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PROJECT ANALYZING AND IMPROVING SANITARY ASSISTANCE FOR STOMA PATIENTS

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Aim: The project's aim was to ensure the comprehensive assistance of stoma patient with serious incontinence, to guarantee assistance and improve patients and families' quality of life.

Methods: Our Pilot Project started in 2005 with a multi-professional team (GLIMPS) composed by professional nurses, doctors working in Parma's hospital, patients' associations and administrative personnel. GLIMPS' aims were: to guarantee an appropriate and effective therapeutic approach; to spread the habit of a multidisciplinary approach, to enhance patient's early rehabilitation and recovery; to reduce unworthy hospitalization and enhance reintegration. An analysis of welfare situation and of connections between services, health workers and territory involved therapeutic, auxiliary and rehabilitation process. Flow charts and detailed accounts reported relevant investigation data. Training courses and internship at rehabilitation centers for patients. Direct distribution of devices for stoma has been carried out in one of the hospitals.

Results: Improved patient's assistance, personnel and caregivers training, improved relationship with patients associations. Standardized forms and use of intranet.

Discussions: This Project produced positive results for patients and professionals. The working team allowed a compact service net and continuous cooperation between hospital and territory.