

# HQIN

Health Quality Innovation Network



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# Are We On The Same Page?

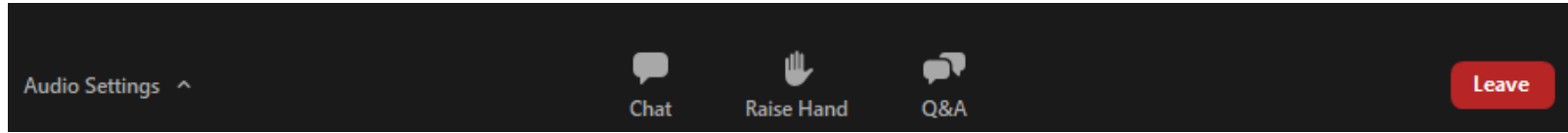
## Reduce Readmissions/ED Visits with Team Communication

July 7, 2022

# Health Quality Innovation Network



# Logistics – Zoom Webinar



To ask a question, click on the **Q&A** icon.

**Raise your hand** if you want to verbally ask a question.

Resources from today's session will be posted in **Chat**.

You may adjust your audio by clicking **Audio Settings**.

You have been automatically muted with video turned off.

# HQIN Team



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# Objectives

- Identify communication challenges
- Define effective communication
- Identify TeamSTEPPS® tools and strategies that can improve a team's communication
- Review real-world nursing home scenarios using TeamSTEPPS® communication strategies to reduce hospital readmissions/ED visits



# Communication Challenges

- Language barrier
- Distractions
- Personalities
- Workload
- Varying communication styles
- Conflict
- Lack of information verification
- Shift change



# What Can Improved Communication Do for Us?

- Improve resident outcomes
- Increase resident satisfaction
- Reduce staff turnover
- Reduce clinical errors and adverse drug events
- Improve medication reconciliation





# Introducing TeamSTEPPS®

- Powerful solution to improving resident safety within your organization
- Evidence-based teamwork system to improve communication and teamwork skills among health care professionals
- Source of ready-to-use materials and a training curriculum to successfully integrate teamwork principles into all areas of your health care system

## Team

**S**trategies &  
**T**ools to  
**E**nhance  
**P**erformance &  
**P**atient  
**S**afety

TeamSTEPPS Concepts	
Concept	Definition
<b>Call-Out</b>	To Request or Provide Information
<b>Cross-Check</b>	Parroting Requests for Confirmation of Understanding
<b>Check-Back</b>	Closing the loop of communication.
<b>SBAR</b>	<u>S</u> ituation, <u>B</u> ackground, <u>A</u> ssessment, <u>R</u> ecommendation
<b>Brief</b>	Short planning session prior to start
<b>Huddle</b>	Team regroup to reestablish awareness and planning
<b>Hand-Off</b>	Transfer of information during transitions
<b>CUS</b>	I'm <u>C</u> oncerned, I'm <u>U</u> ncomfortable, This is a <u>S</u> afety Issue
<b>Two-Challenge</b>	It is your responsibility to assertively voice a concern at least two times to ensure it had been heard.

# Effective Communication

Complete

Clear

Brief

Timely



# A Taste of Four TeamSTEPPS® Tools

- SBAR
- Check Back
- Huddle
- Handoff



# SBAR Communication

**S**ituation

**B**ackground

**A**ssessment

**R**ecommendation/**R**eview



# SBAR: *The Video*



# There's an SBAR for Possible Sepsis

## SBAR Communication for Possible Sepsis

**SITUATION**

My name is: \_\_\_\_\_  
I'm calling from (facility): \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Physician/Prescriber contacted: \_\_\_\_\_  
I need to speak with you about resident (name): \_\_\_\_\_  
Resident Age: \_\_\_\_\_

**BACKGROUND**

The resident was admitted on \_\_\_\_\_ (date) with the diagnosis of: \_\_\_\_\_  
The resident also has the following co-morbid conditions/diagnoses: \_\_\_\_\_  
The resident is now showing these signs of possible infection: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Describe the signs and potential source of infection)*  
This started on \_\_\_\_\_ (date)  
The resident is currently on, or recently completed PO or IV Antibiotics:  
• Antibiotic Name, Dose, Route: \_\_\_\_\_  
• Antibiotic Name, Dose, Route: \_\_\_\_\_  
The resident is allergic to: \_\_\_\_\_  
The resident's advance care directive is \_\_\_\_\_

**ASSESSMENT (describe key findings)**

My assessment of the situation is that the resident may be experiencing a new or worsening infection. Here are my findings.

Vital Signs		
Temp: _____	Heart Rate: _____	BP: _____
Respiratory Rate: _____	SpO2 % (Pulse Ox): _____	
Current Weight: _____		
Other Factors		
Blood Sugar: _____	Foley (Y/N): _____	Last BM Date: _____
Current Labs/Recent Cultures: _____		

Mental status is (*changed* OR *unchanged*) from baseline: \_\_\_\_\_  
Possible sources of infection: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(e.g., lung sounds, wound assessment, urine characteristics, other)*

**RECOMMENDATION**

I am concerned that this resident may have sepsis.  
Would you like to order any labs, IV fluids or treatments? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
How often should vital signs be performed? \_\_\_\_\_  
What vital signs parameters would initiate an immediate notification to you? \_\_\_\_\_  
If no improvement, when would you want us to call you again? \_\_\_\_\_  
Additional Orders received: \_\_\_\_\_

This information was prepared by Health Quality Innovation (HQI), a Quality Innovation Network Quality Improvement Organization (QIN/QIO) under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Views expressed in this material do not necessarily reflect the official views or policy of CMS or HHS.

### Before Calling the Prescriber

*Evaluate the resident and complete this form.*

- ✓ Check vital signs; be alert for early sepsis warning signs.
- ✓ Review the resident record: recent hospitalizations, lab values, medications and progress notes.
- ✓ Note any allergies.
- ✓ Be aware of the resident's advance care wishes.

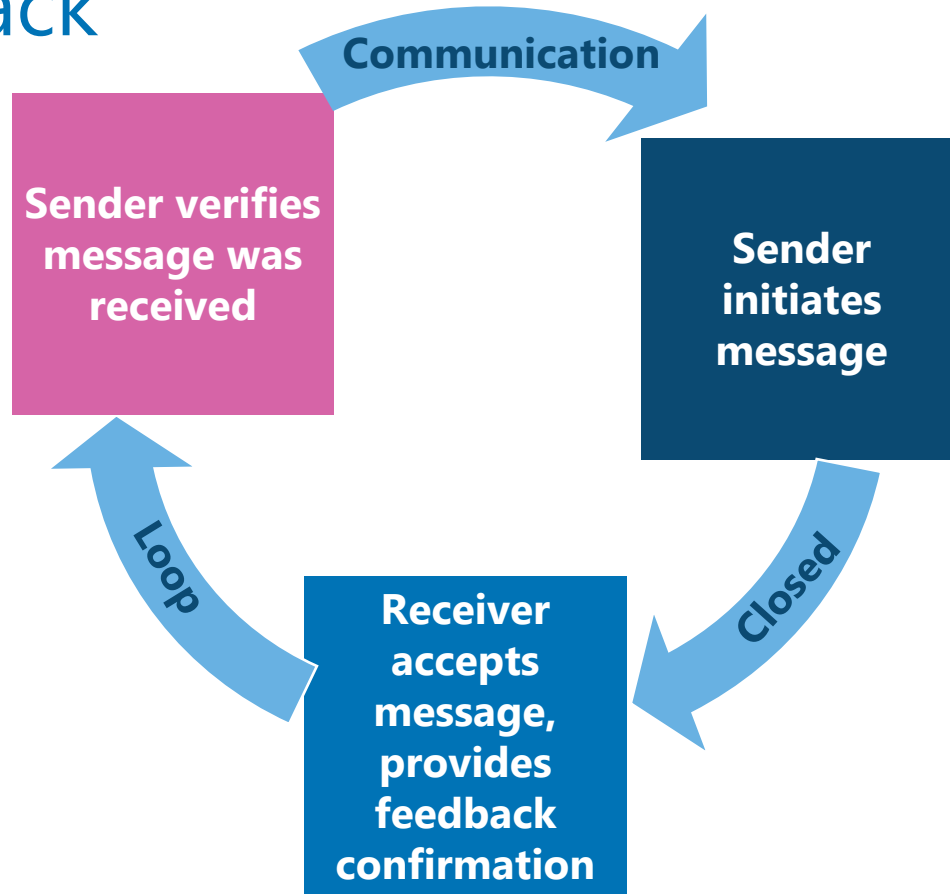
### Sepsis Early Warning Signs

- Temperature  $\geq 100$  F or  $\leq 96.8$  F
- Heart rate  $\geq 100$  bpm
- Respiratory rate  $\geq 20$  bpm
- White blood cell (WBC) count  $\geq 12,000$   $\mu\text{L}^{-1}$  or  $\leq 4,000$   $\mu\text{L}^{-1}$
- Altered mental status
- SpO2 (Pulse Ox)  $\leq 90\%$
- Decreased urine output from recently drawn labs (within 24 hours)
- Creatinine  $> 2$  mg/dl
- Bilirubin  $> 2$  mg/dl
- Platelet count  $\leq 100,000$   $\mu\text{L}^{-1}$
- Lactate  $\geq 2$  mmol/L
- Coagulopathy INR  $\geq 1.5$  or aPTT  $> 60$  secs

- Printable or fillable form
- Sequenced information as it should be communicated to provider
- Prompts the nurse to ensure pertinent information is in one place before calling
- Completed forms can be shared with on-coming nurse/supervisor
- Can be included in resident's medical record

## SBAR Communication for Possible Sepsis

# Check Back





# Check Back: *The Video*



# Huddle

Quick meeting to share and discuss important information

- Shift huddle
- New resident huddle
- QI huddles



# Huddle: *The Video*



# Huddle Guide Toolkit

## Using the MDS 3.0 as an Engine for High Quality Individualized Care

### Huddle Tip Sheet

#### What is a Huddle

A **Huddle** is a quick meeting to share and discuss important information. There are several huddles.

- **Start of Shift and End of Shift Huddles** provide a way to share information about each resident as everyone starts work and to recap any information at the end of the shift that needs to be shared with the next shift. They can be done in a stand-up meeting or as room to room rounds with the charge nurse and CNAs together checking on each resident. It helps the disciplines join in to share their information and to hear information that can help them to the team caring for residents.
- **QI Huddles** focus on a particular resident or topic to analyze what is happening and what can be done about it. For example, if a resident falls frequently or uses dressings before a persistent pressure ulcer, the staff closest to the resident can come together with OT/PT and operations staff to share perspectives on how to respond to improve the situation. Often use huddles when removing alarms, reducing antipsychotic medications, or troubleshooting other areas of concern.
- **New Resident Huddles** are a way to let staff know about new residents before they are checked in with staff about how new residents are doing in the first few days. Areas to cover include: customary routines, social history, family situation, and functional abilities.
- **Everyone Stands Up Together** takes the management team's morning stand-up meeting to the daily clinical meeting out to where staff closest to the resident work so that CNAs, nurses, and managers meet at the same time to share information needed by everyone. Review of report requires conversation with CNAs and nurses to learn what happened, share info, and problem solve. By "standing up together," issues are resolved in one conversation in management team and the CNAs and charge nurses involved.

#### Why Do A Huddle

Organizations are most effective when they use systems to foster timely, accurate, problem communication that provides shared knowledge and goals.

A shift huddle reinforces teamwork and allows everyone to hear about every resident so everyone can provide help to residents not on their assignment. Communication of essential information is left to chance. When it is shared in a group through a huddle of the shift or with the team, everyone hears EXACTLY the same information and can share what they know. The problem-solve any issues on the spot.

## The Huddle Meeting Summary

### Understanding The Huddle

During the weekly 5-minute unit meeting, staff can:

1. Identify residents with subtle changes before they lead to serious problems.
2. Be proactive in improving resident health and avoiding negative outcomes.

Often direct care staff is overlooked when risks are identified. Leadership's role is to ensure that direct care staff is not overlooked when risks are identified. Lead the resident's decline when other issues emerge (e.g., pressure ulcers, vascular infection/septicemia, etc.). Weekly focused interviews with the other direct care staff encourage increased awareness of the importance of reporting subtle changes. In turn, staff will feel an integral part of the team.

### What to Say to Staff...

"Identifying the slightest change in residents can help us prevent problems. As their primary caregivers, you know our residents best. Think about your unit who have declined in the past week, even if you don't know why. Who displayed a change in...?"

- ✓ Eating/drinking
- ✓ Elimination
- ✓ Mood/behavior
- ✓ Alertness/confusion
- ✓ Mobility
- ✓ Amount of care needed/requested

Any idea why? Have you observed anything else? "

### Pre-Meeting Considerations

- Schedule a consistent day and time each week to gather unit staff.
- Consider alternating schedules for day shifts, evening shifts and night shifts.

- Examples:
- o First and third Tuesdays at 2:00 pm
  - o Second and fourth Tuesdays at 3:30 pm
  - o Fifth Tuesdays at 6:30 am

## The Huddle Meeting Role Play

### Quick Summary

This activity introduces the Huddle meeting, a weekly unit "stand up" session staff can identify residents with subtle changes before they lead to serious problems. Select three volunteers to read the scripted roles (Leader, CNA 1 and CNA 2) for the Huddle meeting. After completing the role play, examine the relationship between predictors and interventions by following the Discussion Guide and using the laminated Predictors of Risk & Risk Factors Guide. Reinforce the concept that every staff member is critical to promoting residents' health.

#### Target Audience

Direct Care staff and Leadership team

#### Teaching Tools

- Huddle Meeting Role Play Script
- Laminated Predictors of Risk Factors Guide
- Write-on / Wipe off markers

#### Time Required

15 minutes

#### Activity Goals

- Model the Huddle meeting process
- Introduce predictors and risk factors that are critical to preventing negative resident outcomes (including pressure ulcers)
- Set the stage for Huddle implementation

#### Discussion Guide

After the role play, show the volunteers the laminated Predictors of Risk & Risk Factors Guide and ask them to define the predictors and relate them to the risk factor on the visual display.

#### Mrs. Marks' Predictors:

Change in mobility and amount of care needed, and change in mood

Risk factors: Pressure ulcers, other (depression)

Potential risk: Weight loss, falls, injury

Investigate risks: Acute medical change, urinary infection

By identifying her risk factors early on in her condition change, what changes Mrs. Marks' care plan would you suggest?

## Predictors of Risk & Risk Factors Guide

To prevent negative outcomes for residents, you must first identify risk.

Draw an arrow that relates predictors to risk factors using the color key found below.

### Predictors

Change in eating/ drinking

Change in elimination

Change in mood, behavior or alertness

Change in amount of care needed/ requested

Change in mobility (unsteady gait, endurance, etc.)

Other

### Risk Factors

Pressure ulcers

Falls

Risk for injury/ accident

Weight change

Urinary infection

Acute medical change

Other

### Color Key to Identify Risk:

- At Risk
- Potential Risk
- Investigate Risk

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# Handoff

The transfer of information during transitions in care across the continuum

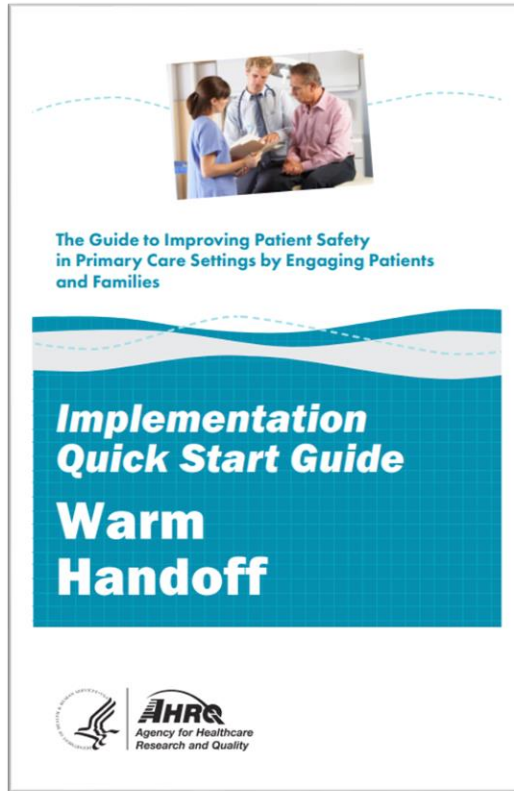
- Includes an opportunity to ask questions, clarify and confirm



# Handoff: *The Video*



# Warm Handoff Guide & Checklist



### Checklist: Conducting a Warm Handoff

#### Present to the Clinician

- Reason for the visit.
- Patient visit goals and health concerns.
- Vital signs, BMI/weight, significant changes.
- Medication issues (e.g., refills, side effects).
- Updates on reports:
  - Labs.
  - Imaging.
  - Specialist visits.
  - Hospital discharge summary.

#### Engage the Patient

- What would you like to add?

# Where Can I Find TeamSTEPPS® Materials?

The screenshot shows the AHRQ website interface. At the top left is the AHRQ logo and the text "Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality". To the right is a search bar labeled "Search all AHRQ sites". Below the logo is a navigation menu with categories: Topics, Programs, Research, Data, Tools, Funding & Grants, News, and About. A breadcrumb trail reads: Home > TeamSTEPPS® > Curriculum Materials > TeamSTEPPS® Long-Term Care Version. The main content area features a sidebar on the left with a list of curriculum materials, where "TeamSTEPPS® Long-Term Care Version" is highlighted with a blue box. The main content area has a heading "TeamSTEPPS® 2.0 for Long-Term Care" and a paragraph explaining that the curriculum reflects updates to the original 2012 version, focusing on hospital-based teams. Below this is a "Materials Overview: AHRQ Web site" section with a note that there is no online or in-person training available, but materials can be downloaded. A list of four materials is provided: Introduction, Navigation, Using and Customizing the Materials, and Creating Your Own Instructor Manual. A "Back to Top" button is located at the bottom right of the content area.


**FREE & available on AHRQ's website**



# I Don't Have Time to Design a Training Program

## • Core Curriculum

This Web page provides the materials needed to learn and teach TeamSTEPPS 2.0 for Long-Term Care. This includes the course overview, the Course Management Guide, and all materials associated with instructional modules 1-12. Individuals who complete both the Fundamentals and the Trainer/Coach modules are considered "Master Trainers." Please refer to the Course Management Guide for more information about the core curriculum.

- Overview Materials;
  - Course Overview ([PDF](#); 3 pages; 193.5 KB).
  - Curriculum Table of Contents ([PDF](#); 1 page; 159 KB).
  - Course Management Guide ([PDF](#); 41 pages; 711 KB).
- Fundamentals (Modules 1-7);
  - Module 1 – Introduction:
    - Module 1 Instructor Guide ([PDF](#); 27 pages; 1.25 MB).
    - Module 1 Instructional Slides ([PPT](#); 18 slides; 1.7 MB).
    - Module 1 Evidence Base ([PDF](#); 6 pages; 375 KB).
    - TeamSTEPPS Implementation Worksheet ([PDF](#); 4 pages; 116.2 KB).
    - [Sue Sheridan video](#)  [9 minutes 49 seconds] (*Instructional slides include link to the video*).
  - Module 2 – Team Structure:
    - Module 2 Instructor Guide ([PDF](#); 21 pages; 849 KB).
    - Module 2 Instructional Slides ([PPT](#); 17 slides; 2.48 MB).
    - Module 2 Evidence Base ([PDF](#); 3 pages; 350.5 KB).
    - Teams and Teamwork Exercise Sheet ([PDF](#); 1 page; 166.5 KB).
    - [Teamwork Opportunity \(LTC\) video](#) [3:16] (*Instructional slides include link to the video*).
  - Module 3 – Communication:
    - Module 3 Instructor Guide ([PDF](#); 29 pages; 1.6 MB).
    - Module 3 Instructional Slides ([PPT](#); 20 slides; 3.1 MB).

**It's already been  
done for you!**

- Instructor Guide
- Slides
- Scripts
- Exercises
- Tools

# QIO Nursing Home Training Sessions

Quality Improvement Organizations  
Sharing Knowledge. Improving Health Care.  
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

Online Learnings ▾ Patients & Families Health Care Providers Campaigns & Initiatives [Locate Your QIO](#)

## Nursing Home Training Sessions Introduction

Nursing Home Training Sessions Introduction

1. TeamSTEPPS® in LTC: Communication Strategies to Promote Quality and Safety
2. Exploring Antibiotics and their Role in Fighting Bacterial Infections
3. Antibiotic Resistance: How it Happens and Strategies to Decrease the Spread of Resistance
4. Antibiotic Stewardship
5. Clostridium difficile Part One: Clinical Overview
6. Clostridium difficile Part Two: Strategies to Prevent, Track, and Monitor C. difficile

### Nursing Home Training Sessions Introduction

Train-the-Trainer Series

We hope that you find these training tools and resources helpful in your work to implement antibiotic stewardship and prevent C. difficile infections in your residents. All are welcome to explore this site and use the information as applicable to you and your organization. Thank you for your dedication to preventing infections in residents (and staff, too) and promoting appropriate antibiotic use.

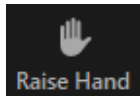
**Training sessions and resources for nursing homes to support:**

# TeamSTEPPS® Resources

- [TeamSTEPPS® 2.0 for Long-Term Care](#)
- [QIN-QIO Nursing Home Training Sessions](#)
- [SBAR Communication for Possible Sepsis | HQIN](#)
- [Implementation Quick Start Guide: Warm Handoff | AHRQ](#)
- [Checklist: Conducting a Warm Handoff | AHRQ](#)
- [Huddle Guide Toolkit | HQIN](#)



# Questions? Comments? Share What is Working or What is Difficult for Your Team!



**Raise your hand** to verbally ask a question



**Type a question** by clicking the **Q&A** icon

*Don't hesitate to ask a question after the webinar is over.*

*Email [LTC@hqi.solutions](mailto:LTC@hqi.solutions) or your HQIN Quality Improvement Advisor.*

# FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call 877.731.4746 or visit [www.hqin.org](http://www.hqin.org)

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From HQIN:

To all essential care giving teams  
supporting residents and families,

*Thank you for attending*