

Advancing Patient Safety Through Diagnostic Excellence

NATIONAL WEBINAR SERIES

September 17, 2024

Housekeeping Instructions

NATIONAL ACTION ALLIANCE for Patient and Workforce Safety

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World Patient Safety Day 2024





Improving diagnosis for patient safety **Get it right, make it safe!**

- World Patient Safety Day is one of the World Health Organization's global public health days
- The 2024 theme is **improving diagnosis for patient safety**

Framing

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- Diagnostic errors are common and costly, and they impact patient safety
- Consider the data:
 - ► 1 in 20 adults will experience a diagnostic error in the outpatient setting every year ^a
 - About 250,000 harmful diagnostic errors occur yearly in U.S. hospitals ^b
 - ► 79% of diagnostic errors are related to the patient-clinician encounter ^c
- Organizations can apply tools and strategies to reduce diagnostic errors

a. Singh H, Meyer AN, Thomas EJ. The frequency of diagnostic errors in outpatient care: estimations from three large observational studies involving US adult populations. BMJ Qual Saf. 2014 Sep;23(9):727-31.doi: 10.1136/bmjqs-2013-002627. Epub 2014 Apr 17.

b. Gunderson CG, Bilan VP, Holleck JL, Nickerson P, Cherry BM, Chui P, Bastian LA, Grimshaw AA, Rodwin BA. Prevalence of harmful diagnostic errors in hospitalised adults: a systematic review and meta-analysis. BMJ Qual Saf. 2020 Dec;29(12):1008-18. doi: 10.1136/bmjqs-2019-010822. Epub 2020 Apr 8.

c. Singh H, Giardina TD, Meyer AND, Forjuoh SN, Reis MD, Thomas EJ. Types and origins of diagnostic errors in primary care settings. JAMA Intern Med 2013;173(6):418-425. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3690001/. Accessed July 13, 2021.

AHRQ Tools to Improve Diagnostic Safety

NATIONAL ACTION ALLIANCE for Patient and Workforce Safety

TeamSTEPPS Diagnosis Improvement Course

Team strategies and tools for optimizing patient outcomes

• Calibrate Dx

Self-evaluation tool for clinicians to improve their diagnostic decision-making

Measure Dx

Resource to help healthcare organizations detect, analyze, and learn from diagnostic safety events

• Toolkit for Engaging Patients to Improve Diagnostic Safety

Resource to promote enhanced communication and information sharing within the patient-provider encounter to help patients, families, and health professionals work together as partners to improve diagnostic safety

Toolkits to be addressed in today's presentation.

All tools are available at https://www.ahrq.gov/diagnostic-safety/tools/index.html.

Questions to Run On

NATIONAL ACTION ALLIANCE for Patient and Workforce Safety

 What tools and resources are available to help organizations prevent diagnostic errors?

 What strategies can healthcare organizations implement to prevent diagnostic errors?



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What type of diagnostic errors are the top priority in your organization?

Speaker Welcome

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Kelly Smith, PhD Associate Professor, Institute of Health Policy, Management, & Evaluation University of Toronto

Speaker Welcome

NATIONAL ACTION ALLIANCE for Patient and Workforce Safety



Hardeep Singh, MD, MPH Co-Chief, Health Policy, Quality and Informatics Program, Center for Innovations in Quality, Effectiveness and Safety Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center and Baylor College of Medicine



AHRQ Toolkit for Engaging Patients To Improve Diagnostic Safety

Kelly M. Smith, PhD

Michael Garron Chair in Patient-Oriented Research and

Chief Scientific Officer, Michael Garron Hospital

Associate Professor, University of Toronto



September 2024



"Just listen to your patient, he is telling you the diagnosis."

- Sir William Osler



How can Patient Engagement improve Diagnostic Safety?

What can patients do?

- Tell their story fully and completely and clearly
- Provide accurate information about their symptoms
- **Speak up** if they feel they have not been heard
- Ask questions to clarify the information shared
- **Use a checklist** of tests, symptoms, concerns, or physicians consulted

What can clinicians do?

- ✓ **Listen** to patients
- Support patients in effectively sharing their symptoms.
- ✓ Ask patients what they think is going on
- Conduct a thorough history and physical examination
- ✓ Set a visit agenda
- Know patients and their history, and read prior notes
- Integrate "pre-work" for patients (e.g. symptoms; history of present illness; labs)



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Toolkit Strategies





The Be The Expert On You Strategy





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60 Seconds To Improve Diagnostic Safety Strategy





How Does 60 Seconds To Improve Diagnostic Safety Work?





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60s for Diagnostic Safety How Do I Get Started?





Ask

- What brings you in today?
- I would like to hear from you about how you are doing.

Listen

- Actively listen, encouraging engagement with "uh huhs"
- Write notes and make eye contact to show you are listening.



Act

- Use the information shared to cocreate a care plan.
- Ask additional questions to clarify information shared.



Toolkit Implementation Roadmap





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Planning Worksheets

Be The Expert On You Planning Worksheet

When planning your implementation, be sure to have the following materials available so that you can adapt them to your practice's plan.

- □ Be The Expert On You Note Sheet □ One-Page Handout for Staff Training
- Evaluation Planning Worksheet Practice Orientation and Training slides

Set scope

Which patients will receive the Share Your Story strategy? Patients with select diagnoses? □ All patients? Patients with acute visits? Telehealth visits?

Establish workflow 2

How will you give patients the note sheet? □ In person □ Email □ Patient portal □ Other □ Who will give patients the note sheet? How will the note sheet be explained to the patient? □ Will you adapt and use the One-Page Handout for Staff Training? □ Will you ask staff to help patients fill out the note sheet? □ Will the note sheet be collected after the visit, or will it remain with the patient? Will you document the note sheet in the EHR? How and where? □ Will you print the note sheet and poster in the office or order printing? Who will be responsible for maintaining a supply? Do you need Spanish versions? □ Review and adapt the Practice Orientation and Training Slides to reflect your chosen workflow (Slides 11-13), plans for evaluation (Slide 14), and next steps (Slide 15) of the Toolkit. Encourage use of the strategy How will you encourage patients to use the note sheet?

□ How will you encourage or facilitate use of the note sheet by patients who are not interested in participating?

Determine training plan 4

3

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How will you train providers and staff? Who will provide the training? When will the training be conducted?

AHRQ Publication No. 21-0047-3-EF Toolkit for Engaging Patients August 2021 To Improve Diagnostic Safety

60 Seconds To Improve Diagnostic Safety Planning Worksheet



When planning your implementation, be sure to have the following materials

- available so that you can adapt them to your practice's plan Provider Training slides
- Evaluation Planning Worksheet
- Practice Orientation and Training slides

Set scope

With which patients will you use the 60 Seconds To Improve Diagnostic Safety strategy? All patients? Patients with select diagnoses? Patients with acute visits? Telehealth visits?

Establish workflow and adapt training materials 2

- How will you time the patient's story? How will you advise providers to address patients who talk about more than can be handled during their visit?
- □ How will you document the 60 Seconds To Improve Diagnostic Safety strategy in the medical record?
- □ How will you evaluate success?
- Review and modify the Practice Orientation and Training Slides to reflect your chosen workflow (Slides 11-13), plans for evaluation (Slide 14), and next steps (Slide 15) for the Toolkit.
- □ Review and modify the Provider Training slides to reflect your plans for evaluation (Slide 16) and next steps (Slides 17-18) for the 60 Seconds To Improve Diagnostic Safety strategy.

Encourage use of the strategy



Determine training plan 4

AHRQ

- □ How will you train providers and staff? When will you train providers? Set a date and a time for the training. □ Who will provide the training?

AHRQ Publication No. 21-0047-4-EF Toolkit for Engaging Patients August 2021 To Improve Diagnostic Safety



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Train Your Team



What is Be The Expert On You?

- A way to help patients be ready to talk to their provider about their health.
- A strategy to improve our practice's diagnostic safety.

What do I need to do?

- Make sure you understand the contents of the Be The Expert On You note sheet and why we are using it.
- Explain to patients what they need to do and why.
- Quickly review the note sheet for completion during rooming.
- Help patients complete the note sheet if they are having trouble.

How do I explain the note sheet to patients?

- Use these sample scripts to practice introducing the Be The Expert On You note sheet.
- Adapt the scripts to make them your own

"Our practice is working to improve patient safety and diagnosis, and we need your help. [Insert provider name] would like you to fill out this note sheet as much as you can before you see him/her. This will help us get the whole story of what is going on with you and make the most of your time with us."

"If you have any questions about how to fill out the note sheet, please ask. We will be happy to help you. When you finish filling it out, hold onto it to help Be The Expert On You when [insert provider name] comes in to see you."

Remember to:

- Remind patients what to do with the note sheet after they have completed it (e.g., keep it
 with them until they see the provider).
- Give support to patients who need it. Not all patients will ask for help if you see a blank
 note sheet during rooming, take a minute to see if you can help the patient complete it.
- Thank the patient for taking the time to complete the note sheet and reinforce its importance.

Be Silent for 60 Seconds

- Get comfortable.
- Put away phones other distraction
- Close your eyes.

Engaging Patients To Improve Diagnostic Safety

Practice Orientation





AHRQ Publication No. 21-0047-8-EF August 2021



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Sample Workflow: Be The Expert On You Note Sheet





1:1:20

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Lessons Learned



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Measure Dx:

A Resource To Identify, Analyze, and Learn From Diagnostic Safety Events

Andrea Bradford, Ph.D. Hardeep Singh, MD, MPH

CENTER FOR INNOVATIONS IN QUALITY, EFFECTIVENESS & SAFETY (IQUEST) MICHAEL E. DEBAKEY VA MEDICAL CENTER BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, HOUSTON



Foundation for Improvement

A Learning Health System for Diagnostic Safety



The Safer Dx Checklist

10 High-Priority Practices for Diagnostic Excellence

PREPARED BY:

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Safer Dx Checklist

The Safer Dx Checklist: 10 High-Priority Practices for Diagnostic Excellence

(Scenarios are examples of actions to improve the practices)

2

Implementation Status (Current state of organization's practices)

Full Partial Not Implemented

- -

Health care organization leadership builds a "board-to-bedside" accountability framework that includes structure, capacity, transparency, time, and resources to measure and improve diagnostic safety.

Scenario 1: Senior leadership/C-suite establish a multidisciplinary <u>team</u> (e.g., diagnostic safety committee) charged with identifying and addressing opportunities to reduce errors at the institutional level. The team includes department leaders and clinical champions.

Scenario 2: Senior leadership/C-suite consistently share diagnostic safety data with the governance board. This includes quantitative data to measure and track diagnostic safety as well as narrative patient stories, patterns, and action plans.

Health care organization promotes a just culture and creates a psychologically safe environment that encourages clinicians and staff to share opportunities to improve diagnostic safety without fear of retribution.

Scenario: Ensure non-punitive conditions that encourage clinical and non-clinical staff to report missed opportunities, harms, "good catches," tips, and lessons related to diagnostic safety. Close the loop and share information on corrective actions or steps taken to prevent recurrence in a timely and effective manner.

Health care organization creates feedback loops to increase information flow about



The Safer Dx Checklist 10 High-Priority Practices for Diagnostic Excellence

The Safer Dx Checklist is an organizational self-assessment tool with 10 recommended practices to achieve diagnostic excellence.

Why Use the Checklist?

Diagnostic errors (missed, delayed, or wrong diagnoses) involve at least <u>1 in 20</u> US adults annually and lead to considerable <u>harm</u> to patients of all ages. They also are costly and one of the most common reasons for malpractice claims. Health care organizations need pragmatic guidance on where to focus efforts to improve diagnostic safety.

The Safer Dx Checklist is a synthesis of foundational practices that health care organizations can use to advance <u>diagnostic excellence</u>. The checklist provides a framework for organizations to conduct a self-assessment to understand the current state of diagnostic practices, identify areas to improve, and track progress toward diagnostic excellence over time.

The checklist was developed using a rigorous multimethod approach that included interviews with health care quality and safety leaders,

How to Use the Checklist

- Identify a senior leader (e.g., chief quality officer, chief patient safety officer, chief medical officer, or other clinician with oversight of quality) in the organization who can serve as the champion for learning and exploration of diagnostic excellence.
- 2. Establish a multidisciplinary team of individuals from various clinical and non-clinical disciplines, including quality and safety, patient

Introduction to Measure Dx

- AHRQ-funded resource to help health care organizations identify and learn from diagnostic safety events
- Grounded in an AHRQ Issue Brief on operational measurement
- Co-developed with national experts
- Released to the public in July 2022





https://www.ahrq.gov/diagnostic-safety/resources/issue-briefs.html

Overview of Measure Dx

4



- Engage stakeholders
- Build a team
- Foster psychological safety



Take inventory of available resources to support this work & select a feasible measurement strategy



Implement Measurement Strategies

Use one or more data sources within the organization to capture potential diagnostic safety events for further review

Review & Analyze Cases

Use a systematic review process to identify learning opportunities and translate findings into useful feedback

Case Finding Strategies in Measure Dx



Examples of What Teams Learned

DIAGNOSES/ERROR TYPES REVIEWED

Sepsis/septic shock Child physical abuse Infections Biphasic anaphylaxis Missed follow-up of test results Delayed communication of dx



ACTIONS TAKEN AFTER CASE REVIEW

Escalation to leadership Referral to other quality/safety committee Feedback to involved clinicians Feedback to inform clinical care pathways Routine report to identify cases needing action Creation of diagnostic error database

Examples of What Teams Learned

DIAGNOSES/ERROR TYPES REVIEWED

Sepsis/septic shock Child physical abuse Infections Biphasic anaphylaxis Missed follow-up of test results Delayed communication of dx





ACTIONS TAKEN AFTER CASE REVIEW

Escalation to leadership Referral to other quality/safety committee Feedback to involved clinicians Feedback to inform clinical care pathways Routine report to identify cases needing action Creation of diagnostic error database

Recommendations from Participants

Lesson 1: Start Small

"Be realistic... it's very easy to try to bite off more than yc can handle."

"Don't be overwhelmed by the amount. Just start somewhere."

"Try to scope the work so that it's really feasible... within relatively short amount of time..."



Recommendations from Participants

Lesson 2: Leadership is Key

"Engaging leadership from the top was really key for us"

"Having a good leader was actually kind of nice... getting this started and realizing this is important."

"...the biggest struggles... is just continuing to get buy-in from executive leadership."





Recommendations from Participants

Lesson 3: Work With What You Have

"We systematically track... patient safety events, but how much of them are due to diagnostic errors? We do not have that part."

"Adapting your preexisting patient safety and quality infrastructure is probably the way to go, without spending a ton of money and redesigning... the processes, the policies..."



Diagnostic Safety Resources



Toolkit for Engaging Patients To Improve Diagnostic Safety

https://www.ahrq.gov/diagnosticsafety/tools/engaging-patients-improve.html **Measure Dx**

<u>https://www.ahrq.gov/patient-</u> safety/settings/multiple/measure-dx.html

Speaker Welcome

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Sangeeta C. Ahluwalia Associate Director & Senior Researcher, RAND Corporation



Implementing Diagnostic Excellence Across Systems (IDEAS) Project





IDEAS supports diagnostic safety across settings and users



USERS

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Interested? Contact us: IDEASproject@rand.org

Resource-specific considerations



Toolkit for Patient Engagement

- Two to three clinician participants to use the resource in routine practice
- Participate in data collection activities for the evaluation
- Involvement of administrative office staff to collect brief, anonymous patient surveys



Measure Dx

- QI team with (1) a clinical lead with diagnostic expertise and (2) a quality manager with operations expertise
- Participate in data collection activities, many of which could be done during QI meetings or scheduled activities



Calibrate Dx

- Four to six clinician participants who perform quarterly reviews of a sample of their own cases
- Complete brief quarterly surveys and provide feedback on the resource
- Clinician access to electronic health record data for case reviews

Interested? Contact us: IDEASproject@rand.org

Why participate in IDEAS?

- Implement innovative methods for advancing diagnostic safety
- Receive tailored support to implement the AHRQ resources
 - Flexible training for including resource-specific materials and tip sheets
 - CE credits and ABMS-approved MOC credits
 - Hands-on assistance including dedicated email for questions and "office hours" with content experts
 - Learning Collaboratives with other participants
 - Feedback on the impact of the intervention (available to participants at end of study)
- Receive a modest stipend



Interested? Contact us: IDEASproject@rand.org



Question & Answers

Let us know!

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Based on what you have learned today,

What type of diagnostic errors are the top priority in your organization?

*Please submit your response in the chat



Upcoming Events of Interest

Upcoming Webinar hosted by The Leapfrog Group Achieving Diagnostic Excellence: Resources for Hospitals

NATIONAL ACTION ALLIANCE for Patient and Workforce Safety

October 18, 1:00 pm EST- Registration Link

Three-part presentation on resources and strategies available to hospitals pursuing diagnostic excellence directly related to Leapfrog's ongoing initiative to recognize hospitals that excel at preventing harm from diagnostic errors.

Speakers:

Courtney Gidengil, MD, MPH, Senior Physician Policy Researcher with RAND

Mark Graber, MD, Founder and President Emeritus of the Society to Improve Diagnosis in Medicine

Jean-Luc Tilly, MPA, Program Manager at The Leapfrog Group



Thank You!

NATIONAL ACTION ALLIANCE for Patient and Workforce Safety

Announcing the Next NAA Monthly National Webinar

Workforce Safety and Well-Being Webinar Series (Session 1): Leadership Strategies that Improve Workforce Safety and Well-Being

Tuesday, October 8, 2024 (Noon- 1:00 PM ET) Registration is open and can be found on the NAA website https://cma.ahrq.gov/NAAOCT2024

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