

ABO CLINICAL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (QI) APPLICATION

Topic

Quality Improvement Topic:	Improving Amblyopia Compliance in Children
What is the reach of this QI activity?	Local
Please explain/identify:	Chart review and plan for improvement in my local practice
Please identify the funding source(s) for this QI activity?	None

Project Description

1. Describe the quality gap or issue addressed by this activity. (Included in your response to this question should be a description of the resources that informed your decision to pursue this topic, a description of what the literature says about the issue you identified, and the rationale for choosing to address this clinical QI project.)	Amblyopia is a reversible problem in children. As per the article uploaded below, the compliance rate for patch therapy is 50%.
File	https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.formstack.com/uploads/1793235/26761735/164163541/26761735_patching_compliance_50.pdf
2. Describe the specific aim(s) of this activity (explanation of the numeric goals and importance to your work processes and your organization).	We did a chart review of the most recent 30 patients in my local practice with amblyopia and found our patients complied with patch therapy 81% of the time. I would like to raise this to 85% over 3 months.
3. Identify the measures that were evaluated in your workplace and provide a summary of pre- and post-intervention data for each measure. (Please provide source information for each measure.)	Uploaded below is an article describing ways to improve patch compliance in children. Also uploaded is a table that shows current patch therapy compliance rate of 81%. We plan to add to our current routine the following three things to improve compliance: take home literature, information on sticker charts for motivation, and a follow up phone call at 1 and 6 weeks. The phone call will simply ask how the patch routine is going and serve as a support to offer ideas for improvement if problems are detected. We believe doing these 3 things will rise out compliance rate to at least 85%.
4. What was the source of your data (check all that apply)?	Electronic Medical Record
5. What methods were used for data collection (check all that apply)?	Electronic Medical Record
6. What was the comparison group in this activity (e.g., a regional or national benchmark)?	National-see article previously uploaded
7. Will the identified measures address important issues for your processes of care and/or patients?	Yes
8. Describe the process you went through to develop the QI plan and the tests of change that will be undertaken to improve care (i.e., quality improvement plan design, implementation, and re-evaluation)	Research topic and review meeting with staff.
9. Present baseline data that supports the need for your change concept, then specify the intervention(s) that will be implemented in your practice and why they were chosen.	Table 1 submitted below showing current compliance rate of 81%

10. What benefit do you believe these interventions will have on your processes of care and/or patient population?	Improved processes of care Improved patient outcomes
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Project Outcomes/Results

1. Describe in detail your role in this activity (i.e., your role in identifying measures and reviewing data, identifying the QI topic, developing the QI plan, identifying interventions, implementing the QI plan and interventions into your practice, etc.).	I discussed in detail the recommended patch routine, gave families brochures, reward posters and most importantly had an in-depth conversation with families about what motivated their child to patch. In addition, I sat down with my team on three occasions to discuss the results of the phone interviews which were done at one week, six weeks and 12 weeks.
2. Were other members from your care team involved in this activity?	Yes
If yes, please describe their role(s) in this activity.	My two main technicians were on the patch improvement project team. They helped by having the families watch an amblyopia movie and continued to answer questions. They also helped with the phone interview data sheets.
3. Describe the impact this QI effort had on your practice and the care that you provided to your patients.	We made a significant improvement in patch compliance with our patients. Patch compliance in 30 patients improved from 81% to 94%. This project was an eye-opener regarding what motivates families to patch and also inspired us to do a better job with our patients in recommending correction of their amblyopia.
File	https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.formstack.com/uploads/1793424/26766635/177152599/26766635_camtochxp100pamf.org_20141219_182618.pdf

Project Reflection

4. Reflecting on this self-directed Clinical QI project, how do you plan to sustain your improvement?	It was very helpful to sit down as a team and talk about what was working and what was not working. In addition, I was quite surprised to learn that a number of my patients are not motivated at all by rewards such as posters, stickers or candy. I have a very educated Asian/Indian practice and they are rewarded much more by knowledge. Simply teaching the child how important the eyepatch is to recover vision was the only motivator that most of my patients needed to be successful! To sustain this improvement I think we simply need to keep in mind the importance of understanding what motivates a particular patient.
5. Was this Clinical QI project beneficial to your processes, patient population or practice?	Yes
6. Please describe any lessons learned about your work processes by participating in this self-directed Clinical QI project?	Patients are motivated by different things. Some kids are motivated by rewards, like stickers and candy, but it appears that most of my patients are motivated by knowing the importance of recovering their vision! I feel I am more in tune with cultural variations in my practice.
7. What do you plan to do next to improve i.e. reduce variation in your processes of care?	My staff has suggested that we meet again in three months to discuss practice improvement projects like this. I think that's a great idea!
8. Please describe whether or not you found participation in the self-directed Clinical QI project to be meaningful, impactful and a valuable use of your time.	Definitely a valuable use of my time because it made me sit down and think about what was working and what was not.