



From The Project Director...

We are proud to introduce you to **IMPACT**, the official newsletter of NTOCC (National Coalitions of Care Coalition). **IMPACT** will be published quarterly to keep subscribers apprised of our policy, growth, initiatives, tool development and *impact* !

Since NTOCC was formed a little over a year ago, substantial work has been done to assure that NTOCC is the center of collaboration in this field. I want to thank the Advisory Task Force and the Policy & Advocacy, Education & Awareness, Tools & Resources, Performance & Metrics Work Groups who researched and compiled the NTOCC Concept Paper and much more.

We want **IMPACT** to be relevant, fresh and encouraging as you strive to improve the quality of care in the lives of the people you serve.

CHERI



NEW NTOCC Tools

Available May 2008

- **My Medicine List**
- **NTOCC Slide Deck**
- **Medication Reconciliation Data Elements**
- **Transitions of Care Elements of Excellence**

ADVISORY TASK FORCE UPDATE

The National Transitions of Care Coalition (NTOCC) is a group of 30 diverse and committed associations who have come together to address the issues and barriers that are affecting quality transitions from one care level to another. It is not about specific individuals or associations but about what is most important to all of us the PATIENT. NTOCC had a busy year developing tools and resources that will support improved communication and build consistency of data elements for transferring patient information during the transition exchange. In addressing those needs to impact change, NTOCC will be presenting a concept paper discussing the concerns related to transitions of care, models that are being developed and statements of consideration for improving processes and communication of patient information. The NTOCC Concept Paper will be available for public comment in early February on the NTOCC website. Please go to www.ntocc.org and provide comments from your organization.

Advisory Task Force Members

These groups represent over 200,000 health care professionals, 11,000 employers and 30,000,000 consumers throughout the United States.



Our Mission

TO IMPROVE TRANSITIONS of CARE ACROSS THE CONTINUUM

- To become an information clearinghouse and resource center for transition of care information.
- To serve as a catalyst for change in improving transitions of care.
- To provide a call to action for policy makers and healthcare providers through consensus policy statements and qualitative evidence on the benefits of improving transitions.
- To showcase best practices and share this information with the industry at large.

RADIO INTERVIEW SUMMARY—Conducted with radio stations in Atlanta, Jacksonville, Florida, Boston, Rochester, New York & American Urban Radio Network (National) in mid-January, 2008.

NTOCC is a coalition of 30 diverse organizations committed to providing solutions that improve the quality of healthcare with better collaborations from the emergency room to surgery to home to working with multiple physicians in an outpatient basis to older adults moving from home to assisted living to hospital.

FACTS

- Americans 65 years, with two or more chronic diseases see an average of seven physicians every year
- 1.5MM medication errors annually and 60% occur during time of transitions
- 19% of patients discharged from a skilled nursing facility are readmitted within three days

SOLUTIONS

- **Improving communication** between providers, facilities, patients and caregivers including tools and resources:
 - My Medicine List
 - Medication Reconciliation Data Elements
 - Transitions of Care Elements of Excellence Checklist
- Developing electronic medical records that contain consistent data elements
- Providing comprehensive information to patients and caregivers via our website

www.ntocc.org

THE MESSAGE

Through collaboration and consensus, we can improve the quality of healthcare and make a difference.

What's New...

The coalition's new website will contain separate sections aimed at different groups of individuals interested in Transitions of Care: **consumers** (patients and their caregivers), **healthcare professionals**, **policy makers** and **members of the media**. Within each area, website users will find information designed specifically to help them better understand the problems associated with transitions of care. Users will also be able to download tools to help patients, caregivers and professionals better navigate transition situations. Policy makers and media representatives can access information to raise awareness of transition challenges and the important work being performed by NTOCC. *The new site will be available by mid-February.*

www.ntocc.org