

Time-saving tool gives nurses more time with residents

In post-acute care organizations, the admissions process is often complex and full of potential risk. "If we don't have a complete medication list or other information, it can take time to put those pieces together," said Brandy Armstrong, BSN, RN and director of Clinical Information at CarDon and Associates. This not only puts residents at risk, but also creates extra work for staff.

Challenges including the time-consuming process of getting approval for new resident prescriptions led CarDon to participate in a pilot for a new tool, **MatrixCare Exchange**, to find out how it could help staff work more efficiently and capture more complete resident information at admission.

With MatrixCare Exchange Data Manager, the information is embedded in the EHR where the hospital documents are pulled in. Automatic document queries help admissions staff gather diagnoses, CDs, allergy information, demographics, medications and more. "Using this embedded tool is incredibly fast," Armstrong said. "For example, we used to have to add a new resident's diagnoses one at a time by searching for it, clicking, hitting save and then going to the next one. This is so much faster. It cuts down our time by a long shot."

Armstrong said, "You need a good process in place to ensure you know that whatever information came in with the resident matches what's in your EHR." But tools like MatrixCare Exchange streamline the work by gathering most information up-front. "If all I have to do as a floor nurse is double-check the work, then I'm happy because I can focus on doing nursing assessments and spending time at the bedside getting my resident comfortable."

"With good processes in place and staff buy-in, this tool will save you time," Armstrong said. "This tool gave us the ability for nurses to do better assessments and get that documentation in the system so they can spend more time with residents and help other staff get through the day. The more we can do on the front end for nurses, the better off they will be—and in the end, that's also better for the resident."

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Director of Clinical Information
CarDon and Associates

Contact our experts
at **866.469.3766**
or visit **matrixcare.com**
to learn more.