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Addressing Comorbidity Education Needs in TriStar Skyline's Readmission Reduction Program

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Addressing Comorbidity Education Needs in TriStar Skyline's Readmission Reduction Program

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Belmont University School of Occupational Therapy

Mission of the Agency

"Above all else, TriStar Health is committed to the care and improvement of human life. We strive to deliver high quality, cost-effective healthcare in the communities we serve."

Target Population

The overarching target population was adults admitted to TriStar Skyline's inpatient rehabilitation unit with comorbidities such as Diabetes Mellitus (DM), COPD, and CHF. Specifically, this project aimed to target patients that qualify to be placed in the Readmission Reduction Program (RRP).

Identified Needs of the Agency

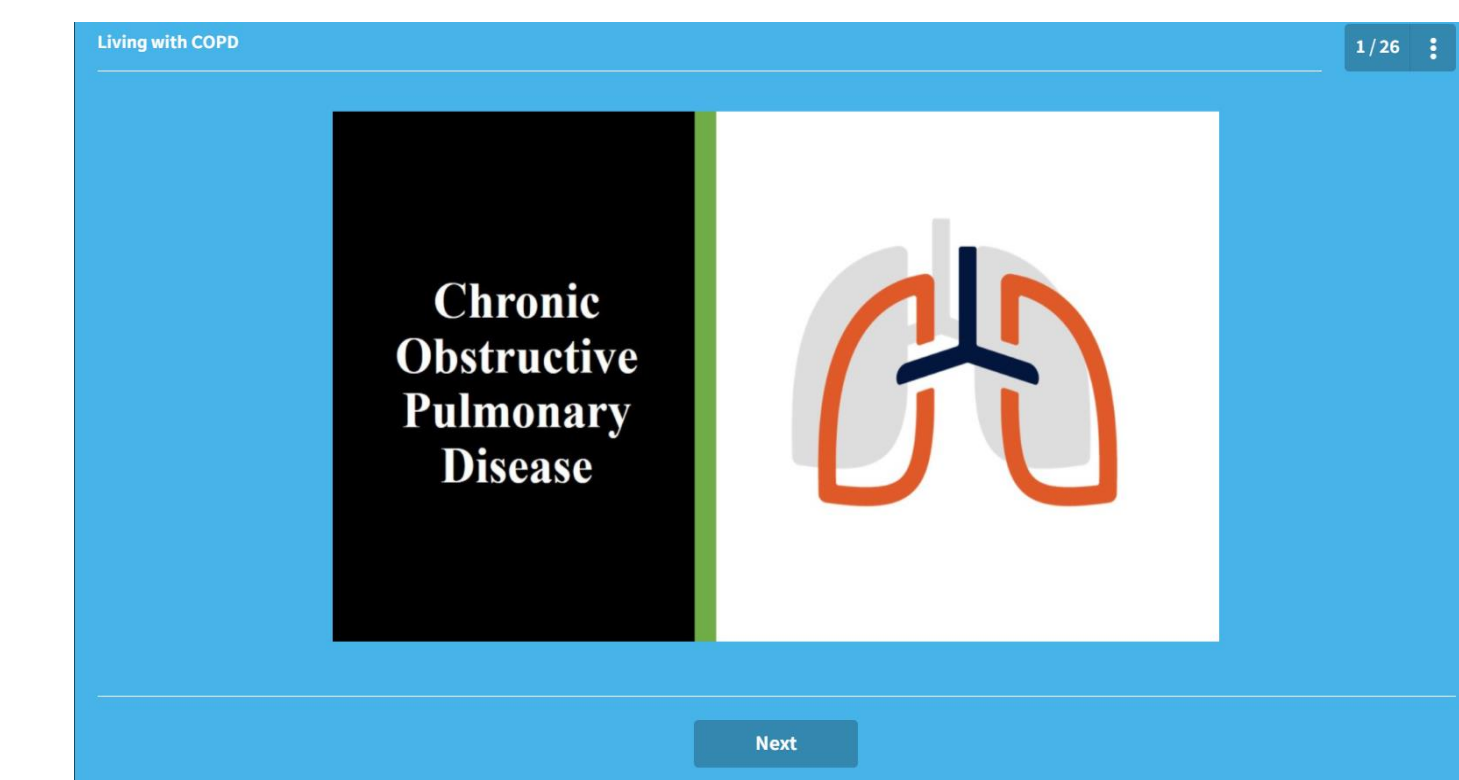
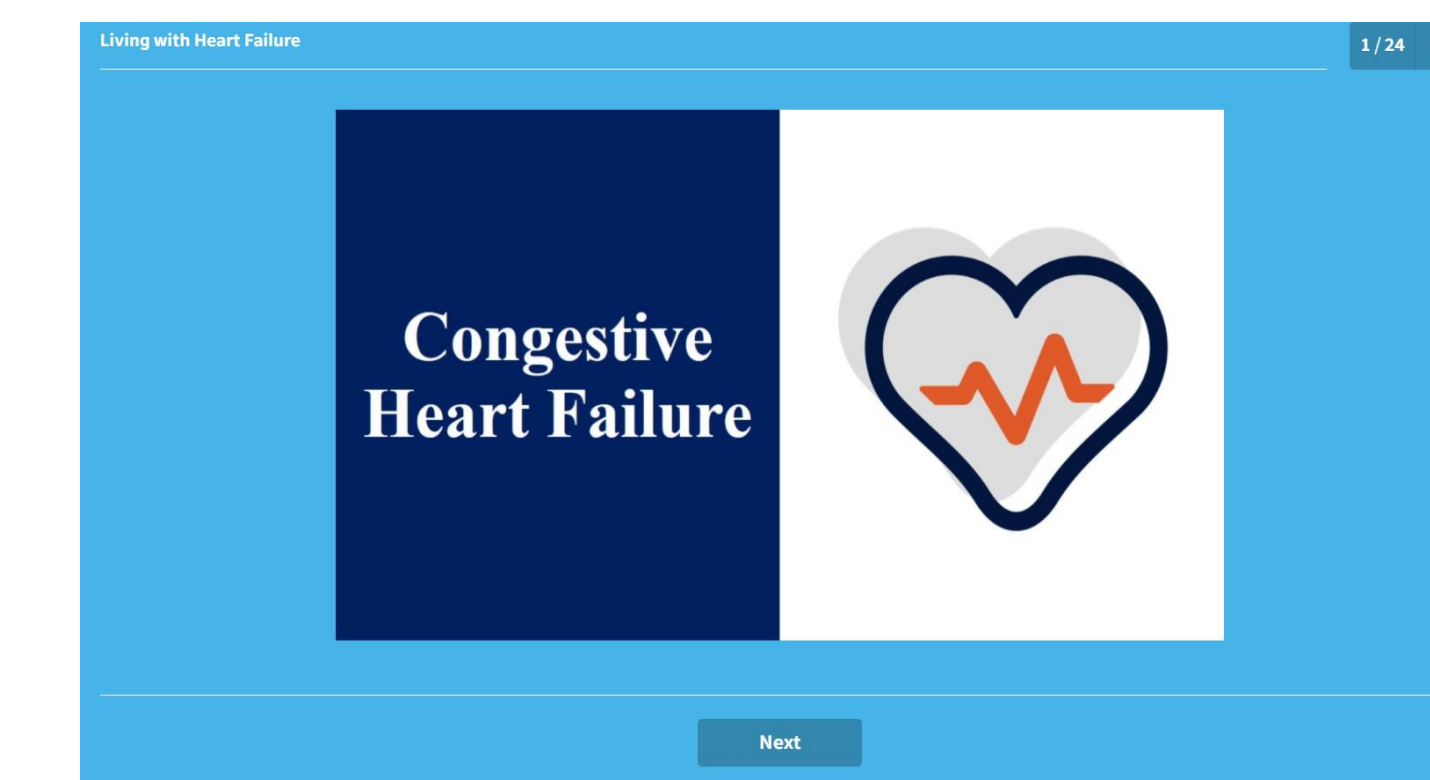
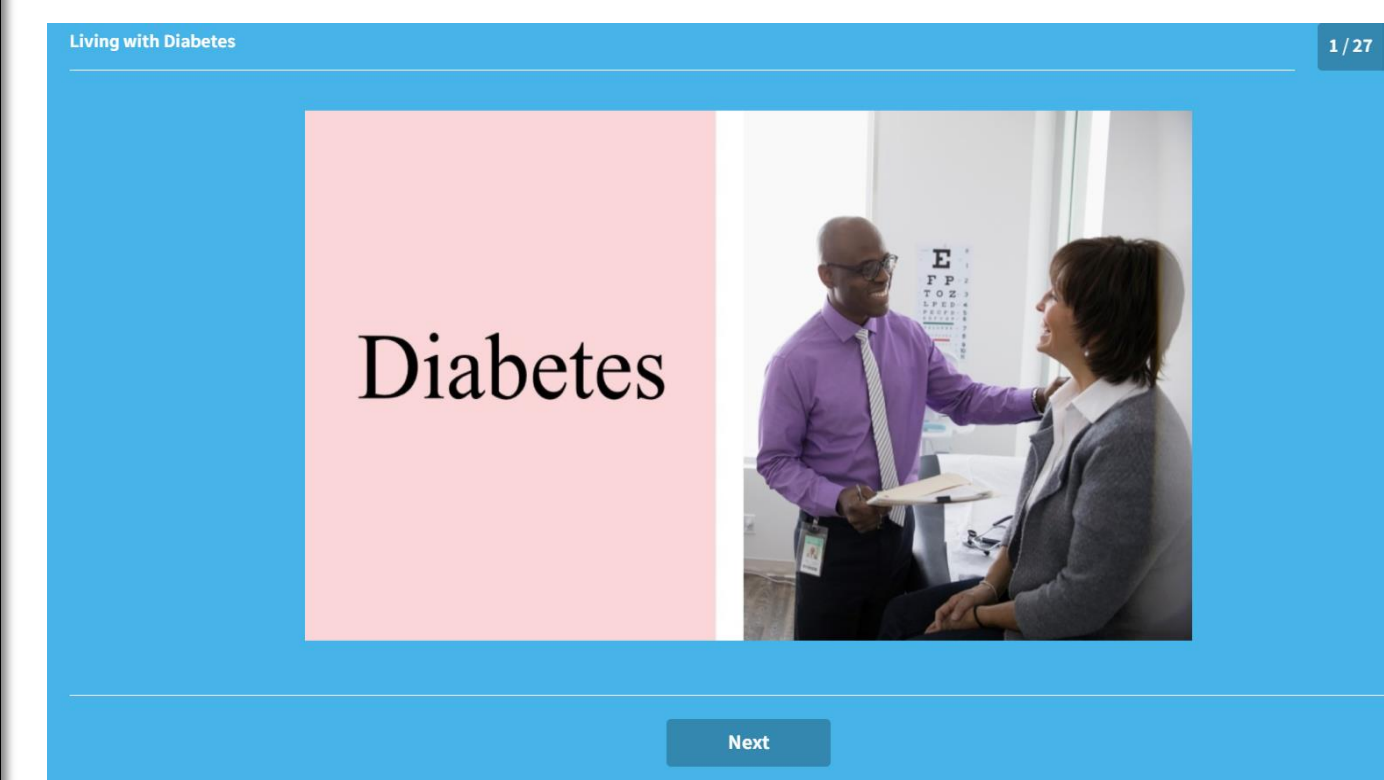
- CMS's Hospital Readmissions Reduction Program incentivizes hospitals to improve care coordination with patients and caregivers to reduce avoidable readmissions.
- Readmission reduction within patient populations, such as those that qualify for TriStar Skyline's RRP, is essential to the care and improvement of human life.
- As readmissions are commonly associated with unfavorable patient outcomes, development of educational resources to mitigate avoidable readmissions among all patients, especially those with higher likelihood of readmission, is of great importance.

Goals of the Capstone

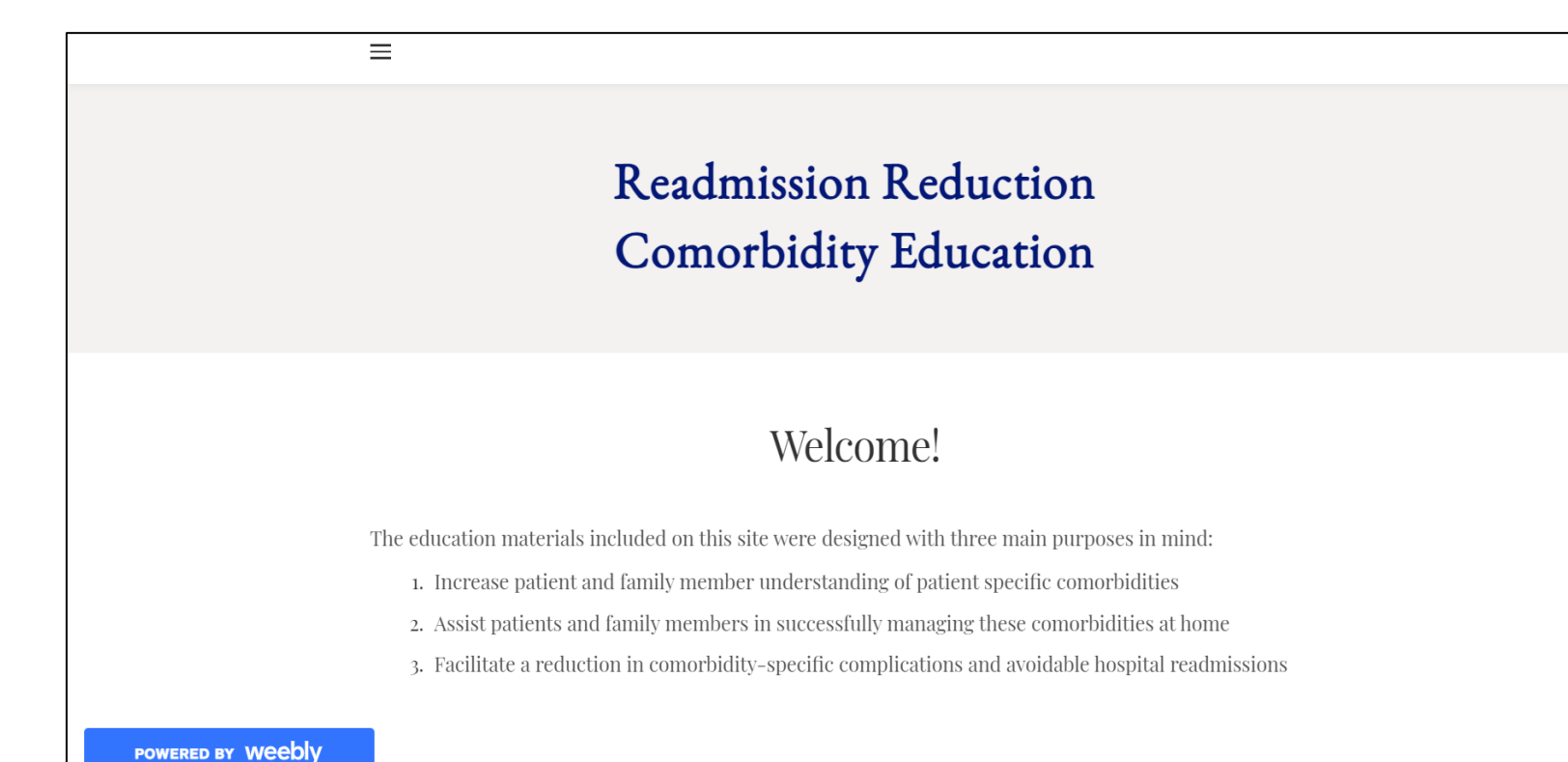
- Research evidence-based practice and guidelines for successfully managing DM, CHF, and COPD to reduce disease complications.
- Develop interactive education materials to promote an understanding of how to successfully manage these comorbidities upon discharge.
- Create multi-level evaluative questions to assess patient-specific barriers commonly associated with readmission.
- Create a central platform for housing the education materials for all comorbidities.
- Implement education materials with RRP patients and assess knowledge comprehension for potential areas of improvement within the education provided.

Outcomes of the Capstone

- Educational materials for DM, CHF, and COPD in multiple formats:
 - Interactive modules for in-room education at patient's own pace with voice over and knowledge check components



- PowerPoint presentations for future in-person education classes
 - PDF handouts of the PowerPoint presentations with audio transcript
- Evaluative questions for staff to use post-education to assess patient-specific barriers commonly associated with readmission
- Central online platform for housing the interactive modules, PDF handouts, and resource links for all comorbidities



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