ONE BROMLEY
WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE HEALTH AND CARE

Empowering care at home: Boosting clinician confidence and Patient outcomes with a Hospital-at-Home Heart Failure bundle

Dr Sovrila Soobroyen I Lead GP for One Bromley H@H
Dr Talitha Cosh I Gp SpR Bromley GP Alliance
Dr Lynette LinksonI Clinical Director for One Bromley H@H

Introduction

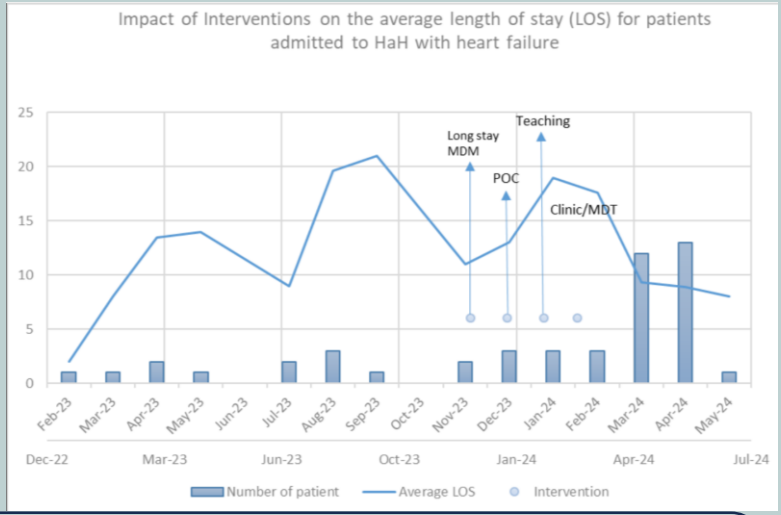
Hospital-at-Home (HaH) is an innovative care model delivering hospital-level care to community patients. A key priority for Bromley HaH has been to streamline strategies, providing integrated, individualised care for patients with heart failure (HF). Our study revealed that our length of stay (LOS) exceeded the 7-day target, and readmission rates surpassed the 0-10% target. Recognising the complexities of managing HF in the community, we evaluated the impact of a new HF bundle to enhance clinician confidence, reduce LOS, and improve outcomes and service capacity.

Method

An adapted HF bundle was developed in collaboration with local cardiologists to integrate services. The bundle included standardised assessment/management tools, technology-enabled care (point-of-care and remote monitoring), and clear discharge criteria. It was implemented alongside departmental teaching, HF clinic/MDT attendance for experiential learning, and weekly consultant-led MDMs to build confidence. Retrospective data was collected before and after the bundle's introduction to assess impact on LOS and readmission rates.

Results

Between February 2023 and May 2024, **48** unique patients were seen (mean age 81, 28 hospital step-downs, 20 community step-ups). Initial clinician surveys showed **83%** lacked confidence, **75%** struggled with diuretic titration, and **60%** unsure about optimising prognostics. Baseline data from February 2023 to January 2024 showed an average LOS of **13 days** and a readmission rate of **15.7%.** Post-bundle implementation, average LOS reduced to **10.95 days**, and readmission rates dropped to **7%**. Clinician surveys reported increased confidence, and over 90% of service users rated their care as excellent.



Conclusion

The implementation of our HF bundle significantly **improved clinician confidence**, **halved readmission rates**, and **reduced LOS**, thereby increasing patient throughput and service capacity, and achieving a **41% reduction in cost per bed-day**. The study also contributed to the development of a dashboard to continuously monitor the effectiveness of these interventions and highlight areas of further development.