

Excellence in Action

Success Despite the Obstacles

A success story from our Sabetha, KS Team



Following hospitalization for a left pubis fracture, our patient returned to the facility with orders for PT and OT. In addition to the fracture, she has Alzheimer's disease, osteoporosis, and a history of cancer. We knew the treatment plan might progress slower than a typical orthopedic plan, but were not deterred. We also knew our sessions would contain a lot of repetition due to her cognitive impairment.

For the first two weeks, we worked on sit to stand and static standing to improve functional transfers. At this point, she had a shuffling gait and needed moderate/maximal assistance for transfers to the toilet and for bed mobility.

The team provided both tactile and verbal cues to prevent "prancing" and to help her maintain proper foot placement during treatments. As she progressed, she was able to ambulate with a walker and minimal assistance for 50 feet, but needed cues to increase her step length.

She is now able to walk to the dining are with a staff member with contact guard assistance and only words of encouragement as her cues! She can walk 300-400 feet throughout the facility and only needs minimal assistance to stand up with cues for hand placement.

We are so proud of the progress she has made in a month and a half, despite the challenges of a painful injury and Alzheimer's disease!

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Stay tuned for next month's Excellence in Action Story from more of our teams in the field!