Intercollaborative Heart Failure Patient Education at John Cochran VA St. Louis, MO.
Aim

To reduce patient readmissions with heart failure at 30 days
Team Members

Willia Clayborn, RN – Congestive Heart Failure Nurse
JoAnn Crosby, MSN, RN, CCM – Congestive Heart Failure Nurse
Rosemary Quigley, RD, LD – Registered Dietician with Nutritional Services for Inpatient
Lauren McMillan, PT – Physical Therapist for Inpatient Units
Peter Brawer, PhD, Clinical Psychologist
Julie Spenner, Pharm.D – Pharmacist
Peggy Gerdes, MSN, RN, GNP – Nurse Practitioner and Cardiology Clinic Coordinator
Admissions for heart failure

Number of patient admissions and readmissions based on data from admission sheets compiled
Total Admissions for 76 Heart Failure Patients
1 July - 1 Oct

- Admitted 1 time: 63
- Admitted 2 times: 4
- Admitted 3 times: 1
- Admitted > 3 times: 8
Figure 2. This table represents the 13 patients who were admitted multiple times for heart failure between 1 July – 1 October 09. As noted in the graft most of the readmissions occurred within 30 days which substantiates previous data.
Barriers to education program

• Administration buy in
• Statistics
• Profile for clinic schedule
• Limitation of patient numbers for class
• Confusion of class location for patients
Outcomes

• Positive patient/family responses
• Increase of patients attending class now average 20 per class
Future Plans

- Increase awareness of program to primary care providers through pamphlets, monitors
- Get profile established for scheduling to indicate class
- Get administration on board with program – which is just beginning. Now have task force for evaluating methods to reduce CHF readmissions
- Possibility of additional classes
- Obtain statistics for evaluation of program – part of capstone project for DNP