

MaineHealth

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MaineHealth Performance Improvement

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Diagnostic Certainty

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Problem/Impact Statement

In HM, there is no way to reflect back on one's thoughts regarding diagnostic certainty at admission when performing self reflection nor a way to convey diagnostic certainty in the medical record to partners.

Scope

Physician partners in hospital medicine, hospital medicine APPs as well as our learners: Internal medicine, medicine/pediatrics, and family medicine residents performing admission H&Ps to MMC.

Goal/Objective

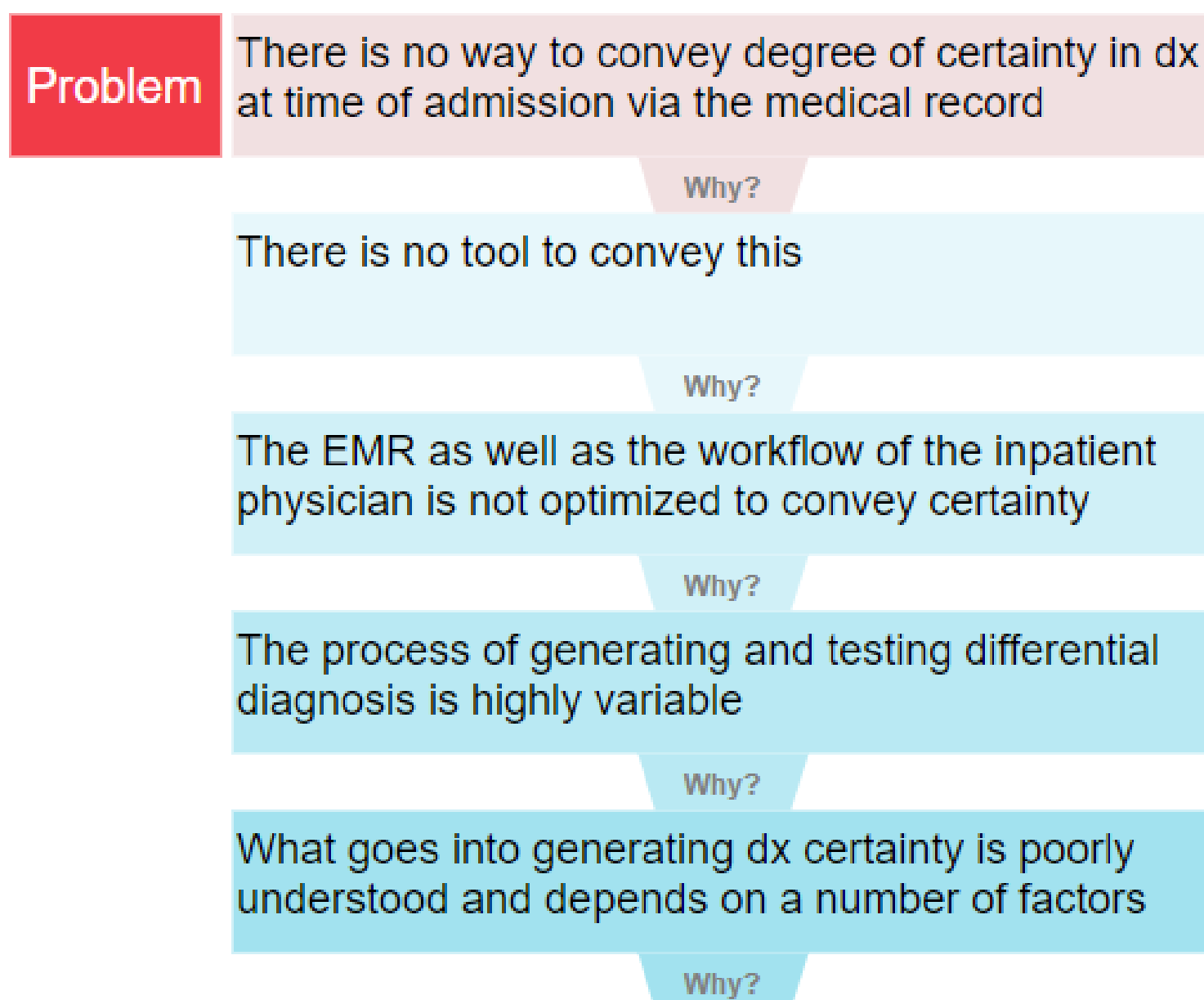
Expand the use of the diagnostic certainty tool in epic that was introduced in FY 19 and study effects on work prioritization, length of stay, readmission, morbidity/mortality and self-reflection.

Baseline Metrics/Current State

Baseline State:

- No standardized history and physical template in use in hospital medicine.
- Numerous different documentation standards
- No way to convey degree of certainty in diagnosis at time of admission via the medical record
- No way reflect back on one's thoughts regarding diagnostic certainty at the time of admission when performing self-reflection activities.
- No self-reflection activities on tolerance of diagnostic uncertainty

Root Cause Analysis



Hospital Medicine

Admission History and Physical

ASSESSMENT AND PLAN

Pt is a @AGE@ @SEX@ with history of ***

@LASTPROBAPNOTES2@

Global Issues

F/E/N - @CDIETORD@
 Prophylaxis - (DVT Prophylaxis Plan:36019)
 Home medication reconciliation complete?. @LPPLINK(36307)@
 Code status - @RRCODESTATUS@
 Family communication - ***
 Disposition - ***

Reason for Hospitalization: @PRINCIPALPROBLEM@
Primary Care Physician: @PCP@

CHIEF COMPLAINT: @CC@

HISTORY OF PRESENT ILLNESS
 @NAME@ is a @AGE@ @SEX@ with a history of ***

Certainty in your diagnosis for the primary reason for hospitalization: (MIS AIM:32722)

(RESIDENT OR APP - Level of Diagnostic Certainty for Primary Hospital Problem 43709)
 (ATTENDING - Level of Diagnostic Certainty for Primary Hospital Problem 43708)

hospital Problem 43708

{-LNK_1LOWCERTAINTY}
 {-LNK_2LOWMODERATECERTAINTY}
 {-LNK_3HIGHMODERATECERTAINTY}
 {-LNK_4HIGHCERTAINTY}

Length of Stay (Days)	Diag Certainty	NEWS Score
0	High - Moderate (3)	1
4	High - Moderate (3)	3
5	High - Moderate (3)	1
4	High - Moderate (3)	2

Impact During COVID

Adaptation of the process of applying degree of certainty helped inform pretest probability of COVID applied to test result.

COVID-19 A&P 45782

(COVID-19 PUI with Low-Moderate Index of Suspicion:TXT,211000044)
 (COVID-19 PUI with Moderate-High Index of Suspicion:TXT,211000045)
 (Confirmed COVID-19 without Hypoxic Respiratory Failure:TXT,211000046)
 (Confirmed COVID-19 with Hypoxic Respiratory Failure:TXT,211000047)

Suspected COVID-19 virus infection
 Assessment & Plan
 COVID-19 Testing obtained due to symptoms which could be consistent with coronavirus infection. Based on current clinical status, if testing is negative, index of suspicion for active COVID-19 infection is low enough that repeat testing would likely not be warranted.
 DDx Considered: PNA, ILD

VS

COVID-19 Testing obtained due to symptoms highly suggestive of coronavirus infection. Based on current clinical status, if testing is negative, index of suspicion for active COVID-19 infection is high enough that repeat testing will likely be warranted.

Countermeasures		
By When & Status*	Who	Deliverable
End Q1	HM Quality, Physician Informatics	Build reporting tool for low/moderate/high diagnostic certainty for individual providers. This tool will require individual list of charts, graphical breakdown of how providers are breaking down certainty.
End Q2	MMP HM Physicians	Providers perform periodic self reflection on outcomes based on clinical diagnostic impressions
End Q3	HM Quality, MMP HM Physicians	Global review and assessment for further study. (Addition of COVID component)
End Q4	HM Quality	Review for publication/prepare poster

Outcomes

- Review:**
- Review of self-reflection questionnaires
 - Further survey regarding how knowledge of personal dx certainty influences self-review
 - Further survey regarding how knowledge of partner's dx certainty influences patient care
 - Further study tool's impact on care

Next Steps

- Plan For Spread/Next Steps:**
- Discuss with residency programs ongoing surveys with each incoming class re tolerance of diagnostic uncertainty
 - Discussions with other departments MMC residents rotate on regarding use of diagnostic certainty tool
 - Review for potential publication

Plan

Do

Study

Act