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HOW WILL MY PATIENT BENEFIT FROM THE EPC ITEMS?

CARE PLAN

- Patient knows what is happening, when, and who with.
- Patient knows what is required of them/ what their role is.
- It shows the Dr is committed to the patient's health over the coming months.
- Patient can see they are not alone, they are part of a team which is working towards improving their health.
- The review date shows ongoing commitment, accountability, and makes the goal-setting more effective.
- Provides the opportunity for the various health professionals who are seeing the patient to plan for the patient's care in a coordinated fashion.
- As the patient has a chronic condition, the GP will be referring the patient to the other care providers anyway…. so why not coordinate them?

CASE CONFERENCE

- Provides the opportunity to plan for urgent or short-term health care needs in a coordinated fashion.
- Patient knows what is happening, when, and who with.
- Patient knows what is required of them/ what their role is.
- Patient can see they are not alone, they are part of a team which is working towards improving their health.
- May identify that the patient would benefit from a Care Plan.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT

- It is preventative medicine which may assist the patient to stay healthy!
- Opportunity for Doctor to review areas of health that are not usually covered in a normal consultation –eg. Nutrition, social support, home safety.
- Conversely, this gives the patient an opportunity to raise other concerns that may not normally be brought up in a consultation because the patient doesn't want to waste the Doctor's time – eg. Hearing, sleeping difficulties.
- Takes lifestyle changes into account.
- Can be done in the home if the patient has difficulty getting to the clinic.
- Patient gets written feedback about their assessment which means they get more information than from a standard consultation.
- If a nurse is sent to the patient's home to do the non-clinical component of the assessment, the nurse may be able to spend more time with the patient than the average GP.
- May ultimately help the patient to remain living in their own home for longer.