# Medication Reconciliation in Ambulatory Care

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#### **MEDICATION THERAPY**

- 50 % U.S. Adults take prescriptions daily (Serper, 2013)
- World Health Organization
- Nationally recognized issue
- Growing Public Health concern
  - Polypharmacy (using 5 or more medications)
  - Inappropriate medication use



### MEDICATION RECONCILIATION (MR)

- "Systematic process to obtain accurate/complete list of a patients medications"
- Required by Joint Commission
- Best Possible Medication History (BPMH)
- Formal Process
  - Obtaining / verifying accurate list of current medications
  - Confirm medications prescribed are actually taken!!
    - 1/5 NEW prescriptions never filled (Neiman, et al., 2017)
    - 50% filled prescriptions not taken as prescribed (Abbas et al., 2017)

#### AMBULATORY CARE COMPLICATIONS

Ambulatory Care MR poses unique challenges

**Specialist** 

Hospitalization

Fragmented Care

**Limited Licensed Nurses** 

Pharmacy

**Traditional Healers** 

Non-Nursing "Nursing Staff" (CMAs, MAs)

### MEDICATION ERRORS & ADVERSE DRUG EVENTS

- Medication Errors (MEs)
  - "Failure in treatment process that leads to, or had potential to lead to, harming a patient" (Aghajani, 2015)
- Adverse Drug Events (ADEs)
  - " A drug related injury" (Aghajani, 2015)

### MEDICATION RECONCILIATION BARRIERS

Discrepancies on admission

Omission

Transition of Care (TOC)



# MEDICATION RECONCILIATION BARRIERS (cont'd)

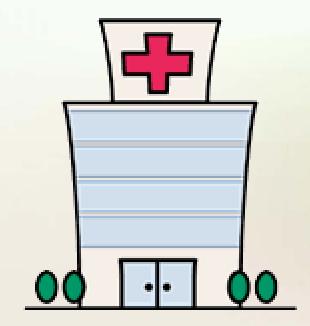
- Patient
  - Functional Health Literacy

Provider



# MEDICATION RECONCILIATION BARRIERS (cont'd)

- System
  - Hospital Therapeutic Interchange
  - Clinic Therapeutic Interchange
  - Electronic Records



## MEDICATION RECONCILIATION CLINICAL ROLES

- Physician
- Pharmacist

Nurse



### NURSE ESSENTIAL CLINIC ROLE

- Complex task to maximize outcomes & minimize errors (Vogelsmeier, 2013)
- Nurses
  - Scientific knowledge
  - Complex technical skills (Kavanagh, 2017)
    - Education
    - Preparation
    - Administration
    - Evaluation



### Project

- Pre-Clinic RN visit
  - Brown Bag
    - ALL prescriptions, OTC, herbs, vitamins, supplements, botanicals, PRNs & traditional medication
  - Obtain ER notes, DC summaries, updated outside provider notes, labs, etc. not in the chart
  - Update EHR medication list for provider to review

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