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Wound Repair & Regeneration

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Development of diabetes occurs in persons of all ages. Diabetes is associated with decreased circulation, lower extremity wounds, and poor healing rates (Baquerizo Nole, Yim, Van Driessche, Lamel, Richmond, Braun, & Kirsner, 2015). Complications of diabetes affect those afflicted mentally and physically which can lead to detrimental outcomes (Baquerizo et al., 2015). Approximately 12% of those who develop lower extremity ulcers from diabetes will have to undergo an amputation due to healing complications (National Alliance of Wound Care and Ostomy, 2017). More than twenty billion dollars is spent on wound care in the United States annually (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2017). Increasing diabetic patient involvement through the utilization of modern technology tools assists in the improvement of patient outcomes and decreased financial burdens. The purpose of this project is to achieve a Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) model within the organization by creating a distribution process for patient medical portal sign-up instruction cards and to educate clinic staff on how increasing patient involvement through the patient portal will help to improve diabetic patient outcomes among the diabetic wound care patients at the local community clinic. Results of this study will be disseminated through an oral PowerPoint presentation. Surveys will be distributed throughout the implementation of the project to determine level of participation and participant reception. Focus groups will be held with clinic staff upon completion of the project implementation to discuss anonymous patient results, project improvement opportunities, and future implications for patient portal involvement.

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