

NEW TREATMENT PLAN



Situation

A 42-year-old male, diagnosed with cerebral palsy and anoxic brain injury at an early age, experienced complications from an event 2 years prior. The event was comprised of cardiac arrest, pneumonia and kidney failure resulting in hospitalization. He is now bedridden, dependent on a feeding pump and has a permanent tracheostomy. During the past year, he has been hospitalized 9 times for a total of 82 days, including 3 emergency department visits. His elderly father is the primary caretaker and the payer's telephonic case manager reported the father's memory issues may have contributed to the spate of recent hospitalizations.

Solution

The case was referred to Communitas. The OnSIGHT Health RN Case Manager obtained permission and met with the father and the patient in their home. She witnessed the father's attentiveness to his son's needs. This was confirmed in conversations with the LTC Medicaid policy's homecare RN. However, the OnSIGHT Health RN Case Manager observed the father becoming overly fatigued caring for his son full time which increased the chance of compromised care. As their working relationship continued, the father expressed an interest in learning more about how to best care for the patient. She put together a Health Resource Manual including medication control information, resources and a checklist of important items requiring ongoing attention. This "boots on the ground" assessment of the home environment determined how to best manage the patient's ongoing care to minimize repeated hospitalizations.

Results

The patient's father and the OnSIGHT Health RN Case Manager had frank discussions about medical power of attorney and estate motivating the father to act on both. The Case Manager recommended extended hours for the Medicaid homecare RN to provide the father with much needed breaks. In addition, she recommended regular Respiratory Therapy visits as most of the admissions were related to aspiration pneumonia. The payer and Medicaid approved the OnSIGHT Health recommendations and the new treatment plan was implemented.

About Communitas

We are a specialty services company within AmWINS Group Benefits that provides care management solutions to stop loss carriers, TPAs and self-funded employer plans. OnSIGHT Health, our innovative onsite case management offering, deploys Certified RN Case Managers anywhere in the country when a catastrophic, high-dollar claim hits.

There is a place for traditional care management programs that address routine medical episodes. However, these simple solutions are ineffective when it comes to high-dollar cases.

To learn more about Communitas, visit communitas.com.

SAVINGS	DESCRIPTION
\$312,000/year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2016 hospitalization and emergency department costs = \$624,000 Increased nursing hours and therapy visits reduce costs by 50% (conservative estimate)