

IMPROVING THE GERIATRIC PSYCHIATRY REFERRAL PROCESS

Shared Care Project

Project Overview

Project Aim: Streamline the referral and communication process between Family Physicians and Geriatric Psychiatrists who serve older adults with mental health concerns

Project Leads: Dr. Carllin Man (Family Physician lead) and Dr. Simon Woo (Geriatric Psychiatrist Lead)

Project Activities



PRACTICAL TOOLS FOR DIAGNOSING DEMENTIA WORKSHOP

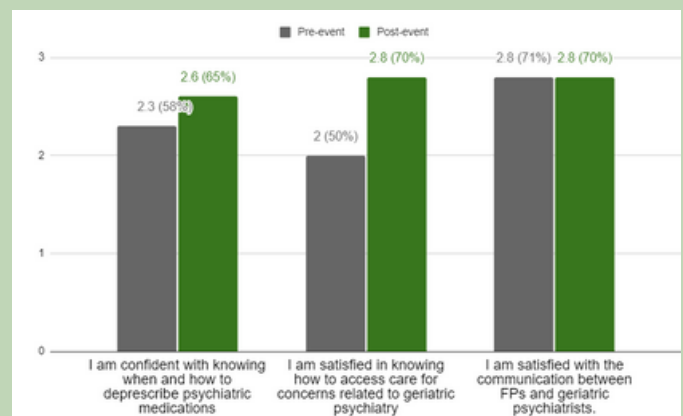
85%

Agreed that the workshop provided valuable information and resources related to dementia and help with diagnosing patients with dementia

88%

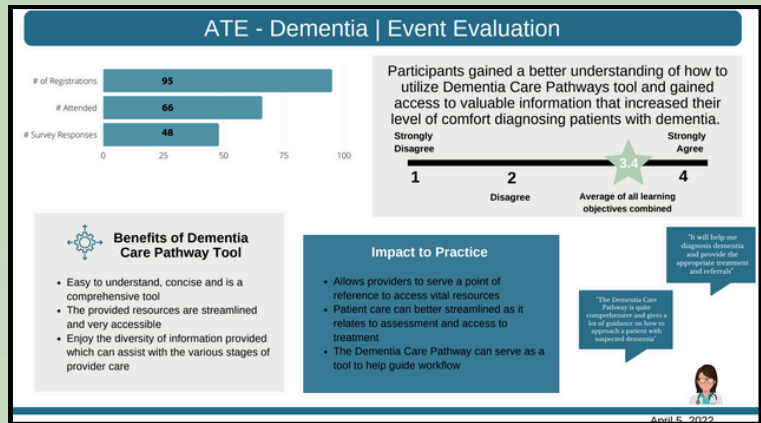
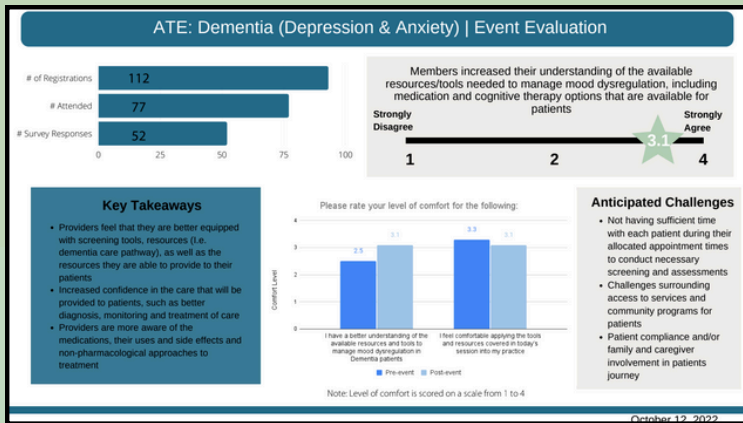
Agreed that they have a better understanding of how to use the Dementia Care Pathway tool

Please rate your level of agreement for the following:



Graphed above is the Deprescribing in Older Adults Case Study, Pre and post event survey results

Project Activities: Overview



Lessons Learned: What Worked Well?



Strong physician leadership, collaborative efforts and collegiality within the committee provided opportunities to share challenges and come up with solutions, resulting in improved communication



Implementation of referral status letter developed by Geriatric Psychiatry lead was implemented across other psychiatry services across the health authority



Developed resources which resulted in increased awareness of navigating the mental health system and the available community resources

Challenges & Gaps

- Challenges with sustaining ongoing materials shared out in educational workshops
- Limitations with accessing and obtaining data throughout project lifecycle
- Integrating engagement from other stakeholders (i.e. FHA) for ongoing sustainability of work
- Obtaining survey feedback from patients due to the complexities of the patient population group

Next Steps

- Ongoing discussions and collaborative efforts to enhance the Specialized Seniors Clinic (SSC) and improve referral navigation, while sustaining key elements (i.e. referral status letter)
- Ongoing commitment and QI opportunities to address needs of patients and providers
- Sharing workshop content with South Okanagan Similkameen Division and sharing out project findings to involved project stakeholders