

R. MICHAEL WILKES, MD

INTERNAL MEDICINE,
SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO

2000 Sidney R. Garfield, MD
EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION AWARD

In 1996, Michael Wilkes, MD, spearheaded the development of a program to better manage patients with congestive heart failure – the most common medical diagnosis for hospital admissions.

The program uses clinical pathways, outpatient classes and case management to help prevent return visits to the hospital.

Once implemented, it resulted in a 23% lower hospital admission rate and 21% fewer visits to the Emergency Department. The readmission rate dropped by 46% to become the lowest in the region.

Most importantly, the quality of life improved for over 1000 patients enrolled in the program in the Golden Gate Area. It is now being used throughout Northern California.

