done during facial visits. In so doing, there is a reduction in the cost of medical expenses (Jang-Jaccard et al, 2014). Patients will be spending less to get quality services of their own comfort locations as compared to facial visits.
EMBRACING TECHNOLOGY TO DELIVER PATIENT’S CARE

This involves timely delivery care to patients. The coordination of patients and their engagement is a key contributor to the quality of this project. Technology is one of the fastest means of communication. Patients cannot go back in time with this. The faster a service is offered will have a positive impact on the outcome desired. Timely delivery of a health solution has a major impact. Communication delays can hinder the timely delivery of care. Coordination of service is key to the success of care delivery and patient satisfaction. Timely communication can prevent delays before their conditions worsen. In the case a patient comes from rural areas where accessing health center can be timely and nearly impossible, an alternative can be sorted for. Telehealth is the best alternative in such a case. Patients will be able to; regularly check n with physicians before their situations worsen. This influences positively on their outcomes and makes them more satisfied.

Coordination of care

There will be involvement of care coordination. This increases the knowledge of the patient on the components of education management that in turn helps in making the easy transition of patients from healthcare places to home facilities and present readmission to hospitals. This is quite impractical when it comes to facial communication case. There is a provision of quick and convenient forums where patients can be able to access their health progress, keeping them aware of their discharge instructions and their assessments.

Engagement of patient
Patients shall be engaged when it comes to the implementation of the project. Those providing healthcare programs get their patients incorporated in their facilities that in turn enhances compliance and further better clinical outcomes. Randall S. Moore, MD, MBA, states that “One of the most interesting and promising outcomes of telehealth programs is the increment in patient participation and self-care. Patients have active roles to play in their care plan and thus need to be in constant with their providers. They take active roles in their health so that they see that technology, telehealth, helps them achieve medical solutions.

Change facilitators

For this program to work, it needed cooperation from patients and doctors. Some basic factors can help this change to work better and effectively. These included the physician’s skills, attitude, work, and operations of telehealth. Everything done must always revolve around the attitude and skills of those involved.
Embracing technology to deliver patient’s care

Telehealth work and operations are not complicated in nature. In fact, it makes both the patient’s and the doctor’s work easier (Nagel et al., 2013). There is no much time wasted in traveling from one area for face-to-face visits of physicians. Patients could get medical attention at their homesteads anytime of the day. The work is not as that of face-to-face interaction which is timely and expensive in executing. The team learned to work together for a common goal. This led to the progress of the project. The team approach was also a major facilitator of the project. This provides a better solution to almost all challenges. Lack of effective teamwork has always made nurses have the negative outcome on their patients. This was quite comprehensive in offering the telehealth service. Poor interaction between nurses and physicians is normally poor; this was not a case here. There was uniform agreement towards working to achieve a common goal, reaching as many patients as possible regardless of their geographical areas.

Barrier and challenges

Every innovation has to face challenges. Incorporating a new idea into an already existing one is not easy. The number of users is significantly growing though there are still barriers to it. The challenges and barriers include reimbursement, payment models, cross-state licensing and licensure.

Reimbursement
Doctors are not yet reimbursed to provide telehealth services. This depends on individual countries that do not allow this service. All this depends on the insurance rules, physicians and the treatment plans in different states. Insurance companies like Medicare do not cover telehealth operations in rural areas where monitoring of patients take place (Foster et al, 2014). In case there is a belief for telehealth to work well in assisting patients within an area, those whose medical bills are paid by companies that do not allow it cannot get the services.

Insurance providers still have a tradition, which they stick to. They wait for claims to be presented before they can figure out whether to cover it, basing their decisions on the service offered. Where telehealth services are allowed, claims get ultimate payments. The levels of reimbursement may still not be consistent enough. This discourages providers to do telehealth.

State licensing

It is a requirement for doctors to have the license in every state where he or she has appointments with patients. This requirement is laid down for telehealth. This is a real drawback. There is the situation where he has referral offices beyond his working areas. This makes it difficult in the case a doctor is willing to do a telehealth option with a patient (Weistein et al, 2014). This idea can also flourish if medical boards adopt the idea used in giving drivers’ licenses. They are able to operate in any state using the same license acquired in their mother states.
Accessibility of health facilities is a major factor when it comes to treatment. In the past, patients had to travel to hospitals for treatment. This has led to increased costs and time, especially for rural areas. The new practice of telemedicine has made it easier for patients to receive treatment without the need for physical attendance.

There exist positive impacts and negative impacts. One crucial impact that was associated with this change in medical practice is the reduction in transmission of the virus. Patients who received regular medication were less likely to spread the disease. This has led to an improvement in health outcome, reduction in length of stay, and a decrease in mortality.

For instance, when patients suffering from HIV/AIDS were contacted, it was realized that they rarely missed taking their drugs (Allen et al, 2015). Their tendency of taking drugs was higher than that of patients who preferred face-to-face visits with their physicians. This made it easier for patients to manage their illness.

Through this project, nurses were able to contact patients regularly enquiring about their health progress and giving them medical advice. In most cases, patients were reminded to take their drugs in time while the calls were made. This influenced on them taking their drugs regularly.
and on the prescribed time. This is a positive result of the outcome of the prescribed treatment. There is a decrease in depression and mental torture on patients under this system.

The change considered in the project lead to improvement in health outcomes. This service involved particular benefit to the patients. Patients with a serious illness can benefit from this project. Through this method, the survival rates of patients were improved. It was evident that with little training, using this method, nurses could deliver the same care offered to seriously ill patients in health care by physicians.

The project affected reducing the length of stay by patients in hospitals. It also reduced the number of patients readmission to the hospital and emergency departments visit made by patients. Home care visits that were to be made by nurses to patients were also reduced. This led to the improvement in their productivity and performance to due minimization of time wastage. Patients became satisfied with how they were attended to even in their rural areas at a relatively low price.

There are areas, which are rarely accessible physically. This might be to the type of road networks in the areas. Telehealth program made sure that such patients were equally attended to. The nurses specialized in this program used cell phones to reach the patients. The main target group was that which lived in rural areas with difficulties of repeatedly traveling to health centers. It was able to
as many people go for the traditional method of healthcare services, face to face, other ways should also be embraced. This is because some areas become less accessible. Some old people also find it hard to access health centers. This creates the need for an alternative way of attending to them so that they can enjoy good health.

Technology should be embraced while offering health services to patients. The advancement in technology can help in proper health caring practices. Options like telehealth services should be allowed to be used in all geographical areas in the quest to help patients. It provides services, which are actively important for health and maintaining the quality. Patients can attend to other duties like the job and still get medical attendance online without any difficulty. They can attend to other duties like the job and still get medical attendance online without any difficulty. They will have more time to dedicate to their work.

The constant contact time to the staff in the house of the patient will lead to the patient taking

As a result, their medical outcome will be improved.

When I have an opportunity to repeat this project, some implementations shall have to be achieved to see it work through better. There will have to be teamwork by the staff, effective communication channel, common learning so that staff can work together to improve health and
pooling of problems to be shared together to find their solutions. Patients’ safety lies on proper communication capability from both sides (Taylor et al, 2015). Again, this is the cause of almost all medical errors. This project will require that nurses are equipped and trained on how to handle patients from all background effectively.

I will introduce interprofessional education, where students will learn together. This will enhance respect for them and even for their occupation. Solution to the problem is the core background to developments. Any problem encountered during this exercise shall have to be solved effectively so that there is a better system put for working. I will embrace a collective solution to problems, as this will make the team come up with effective solutions to existing problems.
References


