

## Hospital EHR – Medical Staff Newsletter

April 2017, Volume 4, Issue 3

**For questions, comments, or suggestions regarding the EHR or this newsletter, please contact me directly.**

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### Topics this month

**C. difficile testing, EHR Clinical Decision Support, Enhancement Effective 5.1.17**  
**Quality Document Committee (QDC)**  
**In-House Support**


### **C. difficile testing, EHR Clinical Decision Support, Change Effective 5.1.17**

The following clarifies details of the 4.4.17 EHR enhancement as well as a **change that will be effective 5.1.17.**

**EHR enhancements assist with compliance with Clostridium difficile testing guidelines inclusion and exclusion criteria.**

#### **Clarifications**

##### Both Hospital and Clinic Orders

- All *Clostridium difficile* Toxin Ag w/Rfx to NAAT test orders require completion of a PowerForm.
  - Form provides guidance regarding reasons to consider cancellation of the planned order.
  - 3 required fields must be completed with Yes or No, and the green check mark clicked to finalize order.
  - If a decision is made to cancel the planned order, this is easily done by clicking the  in the top right corner of the form.
  - Recent data from the chart is visible within the form for reference
    - RN documentation of stools, laxative administration (encounter specific; likely will only have data for hospital encounters and not clinic encounter's)
    - Prior C. difficile testing (not encounter specific)

##### Hospital Orders Only

- *Clostridium difficile* Toxin Ag w/Rfx to NAAT test order will be automatically cancelled if no specimen has been sent to the lab within 24 hours of order placement.
- Hard stop alerts will not allow *Clostridium difficile* Toxin Ag w/Rfx to NAAT test in these situations:
  - Positive C.diff Toxin test within prior 30 days.
  - Any C.diff Toxin test (positive, negative, or ordered with pending result) within prior 7 days.

### **C. difficile Powerform change, Effective 5.1.17**

An additional statement has been added to the top of the Powerform.

I am placing this order as a provider or acting on behalf of a provider  Yes  No

Current workflow will not change for ordering Providers as the statement defaults to “Yes.”

(This statement was added as the form fires when clinic or outpatient staff activate C. difficile future orders. In such a situation, staff can select no and sign the form.)

## **Quality Document Committee (QDC)**

In the current era of electronic medical records, busy schedules, and complex patients, it can be difficult to create medical documentation that is organized, complete, and clear. This challenge faces all of us and allows for collective opportunity for improvement.

Ascension Medical Group – Columbia St. Mary’s created the Quality Document Committee (QDC) in 2015, chaired by Mitch Carneol, MD. The aim is to help optimize clinical documentation by Providers throughout the system via a proactive, collaborative, and non-punitive process. **While this committee initially focused on clinic based documentation, hospital documentation is now also being reviewed as we look to improve our care across the continuum.**

QDC meets monthly and reviews submitted documentation. **Past identified issues have led to changes in standard PowerNote templates as well as additional education and support for some Providers.**

**We are asking that Providers to submit either their own notes or those of colleagues that may benefit from improvement efforts.** Submissions made via the secure e-mail inbox [QDC@columbia-stmarys.org](mailto:QDC@columbia-stmarys.org) should include the following:

- Reason for referral
- Provider Name
- Date(s) of Service
- FIN or MR # or Name and DOB of the patient

Referrals are confidential and the process is protected by standard peer review procedures in terms of confidentiality, legal protection, and discoverability. We want to reiterate that this endeavor is non-punitive, exists in the spirit of collaboration and is meant to improve the care we deliver to our patients through improved communication.

**If you have an interest in joining the committee or have general ideas for Provider documentation improvement, please contact Mitch Carneol, MD at [Mitchell.Carneol@ascension.org](mailto:Mitchell.Carneol@ascension.org).**

## **In-House Support**

**In-house support is available Monday through Friday from 8am to 4pm on both Ozaukee and Milwaukee campuses from Caitlin and Kevin of the Clinical Informatics Team.** They have offices on each campus and can provide both in person as well as over the phone assistance. Please do not hesitate to contact them directly during these hours.

Connect to them directly by dialing Vocera and requesting **“EHR support.”**

**Ozaukee Vocera Phone: 262-243-6707**

**Milwaukee Vocera Phone: 414-585-1995**

Real-Time, In-House Support includes:

- Quick 1:1 assistance for help with using the EHR.
- Coaching sessions for EHR workflow and utilization optimization.
- Assistance with logging tickets for identified problems.

**For urgent/emergent EHR technical assistance outside of the above hours, contact the Help Desk at 414-326-2400.**

**When asked for an extension, choose “7” for expedited transfer to a service desk analyst.**