

The background features a teal-to-blue gradient with various circular and semi-circular patterns. A prominent scale on the left side ranges from 140 to 260 in increments of 10. Several circular elements, some with arrows, are scattered across the frame, suggesting a technical or scientific theme.

# PUSHING THE ENVELOPE ON TRANSITIONS OF CARE

16 APRIL 2019

# INTRODUCTION

- Marjanna Barber-Dubois
- BA, Health: Science, Society, and Policy  
Brandeis University, 2009
- Part-time/Online MPH student  
Expected graduation May 2019
- Quality and Safety Clinical Specialist Rutland  
Regional Medical Center Rutland, Vermont
- Advanced EMT-Paramedic until 2016

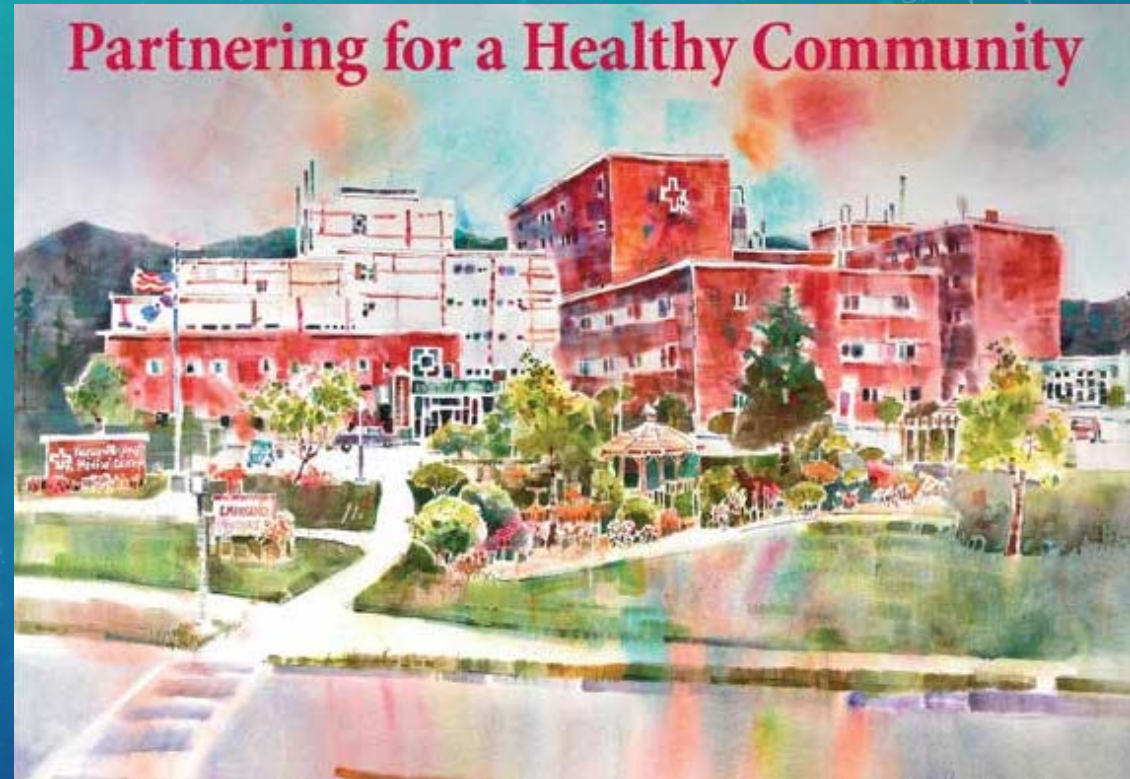


# SITE PRECEPTOR

- Timothy Gibbard, MBA, RRT
- Manager, Quality and Safety Department  
Rutland Regional Medical Center  
Rutland, Vermont

# FACULTY ADVISOR

- Dr. Lilly Engineer



# PROBLEM DEFINITION

- The average patient sees 4 different clinical providers in a year<sup>1</sup>
- Transitions of care are one of the most common areas for loss of information transfer<sup>2</sup>
  - Provider-to-provider
  - Interfacility transitions
- Medication record discrepancies constitute a large percentage of the errors associated with information transfer<sup>3</sup>

# BACKGROUND

- The Rutland Community Collaborative has been active since 2014 under several names
- Primary mission is to improve the health of the community by reducing all-cause 30-day readmission rates
- Rutland has participated in an all-payer model since 2008 with an emphasis on care coordination
- The Transitions of Care subcommittee has focused on improving the processes around care transfers between the hospital, other medical services, and the community at large

# NARROWED FOCUS

- Document and improve processes between RRMC and local skilled nursing facilities in order to reduce 30-day all-cause readmissions
  - Focus on discharge from RRMC, returning to skilled nursing via Regional Ambulance Service

# Community Collaborative

## Transitions of Care Committee



SNF



RAS



RRMC



# STATISTICS

- Outpatient providers report having the complete information transferred only 22% of the time<sup>4</sup>
- Up to 30% of hospital admissions and up to 15% of hospital discharges include medication record discrepancies<sup>5</sup>
- One study of SNF admissions found a 71% medication record discrepancy<sup>6</sup>



# STAKEHOLDERS

- The Pines
- The Gables
- Mountain View
- Rutland Health and Rehab
- Regional Ambulance Service
- RRMC
- Transitions of Care Committee
- Community Collaborative
- Case Management
- Social Work
- Community Health Team

# CURRENT STATE

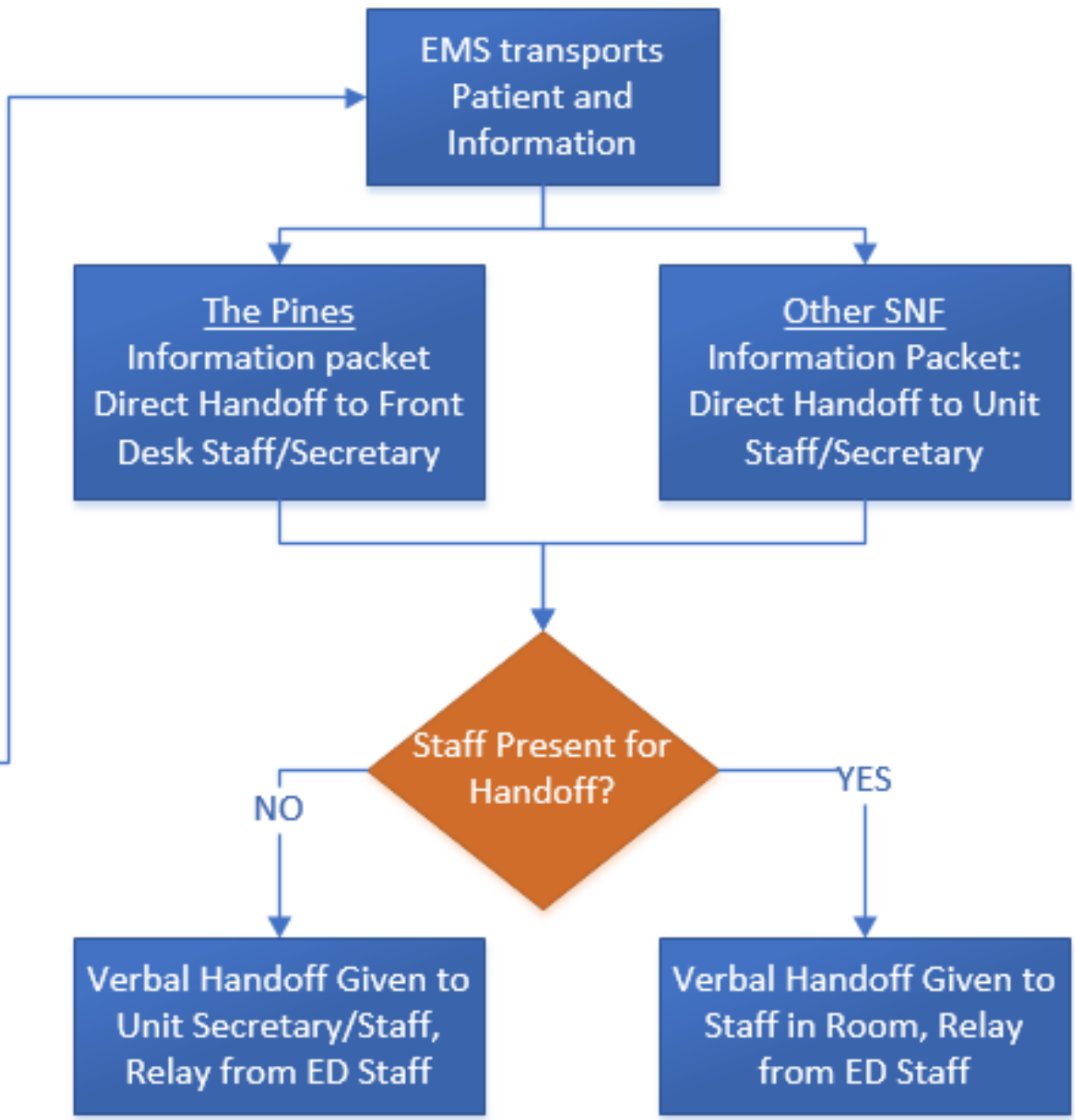
- Recipient of verbal report and handoff dependent on facility and time of day
- Concerns from SNF
  - Medication list not always received or updated
  - Potential for lost paper-based prescriptions
  - Standard ED discharge paperwork does not include patient-specific notes

Secretary and charge RN prepare packet

Packet for EMS  
-standard discharge paperwork  
-medication list\*  
-EMS form clipped to front

Primary nurse calls SNF  
Verbal Report  
(meds, labs, d/c instructions)

ED providers encouraged to give verbal handoff to SNF providers



# PERCEPTIONS ON TRANSFER OF INFORMATION

	<b>SNF</b>	<b>ED</b>	<b>EMS</b>
<i>Est. Time Incomplete Information Received</i>	90%	85%	75%
<i>Priority of Missing Information</i>	1. Medications 2. Allergies 3. Physician notes	1. Code status 2. Allergies 3. Medications	1. Allergies 2. Medications 3. Code status
<i>Perceived Location of Loss of Information</i>	ED, EMS	SNF, EMS	SNF, Hospital

# REACTION



# SUGGESTION

- Focus on process
- Develop a universal checklist for all SNF to receive complete and appropriate information from the Emergency Department
- Print checklist directly on envelope used to hold paperwork

# RATIONALE

- Checklists are a system-oriented<sup>8</sup>, evidence-based intervention often used in high-acuity situations such as surgery<sup>9,10</sup> and increasingly in care transitions and care coordination<sup>5,11</sup>
- Provide a “time-out:” a pause in the action to ensure everyone is on the same page with the same goal
- Provide documentation of items used or relayed
- Increases patient safety with clear, documented communication, roles, and expectations<sup>12</sup>

# IMPLEMENTATION

- Develop checklist with input from ED and SNF
- Print checklist directly on envelopes that are used for packaging transfer paperwork
- Use checklist to
  - Ensure complete and appropriate information is transferred safely and not lost in transit
  - Guide verbal handoff to SNF

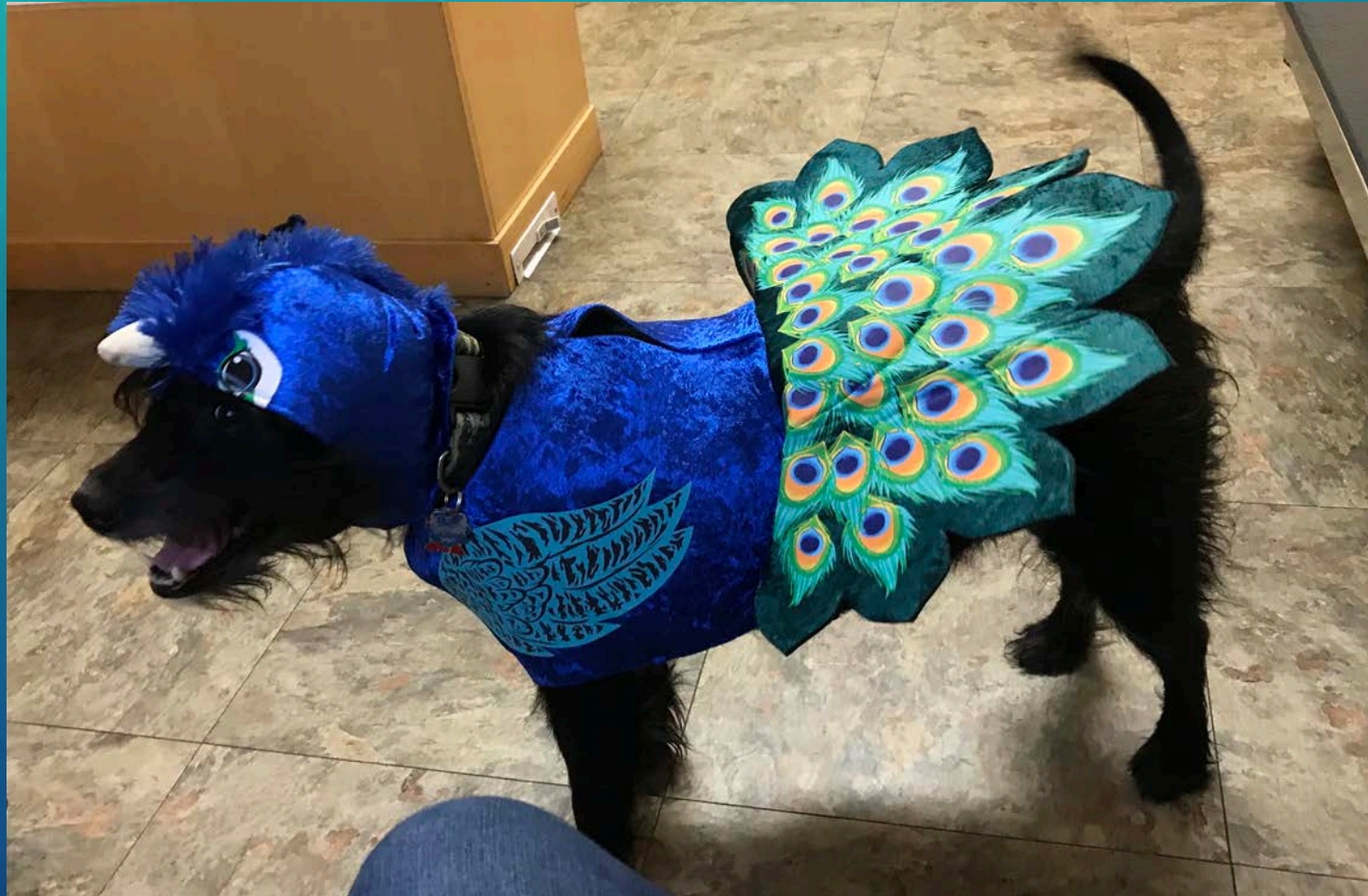




# NEXT STEPS

- Formal collaboration with ED, EMS, and SNF representatives
- Build off new ED form
- Have form approved by forms committee
- Educate all users at all facilities/organizations
- Development of measurement mechanisms
- Print and distribute

QUESTIONS?



# REFERENCES

1. Gamache, R. (2018) personal correspondence, 20 December 2018
2. Kwan, J. L., Lo, L., Sampson, M., & Shojania, K. G. (2013). Medication reconciliation during transitions of care as a patient safety strategy: A systematic review. *Annals of Internal Medicine*, 158(5)
3. Sinvani, L. D., Beizer, J., Akerman, M., Pekmezaris, R., Nouryan, C., Lutsky, L., . . . Wolf-Klein, G. (2013). Medication reconciliation in continuum of care transitions: A moving target. *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association*, 14(9), 668-672. doi:10.1016/j.jamda.2013.02.021.
4. Forster, A. J., Murff, H. J., & Peterson, J. F. e. a. (2003). The incidence and severity of adverse events affecting patients after discharge from the hospital. *Annals of Internal Medicine*, 138, 161-167.
5. van Walraven, C., Taljaard, M., Bell, C. M., & et al. (2008). Information exchange among physicians caring for the same patient in the community. *CMAJ*, 179, 1013-1018.
6. Wachter, R. (2012). In Shanahan J. F., Davis K. J. (Eds.), *Understanding patient safety* (second ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill.
7. Tjia, J., Bonner, A., Briesacher, B. A., McGee, S., Terrill, E., & Miller, K. (2009). Medication discrepancies upon hospital to skilled nursing facility transitions. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, 24(5), 630-635. doi:10.1007/s11606-009-0948-2

# REFERENCES

8. Kohn, L. T., Corrigan, J. M., & Donaldson, M. S. (Eds.). (2000). *To err is human: Building a safer health system*. Washington: National Academies Press.
9. Robbins, J. (2011). Hospital checklists. transforming evidence-based care and patient safety protocols into routine practice. *Critical Care Nursing Quarterly*, 34(2), 142-149. doi:10.1097/CNQ.0b013e31820f7467
10. Gawande, A. (2009). *The checklist manifesto*. Washington: Picador.
11. Mathews, W. A. (2014). Care coordination measures of a family medicine residency as a model for hospital readmission reduction. *American Journal of Managed Care*, 20(11)
12. Sponsler, K. C., Neal, E. B., & Kripalani, S. (2015). Improving medication safety during hospital-based transitions of care *Cleveland Clinic Journal of Medicine*, 82(6) doi:10.3949/ccjm.82a.14025