



Implementing Hospital at Home care: Hurdles for implementation?

An Example of the Hospital@Home care program in Groningen, The Netherlands.

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Abstract. During hospital admission, the health status and Quality of Life of many elderly patients with dementia decline drastically. Health care systems explore new care approaches to avoid hospitalisation of vulnerable elderly diagnosed with dementia. This qualitative case study assessed potential barriers and facilitators for the implementation of an innovative hospital-level care approach in the patients' home - Hospital@Home care program. Data from 17 semi-structured interviews with relevant Hospital @ Home stakeholders were analysed according to the Grounded Theory approach, using the Innovative Care for Chronic Conditions framework, developed by the WHO. Major implementation concerns were the caregiver burden, organisation in out-of-office hours, and resistance from actors in the health system. Effective communication across all multidisciplinary Hospital@Home stakeholders and the positive innovation context in The Netherlands can facilitate a successful implementation of H@H. Overall, these study results will lead the way towards a reorientation from hospitalized acute care towards H@H care in The Netherlands and globally. (148 words)

Keywords. Dementia, Hospital at Home, innovation implementation, barriers, facilitators, care program, elderly
