

Summary of Report from Lakeridge Health (Acute /Emergency Hospital) on Reducing COPD Lengths of Stay and Conservable Days in Hospital

- Objective of initiative (implemented in Sept. 2004) was to decrease lengths of stay and conservable days for COPD clients while improving patient care
- New standards of practice were developed and treatment of COPD and pneumonia became more standardized
- Average length of stay dropped significantly ie. Total average LOS before implementation was 9.8/reduced to 8.5 after one yr. and conservable days (hospital inpatient days that could have been avoided) went from 218.2 to 34 after implementation

Practice Changes:

- Involve physicians at outset/education of physician/clinicians on best practices, protocols through use of external physician peers with expertise in management and treatment of COPD
- Agree on data and indicators
- Involvement of programs/services that would be affected by new initiative and must be outcome focused
- Evaluation is critical

Recommendations

- This report did not give any specifics on how they actually implemented the above changes. I would suggest contacting Lakeridge Health directly if further information is required.