

## **TOTAL JOINT EFFORT FOR TOTAL JOINT PATIENTS**

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### **Background / Significance**

Prince William Hospital's Total Joint Program has been extremely successful in decreasing length of stay, which in turn profits our financial goal, while still maintaining positive patient outcomes and satisfaction.

### **Objectives**

Examine the process by which our organization assesses the competitive marketplace for successful Total Joint Replacements through decreasing length of stay and readmission rates. The goal of the educational program is to provide patients with enough information to prepare them for their scheduled surgery and help them understand the role they and their caregivers play in their recovery after surgery.

### **Methodology**

On a monthly basis, patient length of stay is computed by Case Management and reported to the Total Joint Performance Improvement Team. Quarterly results are shared with the Manassas VA hospital Quality Coordinating Council. The team is able to consistently compare themselves to the National Benchmark of 3.5 day length of stay for Total Hip Replacements and 3.4 day length of stay for Total Knee Replacements. HospitalCompare.gov is utilized for comparison of other hospitals. PRC is used for patient satisfaction data.

### **Results**

For 2011, PWH had an average length of stay (ALOS) for Total Hip Replacements of 2.3 days (1.2 days less than the national average) and 2.3 days for Total Knee Replacements (1.1 days less than the national average)

An average of 55% of all Total Joint patients took part in the Total Joint Class which prepared them for surgery and for rehabilitation after surgery.

### **Sustainability/ Generalizability**

Increasing awareness of the Total Joint Program will enhance the entire surgical experience for the Total Joint patient by preparing them for the journey of a new joint. This in turn helps to decrease length of stays and complications.