



Guided PIP Worksheet

Improving Anticoagulation on a Stroke Rehabilitation Unit

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Plan: Identify an area in your practice that needs improvement.

What is the problem you are trying to solve?

Research has demonstrated that standard management protocols for anticoagulation therapy reduces errors and improves outcomes, including diet and drug interaction education. Describe your practice's current protocols for anticoagulation diet and drug interaction education, and how often it is implemented.

What data (objective measurements) do you have that supports this as a problem?

Do a chart review or start recording what percentage of anticoagulation patients receive diet and drug interaction education; or discuss with the team the current steps of care and identify where gaps exist according to the latest literature and recommendations.

What is your opportunity statement? State the goal you hope to achieve.

Based on record review or collection of current performance, determine what kind of improvement you hope to make and set a timeframe. *Example: "We aim to improve the rate of anticoagulation education on the stroke unit to 90% within 1 month."*

What is the underlying cause of the performance/quality problem?

Gather and brainstorm with other physicians and staff on your unit/team. What's causing this issue? How did you determine the cause?

What Institute of Medicine (IOM) Quality Dimensions will be addressed by your project?

Patient Safety | Equitability in Care | Care Delivery Efficiency | Timeliness in Care | Care Delivery Effectiveness

Do: Describe the desired outcomes and the requirements needed to achieve them.

What change(s) did you implement?

You can implement just one change, or you can choose to do several at a time. For improving anticoagulation education, you could:

- Develop and implement a checklist
- Create an order set for all patients on anticoagulation medication
- Assign specific dietary staff to provide education to all new patients

Study: Describe the measurements used to assess the success of the plan.

Did you achieve your goal or target reported in your opportunity statement? What data do you have to support your conclusion?

This is a simple yes or no, and cite the evidence. After the timeframe indicated in your opportunity statement, do a chart review or assess with your team. (It's good practice to check-in at least midway through your project, too, to see whether adjustments need to be made.) Has the rate of anticoagulation education improved? By how much? Does that meet the goal you set?

Example: Yes, we surpassed our goal. After 2 weeks, review indicated rate of education is 80%. Team identifies opportunity for new orders on existing patients; implements communication with dietary staff. At 4 weeks, education rate is at 100%.

Act: Change(s) to your practice as a result of this project.

Will you continue with the changes you have implemented?

If you achieved your goal, describe how you will sustain your success, or how it led to new ideas. If you did not achieve your goal, how could you try again with new tactics? What will be your next process change to keep the improvement evolution going?

Example: The team is determined to sustain an education rate of 100%. Analysis indicates sustained performance is likely if the anticoagulation order set is bundled with other anticoagulation related tasks, such as prophylaxis and fall risk. Our next step will be to establish a pharmacy driven anticoagulation dosing protocol.