

MEDIA RELEASE

New Hip Fracture Bundle Aims for Shorter Length of Stay and Lower Readmission - Pilot trial to better coordinate care from acute and community hospitals -

Singapore, 28 January 2019 – Seamless care and faster recovery are now possible under the Hip Fracture Bundle, a pilot trial that was initiated by the Ministry of Health (MOH). The bundle aims to promote the provision of coordinated value-based care from both acute and community hospitals which provide the post-operative care and rehabilitation for hip fracture patients, thereby leading to shorter length of stay and lesser readmission.

Hip Fracture was selected by MOH as the bundled trial due to the high occurrence of seniors suffering from hip fracture after a fall. For instance, up to 30% of admissions to Ren Ci Community Hospital (RCCH) are patients from Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH) requiring post hip fracture care. Since the start of the partnership in 2016, the average wait time for the 488 admissions from TTSH to RCCH was reduced by up to 5 days and average length of stay for post treatment was reduced from 29 days to 21 days at RCCH. Unplanned discharge or transfer out rate was reduced by 30%.

A patient in her late 70s was admitted to TTSH after suffering a fall and had a hip fracture surgery early this year. She was subsequently transferred to RCCH for rehabilitation on 14th January. She is scheduled to discharge home on 30th January, days ahead of the typical 29 days of stay for patients of similar condition. She is looking forward to going home and spend the upcoming Chinese New Year with her children and grandchildren.

“This pilot trial has shown that patients benefit from the seamless delivery of care from a multidisciplinary team spanning both the hospitals, leading to better rehabilitation outcomes, earlier discharge and also reduces readmissions during and after the treatment period,” said Mr Joe Hau, CEO of Ren Ci Hospital.

Since the start of the partnership, patients and hospital noticed the apparent cost saving from the shorter hospital stay. This satisfies the aim of a bundled service that offers a more rigorous funding mechanism to better control future healthcare cost and affordability. A single bundled payment scheme serves to cover care services provided to a patient during a clinical episode that extends both at acute hospitals and post treatment at community hospital. Ren Ci will continue to partner TTSH and expand the types of bundle treatment.

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About Ren Ci Hospital

Established since 1994, Ren Ci Hospital is one of the few charity healthcare institutions in Singapore to provide high quality and affordable medical, nursing and rehabilitative care services for the community, based on the principles of loving kindness and compassion. Ren Ci plays an integral role in supporting the healthcare needs of the elderly through adopting holistic way of delivering person-centred care.

Besides giving hope to the frail elderly by helping overcome their disabilities and teaching their families to care for them at home, Ren Ci also partners various community groups and social enterprises to give dignity back to the elderly.