

VA HF Network Meeting at HFSA

- Heart Failure Society of America
- San Diego, Monday September 13th 5:30pm-7:15pm
- Limited Travel funds

VA HF Improvement Guide

- Please send any heart failure forms, documents, order sets that you have found useful.



Hospital to Home



Excellence in Transitions

Hospital to Home (H2H)

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What is H2H?

- H2H is a national quality improvement initiative to reduce unnecessary readmissions for cardiovascular patients
- Goal is to reduce all-cause re-admission rates among patients discharged with heart failure or acute myocardial infarction by 20% by Dec 2012

3 Question Framework

- **Medication Management Post-Discharge:** Is the patient familiar and competent with his or her medications and is there access to them?
- **Early Follow-Up:** Does the patient have a follow up **appointment** scheduled within a week of discharge and is he or she able to get there?
- **Symptom Management:** Does the patient fully comprehend the signs and symptoms that require medical attention and whom to contact if they occur?

How is the VA Involved?

- The Undersecretary for Health has signed a letter offering support as a Strategic Partner.
- However, each facility needs to join separately.



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Who Can Join?

Hospitals are the focus. Our goal is to have each VA inpatient facility involved.

However, anyone committed to reducing unnecessary readmission is a welcome participant.

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How Does My Hospital Join?

A representative goes to

[H2Hquality.org](https://www.h2hquality.org)

and fills out an online form indicating your facility's commitment to reducing readmissions.



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What is Expected of Participants

- I Assemble an Improvement Team
- II Develop an Improvement Plan
- III Report on Progress through periodic responses to brief surveys



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Why Enroll?

- Hospital specific heart failure (and MI) readmission rates will be reported (performance measure)
- Reduced readmission rates should reduce costs.
- Undersecretary for Health has signed the VA up as a strategic partner
- Patient Care Services is recommending Enrollment

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For More Information

- visit www.H2HQuality.org
- email hospital2home@acc.org
- Or email CHF QUERI at anju.sahay@va.gov
or paul.heidereich@va.gov