



THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

CENTER FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE



# SBAR Communication



# SBAR Communication

- Care focused communication
- Creates shared model
- Transfers effective information
- Provides a standardized structure
- Concise, factual communications among clinicians



# Use SBAR Communication

- Clinician- to-clinician (interdisciplinary communication)
- Clinician-to-physician
- Staff education
- Debriefings on internal issues information on new procedures
- Team meetings
- E-mail communication



# SBAR Stands for:

**S** - Situation: What is happening at the present time?

**B** - Background: What are the circumstances leading up to this situation?

**A** - Assessment: What do I think the problem is?

**R** - Recommendation: What should we do to correct the problem?



# SBAR as Communication Technique

- SBAR provides answers to physicians' three main questions

What is the problem?

What do you need me to do?

When do I have to respond?

- Standardized approach that promotes efficient transfer of key information between physicians, nurses and other members of the team
- SBAR helps create an environment that allows clinicians to express their concerns



# S: Situation

- Identify yourself
- Describe the patient situation
- When the problem started
- Severity



## B: Background

- Patient's admission to the hospital
- Current list of medications, including allergies
- Recent medication changes
- Laboratory values
- Recent ED visits or hospitalizations
- Date of Birth



# A: Assessment

- Clinicians current assessment of the situation
- My assessment of the problem is: \_\_\_\_\_





# R: Recommendation

- Recommend what action the clinician wants from the physician
- Describe what you are able to do
- Let physician know you will call back with the patient's response



# Improve Knowledge of Symptom Management

- Increases physician confidence and trust
- Better communication
- Improved patient outcomes