



NNMC POD Squad

Phase 1 successes and challenges

5/16/2024

First steps

- December 2023: Invited Alithea Gabrellas to speak at NNMC Grand Rounds
- Jan- March 2024
 - Started weekly in-person meetings including podiatry, wound care, ID, FM, IM, case management with much better communication and care coordination
 - Developed a tracking instrument via One-Note signout and iCare queries
 - Reviewed 50 patients as a team
 - Expedited numerous ID, PCP, podiatry, wound care, PCP and vascular consults
 - Completed in-service to IM and FM providers about vascular evaluations with doppler
 - Met with Dr. Sandhu (vascular at SJRMC) to facilitate referral process
 - Performed in depth microbiology review of DFIs at NNMC
 - Established closer coordination/communication with outside podiatry, ID specialist

Challenges

- Difficulty finding meeting time when all key team members are available
- Very lengthy patient list, difficult to prioritize/manage
- Socially complex patients, with numerous missed appointment, social/mental health, substance use challenges, despite heroic efforts to engage them in care
- Difficulty managing patients being seen by outside providers
 - We do not have access to EHRs for several podiatry, wound care, surgical groups that help manage our patients
- Difficult to get urgent/emergent vascular intervention for inpatients with DFI and critical limb ischemia

Next steps

- Reduce in-person meetings to once a month, with focus on process improvement but maintain close communication when needed
- Update clinical decision tools in EHR for DFI management, including diagnostic orders, consults and antibiotic orders
- Set up more provider education, grand rounds
- Continue improving access/communication within members of the POD squad, with PCPs, vascular, outside podiatrists