

The Electrotherapy System Project

Final Report

4/01/2019 – 9/30/2019

Whispering Oaks

- Details that address successes and failures of the project.

The major success we've had from this project is the indirect increase in functionality from the residents who have completed the electrotherapy program. The increase in functionality is due to the increase in therapy that the residents can tolerate with the use of the electrotherapy. The electrotherapy decreases the pain that the residents experience for a short period of time. During this short period of decreased pain, therapists work with the residents doing exercises and assisting them with therapeutic activities, giving them more independence and a higher quality of life.

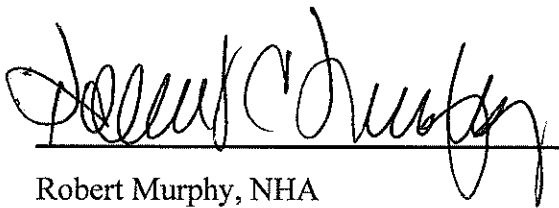
The failure that we've had during this project is the pain medication goal we had set. Our hope was that by using the electrotherapy system, in combination, with therapy exercises that it would lead to a decrease in residents needing pain medication. We've found that residents are still requesting the medication. This could be from the fact that some residents are hesitant because they are so used to taking their pain medication and they are fearful about the pain coming back.

- Summaries of information collected during the project. The information should include, the impact of utilizing electrotherapy services for reducing pain and healing wounds and lessons learned from utilizing the treatment modality to improve residents' quality of life over the course of the agreement.

Electrotherapy was used at our facility for the treatment of multiple abnormalities causing hindrance in some resident's ability to function; this included joint pain, muscle weakness, spasticity, edema, and more importantly to potentially decrease the use of narcotics to control pain. As a result, we were able to speed up the rehabilitation process

by maximizing the resident's potential in regaining function. The impact on our residents that participated in the electrotherapy program was significant. Our residents were able to progress much faster than the residents who did not participate in the program.

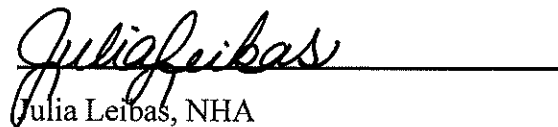
We also learned some lessons while completing this project. One of the major lessons we learned was the significance of hydration while completing the electrotherapy. The impact of hydration/dehydration was significant, mainly, because of skin elasticity. With healthier skin elasticity, came better electrode contact, thus having a more significant electrotherapy outcome. Poor skin elasticity and skin dryness creates a barrier to proper current conductivity which can limit the efficacy of the electrotherapy treatment. We have also learned the importance of consulting with the resident's entire interdisciplinary team. Communicating with the interdisciplinary team is important for pinpointing the precise location of a resident's pain, deciding on the correct pain medications and dosages, and for the completion and accuracy of the care plan.



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Administrator

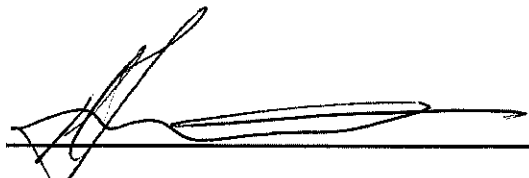
9/30/2019



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