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Inland Hospital
Maine Coast Hospital
Mercy Hospital
Northern Light Health Foundation
Sebasticook Valley Hospital

MEMO

To: Long Term Care Workforce Commission
From: Lisa Harvey-McPherson RN, VP Government Relations
Subject: Hospital Days Awaiting Placement for Nursing Facilities
Date: September 11, 2019

Thank you for the opportunity to present information on hospitalized patients awaiting placement in a nursing facility. In researching this information, I learned that data available from hospitals is limited so I am presenting information from Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center as an example of the data available from hospitals.

What we do know is the number of patients who have been in the hospital 10 days or more who are clinically qualified for discharge to a community-based setting and can identify the number of patients in this category who are awaiting placement for skilled or nursing facility level of care. We also know the total number of referrals to this level of care. Hospitals don't have information on why the nursing facility has not accepted the hospital referral and of those rejections how many are due to staffing challenges.

Here is an example of the hospital information we have.

- We track patients with length of stay exceeding 10 days on a weekly basis. For the 90-day period June -August we averaged 47 patients each week with long stay acute admissions
- We can identify the patients by category (Bariatric, Long Term Care Hospital, Guardianship, Gero-Psych, etc.)
- When can also identify the number of patients that are not a specialty population awaiting placement for a skilled nursing, long term care, rehabilitation or assisted living bed. For the same time period we averaged 13 patients per week in this category of awaiting discharge.
- Nursing facilities accept or reject a referral, what we don't know is of the 13 patients that fall into the non-specialty population needing placement how many were not accepted due to staffing at the facility.
- To help put this in context, for the month of August 202 SNF/NF referrals were accepted.

Recommendation – Nursing facilities are the resource for data on hospital referrals not accepted due to staffing.