Multiple Sclerosis Care: An Interdisciplinary Approach

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What is Interdisciplinary Care?
Audience Response Question

Care provided by a team consisting of :
A. Neurologist and Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant
B. ‘A’ with inclusion of rehabilitation specialists [OT, PT, ST]
C. ‘B’ with inclusion of neuropsychologist
D. ‘C’ with inclusion of social workers/counselors
E. ‘D’ with inclusion of nutritionist
**Interdisciplinary Care**

“The variety of needs of patients with MS create the necessity for diverse healthcare professionals in the coordination and provision of information, care and services”.

“MS comprehensive care teams are typically comprised of different disciplines, each with a specific expertise, enabling the team to effectively address the needs of the patient.” Uccelli, Battaglia, Zagami, Solarno 2002

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**CMSC White Paper 2010**

Consensus statement: A multi-dimensional team approach is the most effective and efficient way of treating persons with MS (Harris et al, 2003; Vickrey et al, 2000; Forbes, 2007).

Key is coordination of health professionals from various disciplines in MS trained to provide neurological and nursing care, individual and family counseling and education, physical, occupational, and speech therapies, and social services.
CMSC White Paper 2010

Comprehensive care embraces a philosophy of empowerment!

The person with MS is an active participant in planning and implementing healthcare and self-care activities with the interdisciplinary team.

Forbes, While, Taylor

Individuals with greater disease progression and disability rated socio-environmental support, rehabilitation and non-professional care as the most frequently identified services that they desired.

Participants = 714
N = 445
Interdisciplinary Care in MS Centers

Interdisciplinary Care can be provided in different models of delivery:
1. Self Contained MS Centers
2. MS Center Without Walls

Self Contained MS Centers

• ALL services provided in one physical space, under one roof
  – Medical team: neurologists, NP’s/PA’s
  – Infusion Center
  – Imaging Technology
  – Neuropsychologist, Mental Health Care team members
  – Rehabilitation Specialists
  – Nurses, Nutritionist
MS Center Without Walls

Under One Roof:
- MS Neurologist, Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant
- Infusion Center
- Imaging

Off Site Referrals to
- Rehabilitation Team
- Neuropsychologist
- Mental Health Care Team
- Nutritionist
- Yoga/Tai Chi/Exercise programs for MS

Audience Response

Are you a provider in a
1. Self Contained MS Center
2. MS Center Without Walls
3. Do not work in an Interdisciplinary MS Center
Audience response

If you are a provider in a Self Contained MS Center:

Do you believe all patients access their care through the Center, that is in one geographic location?
1. Yes
2. No

Audience Response

If you are a provider in an MS Center With Out Walls… Do you believe Interdisciplinary care

1. Is achieved
2. Is not achieved
Audience Response

Irrespective of the type of MS Center in which you work:
Are there health care providers in your community to provide the services needed for Interdisciplinary Care?
A. Yes
B. No

Audience Response

If you answered No to the last question, what is lacking
A. Education at the College/Universities professional phase level
B. Continuing education for practicing providers
C. Disinterest in working in MS
D. All of the above
Marie Namey, CNS

• Mellen Center at Cleveland Clinic
• Cleveland Ohio

Guy Buckle, MD

• Multiple Sclerosis Institute at Shepherd Center
• Atlanta, Georgia
BREAK 😊 15 minutes

Susan Bennett, PT, DPT, EdD, NCS, MSCS

• Jacobs MS Center for Treatment and Research

• MS Center without Walls
  –Dr. J
Jacobs MS Center for Treatment and Research

- **Jacobs Neurologic Institute** established by Dr. Jacobs in 2000 in memory of his parents
- **William C. Baird MS Center** founded in 1987 and originally an MS Center within Dent Neurologic
  - Has evolved into the Jacobs MS Center for Treatment and Research

Jacobs MS Center for Treatment and Research

**MS Center without Walls: Under One Roof** are the following providers/services

- Neurologists (3), Nurse Practitioner (1), Neuropsychologists (2), Social Worker (1), Nurses (2)
- Rehabilitation Consultant weekly (1)
- Imaging Center
- Infusion Center
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Outside the Walls: Referrals to Health Care Providers:

• Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy
• Nutritionist
• Support Groups
• Counseling programs
• Wellness Exercise program

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Geographic Referral Sites - Without Walls:

• North Tonawanda, NY: OT, PT, ST, MSW
• Orchard Park, NY: PT
• Gowanda, NY: PT
• Dunkirk, NY: PT, OT, ST, MSW
• Jamestown, NY: PT and OT
• Rochester, NY: PT
• Erie, PA: PT, OT, ST, MSW
• Hamilton and Toronto, Canada: PT, OT
## Longitudinal Functional Outcomes

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<th>Patient Name</th>
<th>Test 1 Date:</th>
<th>Test 2 date:</th>
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Case 1 – Newly Diagnosed

38 year old male with chief complaint for 10 months of dizziness and fatigue. Diagnosis of “clinical MS” 2 months ago by neurologist who does not specialize in MS. No treatment has been initiated. Patient is currently out of work due to intensity of symptoms.

Patient now evaluated by neurologist at the MS Center and new MRI’s confirm diagnosis of MS

Audience Response

What aspects of Interdisciplinary Care would you recommend?
A. Rehabilitation
B. Social Work/counseling
C. Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant
D. Nutritionist
E. All of the above
The patient is started on a Disease Modifying Therapy.

Is there a designated “care manager” or “care coordinator” for the patient on your team?
A. Yes
B. No

If you answered Yes - Who would be the designated “care manager” or “care coordinator” for the patient on your team?
A. Neurologist
B. Primary Care Physician
C. Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant
D. Physical Therapist
E. Social Worker
F. Other
Panel Response to Case #1 Management

• Marie Namey, CNS
  – Mellen Center, Cleveland Clinic

• Guy Buckle, MD
  – Multiple Sclerosis Institute at Shepherd Center

Case 2 : EDSS 7.0

61 year old female with primary progressive MS utilizing motorized scooter for home and community ambulation. Lives alone in accessible one floor home with a ramp. Functionally presents as a paraplegic, independent in transfers. Closest family member 1 hour away.
Currently no medications prescribed other then Gabapentin for Trigeminal Neuralgia
New onset of sacral wound – approximate size 4 cm x 3 cm with drainage. No indication of infection.
Audience Response

• What components of Interdisciplinary care would you recommend?
  A. Neurologist
  B. Primary Care Physician
  C. Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant
  D. Physical Therapist
  E. Social Worker
  F. Nutritionist
  G. All of the above

Audience Response

Given the sacral wound, who would be the designated “care manager” or “care coordinator” for the patient on your team?
  A. Neurologist
  B. Primary Care Physician
  C. Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant
  D. Physical Therapist
  E. Social Worker
  F. Other
Panel Response to Patient Management

- Guy Buckle, MD
  - Multiple Sclerosis Institute at Shepherd Center

- Marie Namey, CNS
  - Mellen Center, Cleveland Clinic

Summary

- Value of Comprehensive Self Contained MS Center
- Value of Comprehensive MS Center Without Walls
- Take Home Message
  
  “It Takes a Village”