Improving Hospital Informed Consent with an Informed Consent Toolkit

**Contract #** **HHSA290201000031I / TO 3**

**Deliverable 3.1.1**

**DRAFT STORYBOARD**

**FOR PILOT TEST**

Making Informed Consent an Informed Choice: Training for Health Care Professionals

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Prepared for:

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Submitted by:

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# Introduction

In medical care, informed consent is a process of communication between clinician and patient that results in the patient's authorization or agreement to undergo a specific medical intervention. All too frequently, however, patients do not understand the benefits, harms and risks and alternatives of their treatments even after signing a consent form.

In response to this challenge, Abt Associates, the Joint Commission, the Fox Chase Cancer Center and Temple University have been contracted by AHRQ to develop, test and make available to hospitals and the medical community an improved Toolkit on informed consent to medical treatment. This toolkit will draw from several sources, including:

* *A Practical Guide for Informed Consent*, developed by Suzanne Miller and Linda Fleisher (Temple University) with funding by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.
* Rozovsky F. *Consent to Treatment: A Practical Guide*, 4th Ed.(2013). Aspen Publishers.
* Preliminary research including an *updated environmental scan of the peer-reviewed and grey literature on informed consent*
* Input from an expert and stakeholder panel

The toolkit will be delivered in the form of two training modules, each providing approximately 1 hour of continuing medical education, to be pilot-tested through the Joint Commission’s Learning Management System. One training module will be designed for health care professionals, the other for hospital leaders.

The present document is the draft toolkit for health care professionals. It is presented as a storyboard. Once the storyboard is finalized, it will go into production and, upon satisfactory completion of the production process, it will be uploaded into the learning management system for pilot-testing.

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| Project name | AHRQ Informed Consent Toolkit |
| Course Title | Making Informed Consent an Informed Choice: Training for Health Care Professionals |

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| Slide 1: **Welcome and Overview** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| Present the education accreditation notes in a smaller font or on a scrolling screen to limit learner interference | **Making Informed Consent an Informed Choice:****Training for Health Care Professionals**Informed Consent requires clear communication about choices.It is not a signature on a form.**Goal**Informed Consent Informed Choice**Overview*** + Principles of informed consent in health care
	+ Strategies to improve the informed consent process by communicating clearly and presenting choices
	+ Information on documenting informed consent and understanding team roles
	+ Resources for a culture of high-quality informed consent

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) with funding from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), Contract No. HHSA290201000031I, Task Order #3. The authors of this module are responsible for its content. No statement may be construed as the official position of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Joint Commission is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians. – ACCME Accreditation Statement Policy | **Making Informed Consent an Informed Choice: Training for Health Care Professionals.**Welcome and THANK YOU for your interest in improving the informed consent process for your patients. Informed consent for medical treatment requires clear communication about choices. It’s not a signature on a form; it’s a communication process in which a patient is given information about his or her options for medical test, treatments or procedures, and then selects the option that is the best fit for his or her goals and values. The goal of this course is to help you make informed consent an informed choice. In this course, you will find: * + A basic overview of the principles of informed consent in health care,
	+ 10 strategies to help you to improve the informed consent process by communicating clearly and presenting choices,
	+ Information on documenting informed consent and understanding team roles, and
	+ Additional resources to nurture a hospital culture that supports high quality informed consent.

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| Slide 2: **Course Scope** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| In the resources section: please link to these resources on informed consent to research: <http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/education/index.html><http://www.ahrq.gov/funding/policies/informedconsent/index.html>Please also include this legal reference on end-of-life care:Rozovsky, FA (2013). Refusing treatment, dying and death, and the elderly. Section 10.6, pp.10-23 –10-30. In: Consent to Treatment: A Practical Guide. 4th ed. New York, NY: Aspen Publishers: Wolters-Kluwer Law & Business. | **Course Scope**This course focuses on informed consent for medical treatment. It does not focus on:* “Blanket” consent to treatment forms that patients sign upon admission to a hospital
* Informed consent for research
* Advance directives

See “Resources” for references on these topics.**This course is for:*** Clinicians who obtain informed consent
* Other health professionals
 | **Course Scope**Please note that this course focuses on informed consent to medical treatment. It does not focus on blanket consent forms that patients sign upon admission to a hospital, since such forms provide very little information to patients.It also does not focus on informed consent for research, nor on advance directives for end-of-life care. If you wish to learn more about informed consent for research or advance directives, please see the “resources” section of this course.This course is both for clinicians who obtain informed consent, and for other health care professionals. |

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| Slide 3: **Learning Objectives** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
|  | **Learning Objectives:**1. Describe the principles of informed consent
2. Describe strategies for clear communication about choices during the informed consent process
3. Describe strategies for presenting choices (e.g., showing structured decision aids, encouraging questions)
4. Describe appropriate ways to document and confirm informed consent and work as part of team
 | **Learning objectives:**By the end of this course, you will be able to:* Describe the principles of informed consent,
* Describe strategies for clear communication about choices during the informed consent process,
* Describe strategies for presenting choices, such as showing structured decision aids, encouraging questions, and
* Describe appropriate ways to document and confirm informed consent and and work as part of team.
 |

| Slide 4: **Contents of CE activity** |
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| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
|  | **Course Contents**Section 1: Principles of Informed ConsentSection 2: Strategies for Clear Communication* Strategy 1: Prepare for the Informed Consent Discussion
* Strategy 2: Use Health Literacy Universal Precautions
* Strategy 3: Remove Language Barriers
* Strategy 4: Use Teach-Back

Section 3: Strategies for Presenting Choices * Strategy 5: Offer Choices
* Strategy 6: Engage the Patient and Their Family and Friends
* Strategy 7: Elicit Goals and Values
* Strategy 8: Encourage Questions
* Strategy 9: Show High Quality Decision Aids
* Strategy 10: Explain Benefits, Harms, and Risks of All Options

Section 4: Documenting and Confirming Informed Consent and being Part of a Team **All sections of this activity are required for continuing education credit.**  | This information in this course is organized into 4 sections.The first section will review the principles of informed consent. We’ll examine existing problems with the process of informed consent for health care, the principles of informed consent and the implications for a good informed consent process.Informed consent requires clear communication about choices, so in Sections 2 and 3 of this course, we’ll discuss strategies for clear communication and presenting choices. When you’re done with those sections you’ll have learned 10 strategies to make informed consent an informed choice.Strategies for clear communication include preparing for the informed consent discussion, using health literacy universal precautions, removing language barriers, and using teach-back.Strategies for presenting choices include offering choices, engaging the patient and their family and friends, eliciting the patient’s goals and values, encouraging questions, showing high-quality decision aides, and explaining the benefits, harms, and risks of **all** options.Finally, in Section 4 we’ll talk about how to document and confirm consent, and what roles various health care team members can play in the informed consent process. **All sections of this activity are required for continuing education credit.** |

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| Slide 5: **Course Navigation**  |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| Please update navigation instructions as necessary.Please provide an option for closed captioning so that the module will be 508 compliant**Note to programmers – use BACK not PREV for the button name.** | * Click the Next and Back buttons below to move between slides
* Click the Menu link above to see a list of slide titles and move to a specific slide
* The Progress Bar below indicates where you are in completing the current slide.  You can move it forward or backward.
* Click the speaker icon below to turn the sound on or off.
* If you exit the course before it is over, you’ll be asked if you want to resume (where you left off) the next time you watch the course.
 | Before you get started, please take a moment to learn how to navigate in this course:* Click the Next and Back buttons below to move between slides
* Click the Menu link above to see a list of slide titles and move to a specific slide
* The Progress Bar below indicates where you are in completing the current slide.  You can move it forward or backward.
* Click the speaker icon below to turn the sound on or off.

If you exit the course before it is over, you’ll be asked if you want to resume (where you left off) the next time you watch the course. |

| Slide 6: **Authors and Disclosures** |  |
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| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
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| **Slide 7: Principles of Informed Consent**  |  |
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| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| Jamie: we’ve put running headers with the section name on each slide | **Section 1: Principles of Informed Consent****Why does informed consent need to be improved?**A good informed consent process can:* Help patients make informed decisions
* Strengthen the therapeutic relationship
* Improve follow-up and after-care
* Engage patients and families
* Enhance patient safety
* Help to prevent lawsuits

Problems with informed consent:* Often treated as a nuisance and a formality
* Even after signing a consent form, patients often do not understand:
	+ Benefits, harms and risks of treatment
	+ Possibility of poor outcomes
* As a result, informed consent is one of the top 10 most common reasons for medical malpractice suits
 | In Section 1 we’ll learn about the principles of informed consent, starting with addressing the question of why informed consent needs to be improved.Patients and health care teams alike benefit when a patient’s consent to treatment is fully informed as the result of a clear, comprehensive, and engaging communication process.A good informed consent process has many advantages. It helps patients to make informed decisions, strengthens the therapeutic relationship, and can improve follow-up and after-care. When patients and their families understand the benefits, harms, and risks in advance, they can be partners in patient safety, and they can better cope with any poor outcomes that may happen as a result of treatment. This makes it less likely that the patient would sue the clinician when a poor outcome occurs.Unfortunately, there are many problems with the informed consent process in hospitals today. Both clinicians and patients often treat informed consent as a nuisance, a formality, and an obstacle on the way to care. This is a problem, because even after signing a consent form, many patients don’t understand basic information about the benefits, harms, and risks of their proposed treatment, including the possibility of poor outcomes. As a result, informed consent is one of the top 10 most common reasons for medical malpractice suits. |

| **Slide 8:** **When “informed” consent isn’t informed** |  |
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| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| **JAMIE: VISUAL** Show last 1:45 minutes of video clip of Toni talking: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ubPkdpGHWAQ>. This is not a good quality clip, but it can be extracted from the AMA health literacy video.When audio on Art starts, add picture of Art (use a stock photo, or we can ask the person who contributed this story, Audrey Riffenburg, if she would share a real picture). When the quote from Art begins (i.e., What the hell do you mean…), add conversation balloon.When audio on Dai starts, add his picture (use a stock photo) and the buttons. | **Section 1: Principles of Informed Consent****When “informed” consent isn’t informed**Picture of Toni with link to video. Caption: Toni Cordell had a hysterectomy without realizing it.Picture of older White male in a hospital bed with doctor standing next to him. Conversation bubble, “What do you mean! I’m not going to be able to talk?”Picture of young Vietnamese man with injured arm. Caption:* Vietnamese speaker
* Painful arm
* Invasive diagnostic test
* Poorly translated consent form
 | Examples of failures in informed consent include the story of Toni Cordell. Toni had a hysterectomy without realizing the procedure recommended to solve her “woman’s problem” was the removal of her uterus. Click on the picture of Toni to hear her describe what happened.While Toni’s experience was not recent, failures in informed consent happen in hospitals every day.Take Art, for example. He agreed to have surgery to remove throat cancer after his doctor explained it using terms like “laryngectomy,” “palliative trach,” “ventilator problems,” “bronchiecstasis,” and “purulent bronchitis.” Then his adult daughter explained, “Dad, what the doctor is saying is that with the surgery, you would have your voice box taken out. You wouldn’t be able to talk anymore. You’d have a breathing hole through the front of your throat for the rest of your life. You’d have to keep the hole protected so germs couldn’t go straight into your lungs. And you’d have a tube in your breathing pipe that you’d have to take care of every day.” Art was surprised and got angry. He asked, “What the hell do you mean! I won’t be able to talk?!” Let’s look at one more case. Dai is a young agricultural worker who speaks only Vietnamese. He arrived at the hospital with a badly injured arm. The hospital wanted to perform an invasive diagnostic test and gave Dai a poorly translated consent form to sign. Dai signed it, because he thought that if he didn’t, he wouldn’t be given pain reliever.Since these patients weren’t truly informed, we can’t say that they gave informed consent. |

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| **Slide 9:** **Ethical Principles and Legal Standards**  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
|   | **Section 1: Principles of Informed Consent****Principle of Autonomy****Patients’ Right to Decide what Happens to their Bodies****Patients’ Rights to Informed Consent:*** Make care decisions
* Receive adequate treatment disclosure
* Choose treatment options
* Refuse medical intervention
* Withdraw consent
 | The ethical principle of autonomy gives patients the right to decide what happens to their bodies.The legal doctrine on informed consent in health care has evolved over time and varies from state to state. But in every state, by law, patients have the right to:* Make decisions about their care, treatment, and services; and
* To receive adequate disclosure of information about the proposed treatment.
* Patients also have the right to choose among treatment options without any undue influence or coercion,
* Refuse any unwanted medical interventions; and
* Change their minds and withdraw their consent at any time.
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| **Slide 10:** **Ethical Principles and Legal Standards**  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
|   | **Section 1: Principles of Informed Consent****Legal Standard for “Adequate Disclosure”:*** Non-delegable duty
* What is involved
* Anticipated results, benefits, and harms
* Foreseeable complications and risks
* Experimental

  | State law defines what constitutes adequate disclosure – what you are required to tell patients. In most states, adequate disclosure is the duty of the clinician who is providing the treatment. It can’t be delegated to another person. The information to be disclosed must include: * What the procedure or treatment will involve, and
* The anticipated results and probable benefits and harms, such as temporary discomfort.
* It also includes possible complications as well as reasonably foreseeable risks. These include very small risks if the outcome is very severe, such as death, paralysis, disfigurement, or permanent disability.
* Finally, adequate disclosure laws require telling patients whether the procedure or treatment is experimental or part of a research study.

Many states have additional requirements.  |

| **Slide 11:** **It’s Not About the Form**  |  |
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| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| Digital Ignite to explore opportunities for interactive learning for this slide | **Section 1: Principles of Informed Consent****Signed Form ≠ Informed consent*** The consent form exists to document that the patient has been provided information, understood the information, and agreed to a particular treatment or procedure.
* A signed consent form implies that prior to patient signature, a process of adequately informing the patient and ensuring his or her understanding has taken place
* Many patients sign informed consent forms even when they don’t understand the procedure, its benefits, harms, risks, or alternatives to treatment.

Lack of patient understanding Patient SafetyRiskLiability**[Picture of MD talking to patient with question marks over patient’s head?]**“The statute requires a physician to "explain" the treatment, alternatives, and risks to his or her patient. ‘Explain’ means ‘to make plain or understandable: clear of complexities or obscurity’…. Explanation implies more than a mere correct statement of the facts. An explanation clarifies an issue or makes it understandable to the recipient …. For example, a physician can mouth words to an infant, or to a comatose person, or to a person who does not speak his or her language, but unless and until such patients are capable of understanding the physician’s point, the physician cannot be said to have explained anything to any such person.”Macy v. Blatchford case, Oregon Supreme Court, 2000) | In the previous slide we described what clinicians have to tell patients as part of obtaining their consent. But telling patients isn’t enough for consent to be informed, even if patients sign the form. The consent form exists to document that the patient has been provided information, **understood** the information **and agreed** to a particular test, treatment, or procedure. A signed consent form actually implies that prior to the patient’s signing, a process of adequately informing the patient and ensuring understanding has taken place. Yet, many patients sign informed consent forms even when they don’t understand the procedure, its benefits, harms, risks, or alternatives to treatment.If the patient didn’t understand the information presented, it’s a patient safety problem, and you could be sued.For example, in the Macy versus Blatchford case the Oregon Supreme Court, discussing whether a physician failed to obtain a patient’s informed consent for surgery, made the point that informing without understanding does not constitute informed consent. The court stated, “The statute requires a physician to "explain" the treatment, alternatives, and risks to his or her patient. ‘Explain’ means ‘to make plain or understandable: clear of complexities or obscurity’…. Explanation implies more than a mere correct statement of the facts. An explanation clarifies an issue or makes it understandable to the recipient …. For example, a physician can mouth words to an infant, or to a comatose person, or to a person who does not speak his or her language, but unless and until such patients are capable of understanding the physician’s point, the physician cannot be said to have explained anything to any such person.” |

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| Slide 12: **Recognizing patient capacity for decision-making** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| JAMIE: consider bringing in bullets 1 by 1 with audio guidance – these are key points that need to be emphasized on-screen. I’m also open to other options to achieve that goal.JAMIE: Let us explore alternative ways to stress the key points in this slide without using bullet points (graphics, images etc).Consider making the 3rd and fourth bullets interactive (show the story, offer “yes/no” buttons, feedback to learner whether they got it right, then show the right answerAdd to the resources section this document on minors’ right to consent: <https://www.guttmacher.org/statecenter/spibs/spib_OMCL.pdf>Link to Resources: FAQs for patients that lack decision making capacity. | **Section 1: Principles of Informed Consent****Patient capacity for decision-making**Most patients have capacity for decisions about medical treatment.**Key criteria for patient capacity:*** + - Able to make and communicate a choice
		- Able to understand key information about:

- Their condition- Options- Benefits, harms and risks* No law or court order requiring treatment

Capacity can change over time and can vary depending on the decision to be made.**What’s not incapacity:*** Disagreeing with the care team
* Physical disability
* Intellectual disability
* Mental illness
* Cognitive Impairment
* Intoxication
 | **Patient capacity for decision-making**To uphold a patient’s right to participate in decisions about their care, it is important to recognize their capacity for decision-making. The main thing to remember is that most patients have capacity for decision-making about their medical care and treatment. Sometimes a patient is perceived as not having the ability to make an informed decision due to signs of intoxication, mental illness, cognitive impairment, or other factors. In some cases, that perception is right, but in many cases, it is not.Key to assessing the patient’s capacity is whether the patient: * Is able to make and communicate a choice;
* Is able to understand key information about his or her condition, the treatment options, and their benefits, harms and risks; and
* Is not required by law or court-order to undergo treatment.

Capacity is both the ability and the right to make a decision. It can change over time, and can depend on the decision to be made.Patients don’t automatically lack capacity just because they disagree with the care team’s treatment plan. This is true even if members of the care team strongly disagree with the patient’s choice and think they know what’s best for the patient. Patients may refuse treatment even if it puts their lives in jeopardy.Also, just because some patients can’t speak, have an intellectual or physical disability, mental illness, or cognitive impairment, or are under the influence of alcohol or pain medications, that does not automatically mean they lack capacity to make a decision. These conditions can make it harder to communicate and make decisions, though later in this course we’ll share some communication strategies that can help. |

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|  Slide 13: **When to consult an authorized representative** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| JAMIE: When narrator says, “Click on the label ‘Authorized representative, show this text:For minors: the authorized representative is a parent or legal guardian (show a picture of a mom next to a hospital bed with a young child in it with arrow pointing to mom saying “Authorized representative (Mom)” [or use a picture of a Dad next to hospital bed with young child, with the label “Authorized representative (Dad)”]For adults: an authorized representative can either be designated by the patient (health proxy) or designated by someone other than the patient who has authority (for example the hospital policy can establish a hierarchy of authorized representatives in the absence of a proxy, typically spouse first, then adult children, then siblings, then other relatives).The Cecile story is a true story of Cindy’s. She can record it. | **Section 1: Principles of Informed Consent*** Family and friends often help patients make decisions, but
* The final decision rests with the patient.

**Except:**1. Patient lacks decision-making capability
2. Most minors
3. Patient requests not to be informed

Consult an authorized representative1. Life- or health-threatening emergency with no time to identify an authorized representative

Picture of Cecile [Caption: Click here to hear Cecile’s real life story on informed consent in an emergency situation.]* Always check your hospital informed consent policy.
 | The patient’s family and friends often play an important role in the decision-making process, but in most cases, the final decision rests with the patient.There are some exceptions to this rule, namely:* When the patient lacks decision-making capacity,
* When patient is a minor child (although state law and hospital policy may allow mature minors to consent), and
* When the patient requests not to be informed.

In these cases, you will need to consult with someone who is legally authorized to make a decision on the patient’s behalf. Click on the label “Authorized Representative,” to learn more about who can serve as an authorized representative. Even when you’re working with an authorized representative, sharing information with the patient can help them to feel included, respected, and more comfortable with the care they are receiving.A last exception is a life- or health-threatening emergency leaving no time to identify or speak with an authorized representative. In that case, the clinician can make a decision in the patient’s best interests. But often there’s still time to hold a consent discussion in emergency situations. Click on Cecile to hear her story about informed consent in an emergency.Cecile: My father was recovering from minor surgery when I noticed he was trying to say something but was having trouble coming up with the words. I called in the nurse practitioner, and he decided to call the stroke team. Well, the stroke team arrived, performed an assessment, and started to wheel my father out the door. “Where are you taking him?” I asked. “To give him medicine to break up the blood clot,” they said. I said, “But you haven’t gotten consent.” “It’s an emergency!” they called, halfway out the door. But I was my father’s health proxy and I called after them, “You can’t give him anything until I consent.” That caught them short. “You’re right,” they agreed. “Can you walk with us while we tell you about this medicine?” And I did. I understand they were in a rush – they had to give him the medicine within 3 hours of his first symptoms, but that didn’t mean they didn’t have time to get consent.Informed consent rules vary state-by-state and hospital-by-hospital, so check your hospital policy or state laws for further guidance. |

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| Slide 14: **Making Informed Consent an Informed Choice**  |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| JAMIE: During first paragraph have the word “consent” morph into the word “choice | **Section 1: Principles of Informed Consent**Informed Consent Informed Choice**Informed choice** requires:* Clear, unbiased information about **all** treatment options
* An answer to the question: what if I do nothing?
* How the options align with the patient’s goals and values

Of course, the information must be presented in a way the patient can understand.[We will contact the author of this cartoon for permission.<http://www.cagle.com/tag/informed-consent/>]119731 600 Informed Consent cartoons | The goal of this course is to help you make informed consent an informed choice for your patients. Let’s talk about what that means.What we often see in informed consent discussions is that a clinician will recommend a treatment, explain the treatment, and then get the patient’s consent to deliver the treatment. This may satisfy the minimum requirements for informed consent, but to truly make an **informed choice**, patients need clear, unbiased medical information they can understand about all their treatment options, including what happens if they decide to do nothing. This is challenging, because clinicians may not always be in a position to provide information about all the options. In addition to considering **all** the options, to make an informed choice patients have to factor their goals and values into the decision. Of course, in order for a patient to make an informed choice, the information about the choices must be presented in a way that the patient can understand. |

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| Slide 15:  **Section 2. Strategies for Clear Communication** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
|  | **Section 2. Strategies for Clear Communication**Strategy 1: Prepare for the Informed Consent DiscussionStrategy 2: Use Health Literacy Universal PrecautionsStrategy 3: Remove Language BarriersStrategy 4: Use Teach-Back | The second section of this course describes four strategies for clear communication during the informed consent process.The first strategy is to prepare for the informed consent discussion by gathering all the information you’ll need and giving some thought to the way you’ll organize the discussion.The second strategy is to use health literacy universal precautions, such as using plain language with all patients.The third strategy is to identify and remove language barriers that arise when patients have limited English proficiency, including those with hearing impairments.The fourth strategy is to use teach-back to make sure you’ve explained the choices in a way that the patient, their family and friends have understood.  |

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| Slide 16:  **Strategy 1. Prepare for the Informed Consent Discussion** |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
|  | **Section 2. Strategies for Clear Communication** **Strategy 1: Prepare for the Informed Consent Discussion**.* Test results
* Inclusion of all important parties
	+ Enough space
* Privacy
* Scheduling
	+ Convenient time
	+ Enough time
	+ Multiple sessions?

[Picture of Tanya – middle aged African American] | The first strategy is toprepare for the informed consent discussion. To get ready, you’ll need to attend to several details.Make sure you have the results of any relevant diagnostic tests available. When possible, share easy-to-understand results with your patients ahead of time.Ask your patients if there are people whose opinions are important to them or whose support they would like to have during the discussion. If there are, plan to hold the discussion in a room that’s big enough to comfortably include everyone. The space should also be private enough so that others won’t overhear confidential information about the patient.Scheduling is important too. Schedule a time when everyone who should be there can attend. Think about whether it’s the right time to have an informed consent discussion. A patient who has just been told their diagnosis may not be ready to talk about the treatment options. Similarly, if your patient is impaired by alcohol, medications, or anxiety and immediate treatment is not required, wait until your patient is better able to hear the choices.Consider how long the discussion is likely to take, and plan enough time for the discussion. Think about whether you might need more than one discussion session. Click on Tanya to hear how one clinician handled the situation when a discussion went longer than anticipated. Audio clip in woman’s voice: My husband and I were close to reaching a decision with my husband’s doctor about a procedure she would perform the following week. The doctor thought we were done and was making for the door. But I still had lots of questions. So I said, “Look, I know that this is a routine procedure for you. But it isn’t for us. We have questions that we’d like to get answered before we proceed.” She looked uncomfortably at the door, and I knew she was thinking of the patients in her waiting room. She said, “I’ll tell you what. I’ve got two more patients to see. If you can wait, I’ll come back and we can talk more.” So we waited for half an hour. Then true to her word, she came back and answered all our questions. |

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| Slide 17: **Strategy 2. Remove Communication Barriers**  |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| JAMIE: Explore using a word cloud or other presentation rather than bullet points to depict these challenges?(If you use a word cloud, consider having the words jump out of the cloud when the audio speaks them.)Can you double-check that we are meeting 508 compliance guidelines here? The audio is a fair bit longer than the on-screen content, so we are wondering about that. | * 1. **Section 2. Strategies for Clear Communication**
	2. **Strategy 1: Prepare for the Informed Consent Discussion**.

**Challenges to effective communication*** Feeling ill, scared, or stressed
* Feeling intimidated
* Tendency to focus on harms and risks instead of benefits
* Complex language or medical terminology
* Limited English proficiency
* Limited health literacy and numeracy
* Hearing/vision impairment
* Differences in learning styles
* Differences between patient’s and clinician’s cultural values
* Cognitive impairment or intellectual disability
* Time pressures
 | Informed consent requires good communication between clinicians and patients, but effective communication can be challenging. Many factors can contribute to the challenges. During the informed consent discussion, patients are rarely at their best. They may be feeling ill, scared, or stressed. They may feel intimidated by people in white coats. They may not be able to hear everything you’re saying, tending to focus on the negative aspects of the choices you’re presenting – the harms and risks, without giving equal weight to the benefits.Language can also be a barrier. As clinicians we often use medical terms that most patients won’t understand. Even if we use simple language, sometimes the concepts are hard to understand. For example, many Americans have trouble understanding numerical expressions of risk. Patients who are not proficient in English face additional language barriers. According to the Census, almost 9 % of the U.S. population has limited English proficiency. If you are not certified as being proficient in your patient’s preferred language, then there’s a language barrier between you. Translated forms alone can’t remove that barrier, because not all patients can read the language they speak, and a form alone can’t take the place of an informed consent conversation. There also may be cultural differences between you and your patient. Without realizing it, you may be talking past each other.Some patients face additional challenges, such as limited health literacy. Over a third of U.S. adults—77 million people—have difficulty with common health tasks, such as following directions on a prescription drug label or understanding a chart showing a childhood immunization schedule. These patients often hide their difficulty reading or understanding, and you can’t tell by looking who they are because they come from every walk of life.Being deaf or hard of hearing is another communication barrier, and vision impairments can make it hard or impossible to read consent forms. Learning style matters too. Visual learners learn best from written materials and pictures; auditory learners learn best when they hear an explanation; and kinesthetic learners learn best when they can touch or experience something related to what’s being said.Patients with cognitive impairment or intellectual disabilities often have capacity for decision-making and shouldn’t automatically be treated as incompetent.The final challenge is the time pressure we all face. While we’d all like to be generous with our time, the truth is that spending more time than scheduled with one patient means you have to short-change another patient. Fortunately, with practice you can learn to remove communication barriers efficiently. |

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| Slide 18: **Use health literacy universal precautions** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| For 2nd bullet: could have a picture of an MD talking to patient in exam room morph into patient sitting on living room couch.Make an interactive game out of plain language. Examples of common, everyday language: * Runny nose (not excess mucus)
* Pain killer (not analgesic)
* Send you to another doctor (not referral)
* Enough (not sufficient)
* Swelling (not inflammation)
* Helpful (not beneficial)
* Use (not utilize)
* Come back (not recur)
* Make worse (not exacerbate)
* Feverish (not febrile)
* Make easier (not facilitate)
* Watch (not observe)
* Hole (not perforation)
* Deadly (not terminal)

Resource: Tool 5: Tips for Communicating Clearly from AHRQ’s Health Literacy Universal Precautions Toolkit.Jamie, see right hand column. Can we hover over ALD for the definition?The picture of the nervous system is from <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/tools/LeadGlossary_508.pdf>. What’s the best way to reference it? | **Section 2. Strategies for Clear Communication****Strategy 2: Use Health Literacy Universal Precautions*** Use plain, non-medical language
* Speak slowly
* Limit amount of information
* Use visual aids
* Repeat key points
* Offer assistive listening and reading devices
* Check for understanding

 | Many communication barriers can be removed by our second strategy, adopting “health literacy universal precautions.” These are techniques to communicate clearly and check understanding for **every** patient or family member involved, because everyone, no matter how well educated, is at risk of misunderstanding sometimes.First, clinicians often use medical jargon without even realizing it. It’s how we were trained to speak. But your patients won’t follow what you’re saying if you use unfamiliar terms. Try to use language that you’d use while talking to your uncle in your living room. The simpler the words the better. Don’t worry that your patients will feel insulted, as if you’re talking down to them. No matter how well educated, everyone appreciates clear and simple explanations.Second, speaking slowly is another important aspect of health literacy universal precautions. Your patients’ processing speed may decrease because they feel unwell or are afraid, or because of cognitive impairments or intellectual disabilities. Even under the best of circumstances, the new concepts you’re introducing may sound like a torrent of words if you don’t make an effort to slow down and speak at a comfortable pace. And for patients who can only handle a little bit of information at a time, you may need to break up the conversation into several sessions.Third, in addition to explaining the information, use visuals to help get your point across. Visuals can be as simple as a picture you draw. Use clear and uncluttered illustrations, such as this picture of the nervous system. Think about whether there is anything you can let patients touch or experience – such as a computer touchscreen, a 3-D model of the body parts you’re talking about, a piece of equipment that will be used for their procedure, or a brief tour of the operating room in settings where that’s practical. Fourth, repeating key points gives your patient a second chance to take in important information. Be as specific and concrete as you can to reinforce the information you have shared.Fifth, patients may be hard of hearing but usually get by without a hearing aid. Since you want your patients to hear every word of the informed consent discussion, politely offer assistive listening devices to all patients you suspect have hearing difficulties. You can also try to find a quieter space for the informed consent discussion, and make sure to face the patient when you talk. Similarly, for patients with low vision, you can offer magnifying readers, make sure the lighting is strong enough to read, and offer to read forms aloud.Sixth, check that your patient understands. Teach-back is a useful technique that we’ll discuss in more detail a little later in this course. |

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|  Slide 19: **Do’s and don’ts of communicating with patients with limited English proficiency** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| JAMIE - Please create a drag and drop exercise, with audio files in comments playing when learner places a phrase in the right column.Show Gayle Tang’s picture when her audio clip is playingInclude this reference in the resources section on the dangers of not using a professional medical interpreter:Flores G, Abreu M, Barone CP, Bachur R, Lin H. Errors of medical interpretation and their potential clinical consequences: a comparison of professional versus ad hoc versus no interpreters. *Annals of emergency medicine.* Mar 14 2012. |

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| **Do** | **Don’t** |
| Ask whether your patient or others participating in the informed consent discussion would like an interpreter. | Assume no interpreter is needed if everyone speaks in English. |
| Explain that it is the hospital’s policy to always use a qualified medical interpreter. | Defer to a patient’s wish that friends or family members interpret. |
| Let patients know they can get an interpreter for free. | Ask the patient if they brought someone who can interpret. |
| Talk facing the patient. | Talk facing the interpreter. |
| Brief the interpreter on the patient’s situation beforehand. | Use bilingual staff to interpret while waiting for a trained interpreter to become available.  |
| Offer video sign language interpreters if a qualified in-person interpreter is not available. | Offer paper and pens to deaf or hard of hearing patients so they can communicate with you. |

 | Our third strategy is to overcome language barriers. Your hospital probably has a policy that guides communicating with patients with limited English proficiency, including those who use sign language instead of English. Make sure you’re familiar with your hospital’s policies. Remember, failure to use interpreters is risky for patients and can serve as the basis for lawsuits.When conducting an informed consent discussion with a person whose native language is not English, there are some do’s and don’ts. See if you can sort the following actions into the “do’s” or “don’ts” column.Listen to Gayle Tang, Senior director of National Diversity & Inclusion for Kaiser Permanente. “In my everyday life, I’m very proficient in English. I design and run an interpreter training program. But when I was faced with my own troubling diagnosis, my English fell away. I don’t get sick in English, I get sick in Chinese. When it was time to talk to the doctor about what was wrong with me and what my options were, I needed an interpreter.”  |

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|  Slide 20: **More** **Do’s and Don’ts of Interpreter Services** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| JAMIE - Please create a drag and drop exercise, with audio files in comments playing when learner places a phrase in the right column. |

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| **Do** | **Don’t** |
| Ask the interpreter to use the same plain language you are using. | Ask the interpreter to obtain consent for you. |
| Ask the interpreter to let you know if any of the terms you use may be unfamiliar.  | Ask the interpreter not to interrupt you. |
| Talk slowly and pause frequently.  | Use your foreign language skills to conduct the discussion if you speak that patient’s language well. |
| Ask a qualified interpreter to sight translate English forms. | Have forms on hand that have been translated by bilingual staff. |
| Use the interpreter as a cultural broker. | Expect patients to read and understand a translated form on their own. |

 | [see pop-ups] |

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| Slide 21: **Strategy 4. Use teach-back to check patient understanding** |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| Include a reference to this website on teach-back training in the resources section:http://www.teachbacktraining.org/ | **Section 2. Strategies for Clear Communication****Strategy 4: Use Teach-Back** What is teach-back?* Asking patients to explain in their own words what they were told during the informed consent discussion
* A chance to check understanding and re-teach information
* Checking the clarity of the clinician’s explanation (not a test of the patient)
 | Now let’s learn about Strategy 4: Using teach-back to check patient understandingTeach-back is a widely used technique to check for understanding. In the informed consent context:* Teach-back is used by asking patients to explain in their own words what they were told during the informed consent discussion
* It’s a chance for the clinician to check the patient’s understanding and re-teach information if needed
* It is not a test of the patient, but checks how well the clinician explained what the patient needs to know
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| Slide 22: **Why use teach-back?** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
|  | **Section 2. Strategies for Clear Communication****Strategy 4: Use Teach-Back** **Why use teach-back?*** Teach-back improves understanding

(Schenker et al, 2011; Greening et al, 1999; Wadley & Frank, 1997; White at al, 1995, Paasche-Orlow, 2011)* Teach-back for informed consent is a National Quality Forum (NQF) patient safety practice:

“Ask each patient or legal surrogate to “teach back” in his or her own words key information about the proposed treatments or procedures for which he or she is being asked to provide informed consent.”* NQF Safe Practices for Better Healthcare 2010 Update
 | **Why use teach-back?*** Evidence shows that teach-back is associated with improved understanding of informed consent.
* National Quality Forum named teach-back for informed consent as patient safety practice in 2003 and again in 2006 and 2010. NQF says:
* “Ask each patient or legal surrogate to “teach back” in his or her own words key information about the proposed treatments or procedures for which he or she is being asked to provide informed consent.”
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| Slide 23: **The Teach-Back Process**  |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
|  | **Section 2. Strategies for Clear Communication****Strategy 4: Use Teach-Back**  | Don’t wait until the end of the informed consent discussion to initiate Teach-Back. Employ the “Chunk and Check” process by which you ask your patient to teach back each chunk of information as you go along.It is very important that patients teach-back in their own words. If they simply parrot the exact words you said, you don’t know if they actually understood the meaning.Teach-back is not a memory test. Patients can look over the Informed Consent form or other materials you’ve shared with them as they teach-back. But watch out for verbatim quotes that do not reveal whether your patient understands or not.If your patient is unable to teach back correctly, explain again in a different way. Repeating the exact same thing probably won’t increase your patient’s understanding. Try a new approach using different words, and then ask your patient to teach-back again in his or her own words.You need to repeat the teach-back process until your patient can correctly teach the information back. If your patient can’t demonstrate understanding, then he or she may be unable to give informed consent.When the patient has correctly taught back everything you wanted to make sure they understood, be sure to document your use of the teach-back and the patient’s response in the medical record.  |

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| Slide 24:**Tips on conducting teach-back effectively** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
|  | **Section 2. Strategies for Clear Communication****Strategy 4: Use Teach-Back** **Tips on conducting teach-back effectively**1. Use a caring tone of voice and attitude.
2. Display comfortable body language and make eye contact
3. Use plain language
4. Emphasize that the responsibility to explain clearly is on you, the clinician
5. Ask your patient to explain back, using their own words.
6. Use non-shaming, open-ended questions.
7. Don’t ask questions that can be answered with a simple yes or no.
8. Use easy-to-understand print materials to support learning
9. If the patient is not able to teach back correctly, explain in a different way and re-check
10. Document use of and patient response to teach-back

Adapted from: Always Use Teach-Back Toolkit http://www.teachbacktraining.org/ | **Tips on conducting teach-back effectively**These tips come from the “Always Use Teach-Back toolkit “:1. Use a caring tone of voice and attitude.
2. Display comfortable body language and make eye contact
3. Use plain language
4. Emphasize that the responsibility to explain clearly is on you, the clinician
5. Ask your patient to explain back, using their own words.
6. Use non-shaming, open-ended questions.
7. Don’t ask questions that can be answered with a simple yes or no.
8. Use easy-to-understand print materials to support learning
9. If the patient is not able to teach back correctly, explain in a different way and re-check
10. Document use of and patient response to teach-back

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| Slide 25: **Teach-back phrases** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| JAMIE: Please explore options for making this slide interactive | **Section 2. Strategies for Clear Communication****Strategy 4: Use Teach-Back****Teach-back Questions*** Just to make sure I explained things well, can you tell me in your own words what will happen if you choose to have this procedure done?
* It’s my job to explain things clearly. To make sure I did, can you please tell me in your own words what good results you expect from this treatment? How likely do you think it is that you’ll get those results?
* Is there any downside to this treatment? [Prompts]
	+ Do you expect to experience any pain? For how long?
	+ Will you be limited in your activities? For how long?
* Every treatment has some risks. Can you tell me in your own words about the risks of this procedure? [Prompts]
	+ What about the possible side effects we discussed?
	+ What could go wrong in surgery?
	+ Remember how we talked about allergic reactions?
* We’ve talked about some other treatments you could choose. Can you tell me what the pros and cons are of [alternative treatment]?
* What if you chose not to get any treatment - can you tell me in your own words what might happen?
 | It’s hard to do teach-back without it feeling like you’re testing your patient. It’ll take practice, but clinicians have said that once they got the hang of teach-back, they could seamlessly weave it into the informed consent discussion.Here are some phrases that can get you started.* Just to make sure I explained things well, can you tell me in your own words what will happen if you choose to have this procedure done?
* It’s my job to explain things clearly. To make sure I did, can you please tell me in your own words what good results you expect from this treatment? How likely do you think it is that you’ll get those results?
* Is there any downside to this treatment? To further prompt the patient about this, you can say:
	+ Do you expect to experience any pain? For how long?
	+ Will you be limited in your activities? For how long?
* Every treatment has some risks. Can you tell me in your own words about the risks of this procedure? To further prompt the patient about this, you can say:
	+ What about the possible side effects we discussed?
	+ What could go wrong in surgery?
	+ Remember how we talked about allergic reactions?
* We’ve talked about some other treatments you could choose. Can you tell me what the pros and cons are of [alternative treatment]?
* What if you chose not to get any treatment - can you tell me in your own words what might happen?
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| Slide 26: **Frequent questions about teach-back** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| Please explore options for making this slide interactiveWe have added the contents of this slide to the resources section.Add to resources:Fink, A. S., A. V. Prochazka, W. G. Henderson, D. Bartenfeld, C. Nyirenda, A. Webb, D. H.Berger, K. Itani, T. Whitehill, J. Edwards, M. Wilson, C. Karsonovich, and P. Parmelee.2010. Predictors of comprehension during surgical informed consent. *Journal of American**College of Surgeons* 210:919-926.Schillinger, D., Piette, J., Grumbach, K., Wang, F., Wilson, C., Daher, C., Bindman, A. B. (2003). Closing the loop: physician communication with diabetic patients who have low health literacy *Arch Intern Med, 163*(1), 83-90.  | **Section 2. Strategies for Clear Communication****Strategy 4: Use Teach-Back****Frequently asked questions about teach-back**:* Q: Why do teach-back for every patient? Why not just do it for patients with limited health literacy?

A: All patients making medical decisions are at risk of misunderstanding and can benefit from teach-back. Over a third of the U.S. population has limited health literacy. Even people with proficient health literacy are at risk of misunderstanding when they are sick, stressed, or scared.* Q: Won’t teach-back take too much time?

A: A randomized controlled trial on elective surgery showed that teach-back improved patient understanding and took an average of 4 minutes (Fink et al 2010). Another study suggested that patient visits with teach-back took no longer than without teach-back (Schillinger et al 2003). In addition, teach-back can save time and money by reducing cancelled or delayed surgeries. * + Q: Won’t patients be annoyed when they are asked to do a teach-back?

A: Patients may feel insulted if you make the teach-back seem like a test. To minimize that risk you can use the phrase, “just to make sure I explained it well…” before asking your teach-back questions, so that the patient understands it is not a test of their abilities. * Q: Isn’t teach-back mostly useful for patient discharge and self-management? Why do it for informed consent?

A: Teach-back is useful whenever it’s important to confirm patients’ understanding. You have not obtained informed consent if you are not sure your patient has understood the information presented and the available choices.  | Here are some frequently asked questions about teach-back:* Q: Why do teach-back for every patient? Why not just do it for patients with limited health literacy?

A: All patients making medical decisions are at risk of misunderstanding and can benefit from teach-back. Over a third of the U.S. population has limited health literacy. Even people with proficient health literacy are at risk of misunderstanding when they are sick, stressed, or scared.* Q: Won’t teach-back take too much time?

A: A randomized controlled trial on elective surgery by Fink and colleagues showed that teach-back improved patient understanding and took an average of 4 minutes, and another study by Schillinger and colleagues suggested that patient visits with teach-back took no longer than those without teach-back. In addition, teach-back can save time and money by reducing cancelled or delayed surgeries. * + Q: Won’t patients be annoyed when they are asked to do a teach-back?

A: Patients may feel insulted if you make the teach-back seem like a test. Let your patient know that you’re checking how clear **you** were by using such phrases such as, “just to make sure I explained it well…” before asking your teach-back questions, so that the patient understands it’s not a test of their abilities. * Q: Isn’t teach-back mostly useful for patient discharge and self-management? Why do it for informed consent?

A: Teach-back is useful whenever it’s important to make sure patients understand. You have not obtained informed consent if you are not sure your patient has understood the information presented and the available choices.  |

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| Slide 27:  **Section 3. Strategies for Presenting Choices** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| Add to resources the SHARE Tools. They will be published at: http:// ahrq.gov/professionals/education/curriculum-tools/shareddecisionmaking/index.html  | **Section 3. Strategies for Presenting Choices**Strategy 5: Offer ChoicesStrategy 6: Engage the Patient and Their Family and FriendsStrategy 7: Elicit Goals and ValuesStrategy 8: Encourage QuestionsStrategy 9: Show High Quality Decision AidsStrategy 10: Explain Benefits, Harms, and Risks of **All** Options | In this third section of the course we describe six strategies for presenting choices. Since we already described four strategies in Section 2, we’ll keep track of these by numbering them from 5 to 10.Strategy 5 is simply to offer choices. Patients always have a choice among alternatives, even if that choice is to do nothing.Strategy 6 is to engage patients and their families and friends by putting them at ease and enhancing their confidence to participate in the informed consent discussion.Strategy 7 is to ask patients about their goals and values so you can help them understand how well different options might work for them.Strategy 8 is to encourage the patient to ask questions.Strategy 9 is to select and show high-quality decision aids to help your patients to process information about their choices.Strategy 10 is to explain the benefits, harms, and risks of **all** options – not just the option you recommend. |

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| Slide 28: **Strategy 5 Offer Choices**  |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| When talking about angioplasty, maybe have the treatment options appear with lots of question marks | **Section 3. Strategies for Presenting Choices****Strategy 5: Offer Choices*** There are always choices.
* One of the choices is to do nothing.
* Community practice patterns often drive medical decisions, not clinical circumstances or patient preferences
* Even though the choice is theirs, you have expertise to share.

“There is good information about how these treatments differ that I’d like to discuss with you.”* Do not limit choices based on insurance coverage or cost
* You can make recommendations, but remember: it’s your patient’s choice.

[Pictures of Robert and Marie linked to audio clips.] | Strategy 5 is to present **all** the options available. There are always choices, even if the only alternative is simply to do nothing. It can be very difficult to offer options when you have a strong opinion on what the best choice is. It may help to keep in mind that what we think is the best treatment is often colored by what those around us are doing. For example, in your community most doctors may treat stable angina with angioplasty, while in another community bypass surgery is the most common treatment, and medical management is the most frequent treatment in yet another community. The fact that practice patterns differ around the country shows that it isn’t patients’ clinical circumstances, or their preferences, that’s driving much of medical decision making.Ultimately it should be the patient’s decision, which will depend on such things as how much pain they are in, how much activity limitation they have, what they’re willing to put up with, how risk adverse they are, and what their short-term and long-term plans are. What seems best to you may not be the best choice for your patient based on their goals and values.You may need to dispel the idea that you’re putting out options because you lack expertise and don’t know what to do. You might try saying, “There is good information about the differences between these treatments that I’d like to discuss with you.”Click on the pictures of Robert and Marie to hear Dr Smith share two patient cases that illustrate the importance of important presenting choices.Don’t limit the options to those that are covered by the patient’s insurance. What you and your patient consider affordable may differ. Robert is an 88-year old man with advanced prostate cancer. He was responding well to hormone treatment, but his prostate became so large that he developed a blockage. We had to insert a catheter. I increased his dose of doxazosin in the hopes of shrinking his prostate, but after several weeks Robert is still unable to urinate. In the informed consent discussion, I told Robert and his family about two choices: have surgery to remove part of his prostate or live with a catheter. I thought the surgery would be the best choice, but I knew that Robert was afraid of anesthesia and of getting an infection while at the hospital. We talked through the benefits, harms, and risks of both options. Robert was pleasantly surprised that the surgery is usually done without general anesthetic and was less happy about the prospect of living with a catheter when he learned it would likely restrict his ping-pong playing. To my surprise, he chose to have the surgery. I think that if I had not gained his trust by being a neutral source of information, Robert might not have been willing to undergo the surgery.Marie is a 32-year old who reported having heard a “popping” sound and having severe knee pain. An MRI revealed a medium-sized, bucket handle tear of her meniscus in the red zone. After looking at her test results and condition, I presented 3 options to Marie. She could try home management and physical therapy, she could have meniscus repaired, or she could have the torn part of her meniscus removed. I then asked her to watch a decision aid that describes the options and to schedule another visit to discuss them further. When Marie returned, I explained that **her** prognosis for a repair is good, since the tear is not too large and is in an area that has good blood flow to promote healing. I also told her my estimates for recovery times, and checked that she understood the benefits, harms and risks of the options, including the increased risk of future arthritis with a partial removal of the meniscus. Marie was in so much pain that she didn’t think she could manage without surgery. Her chief concern was to get back to work quickly, and she was worried about the long period of time she would be rehabilitating her knee after a repair. Despite knowing that she’d be more likely to develop arthritis in that knee than if she had the repair, she decided to have the partial removal of her meniscus. It wouldn’t have been my choice, but she has different priorities. |

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| Slide 29: **Strategy 6: Engage patients, families and friends** |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| JAMIE: Explore other presentation rather than bullet points. | **Section 3. Strategies for Presenting Choices****Strategy 6: Engage the Patient and Their Family and Friends** Patients involved in decision making are more satisfied with their care.Many patients and their families and friends lack confidence.* Lack of expertise: The doctor knows more than I do
* Illness: I’m in no shape to make decisions
* Habit: I’m used to being told what to do
* Deference: It would be rude to question the doctor

Your job:* Put patients at ease and show respect
* Draw them into the discussion and decision-making process
* Acknowledge patients as experts
* Listen carefully when the patient is talking and follow up with questions
* Clarify information
 | Research shows that patients who are involved in decision making are more satisfied with their care. But many patients lack confidence that they can make important decisions about their health. That’s why our sixth strategy is engaging patients, families, and friends.There are several reasons patients may feel at a disadvantage.First, they don’t have the expert knowledge the clinician has. They may be vulnerable due to the physical and emotional effects of their illness including possible impairment, disability, fatigue, pain, mental stress etc. They may also be used to clinicians who tell them what to do rather than ask them to join in the decision making. Or they may come from a culture where it’s customary to defer to doctors and asking a question would be considered rude.Many people may be involved in informing the patient, but if you're the clinician who's in charge of ordering a test or treatment or performing a procedure, there are some things you have to do yourself.Your job is to put your patients at ease and show that you respect their values and opinions. You’ll need to draw them into the informed consent discussion and enable them to be an active participant in the decision they are facing. You can start by acknowledging their expertise. Patients have unique knowledge about their lives, emotions, culture, social supports, experiences, wants, goals, and more. Listen to them carefully and you’ll learn a lot. You can let them know that you are listening by asking follow-up questions. That way you can find out what specific information they need further clarity on before they can make a decision. For example, you could say: “I hear you’re worried about not being able to walk much this summer. Let’s talk a bit more about what to expect.” |

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| Slide 30: **Put patients, families and friends at ease and show respect**  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| JAMIE: We are searching for replacement or some other suitable visual for this screen. We need a replacement video here if we choose to use video. Let’s think about whether to remove the first 10 seconds of the embedded video or not. In those 10 seconds, the doctor makes it safe for the interpreter to ask questions and provide any information she may have missed. After that, the interpreter creates the same safety for the patient. I have the original clip if you want to edit it.(Video link:http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/education/curriculum-tools/teamstepps/lep/videos/psychsafety/index.html) | **Section 3. Strategies for Presenting Choices****Strategy 6: Engage the Patient and Their Family and Friends****Put patients, families and friends at ease and show respect** * Encourage patients to include trusted family member or friend
* Be courteous
* Sit down so you are at the same level as your patients
* Make eye contact
* Listen to your patients without interrupting
* Use a caring tone
* Display comfortable body language
* Be attentive to your patient’s personal comfort during the discussion.
* Don’t rush
* Create psychological safety [EMBEDDED VIDEO HERE – see link in content to the designer]
 | **Put patients, families and friends at ease and show respect** Start off by encouraging the patient to have a trusted family member or friend with them during the informed consent discussion to support them as they get information and make decisions. A patient who is stressed about their condition is more likely to misunderstand information given. A support person can lower the stress, help the patient to process the information, and ask questions. There are other things you can do to put patients and their family and friends at ease. To show them that they are important and respected:* Be courteous
* Sit down so you are at the same level as your patients
* Make eye contact
* Always listen to your patients. Try not to interrupt
* Use a caring tone of voice
* Display comfortable body language
* Be attentive to your patient’s personal comfort during the discussion
* Don’t rush. Let them know that you have time to make sure they have the information they need and to discuss their concerns. And don’t rush them to make a decision. Rarely will taking a little extra time make a clinical difference.

You can also create an environment of psychological safety by encouraging questions and signaling your openness. Psychological safety means that patients are not afraid to share what they think, wonder and feel, because they feel accepted and respected.Here is a short video showing you an example of how you can create psychological safety. In this video, an interpreter is creating psychological safety for the patient on behalf of the medical team. When an interpreter is not needed, the clinician can directly communicate with the patient to create psychological safety. |

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| Slide 31: **Draw patients into discussion with conversational prompts** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| JAMIE: Explore interactive options for this slide.Include these resources in the “resources” section: Tools to facilitate shared decision-making conversations:* + - the Ottawa Personal Decision Guide <http://decisionaid.ohri.ca/docs/das/OPDG.pdf>
		- “I Wish I had Asked That!” worksheet: <http://www.informedmedicaldecisions.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/Patient_Visit_Guide_Front1.png>
		- 6 steps of shared decision-making (for providers) : <http://informedmedicaldecisions.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Six_Steps_SDM_Card.pdf>

Website of the Informed Medical Decisions Foundation: <http://www.informedmedicaldecisions.org/> | **Section 3. Strategies for Presenting Choices****Strategy 6: Engage the Patient and Their Family and Friends****Draw patients into discussion with conversational prompts****Use open-ended questions.*** The last time I saw you was a month ago. How is your knee condition affecting you now?
* What worries you most about that?

**Verbally acknowledge the patient as his or her own expert.*** “You know your body better than I do.”
* “You’re in the best position to judge.”

**Ask specific questions related to the patient’s role in their care and treatment.*** “How do you cope when the pain gets bad?
* “What has made you feel better?”
* “What doesn’t seem to be working well?”
 | Many patients and their family and friends will need your encouragement to become active participants in the informed consent discussion. To draw them into the conversation, try starting with their areas of expertise – their experience with their health problem. You may need to help them get started. It helps to use open-ended questions that can’t be answered with yes or no. Here are some questions that can help get them talking.* “The last time I saw you was a month ago. How is your knee condition affecting you now?”
* What worries you most about that?

Be sure to address the patient’s specific concerns. This will also indicate that you are listening and will encourage them to share further.Always acknowledge that the patient is an expert about him or herself and encourage them to ask and share information about their treatment expectations, concerns, and understanding of their condition. For example, you might say, * “You know your body better than I do,” or ask,
* “You’re in the best position to judge.”

One way to acknowledge the patient as an expert about him or herself is to ask specific questions related to the patient’s role in their care and treatment. You might, for example, ask them:* “How do you cope when the pain gets bad?
* “What has made you feel better?”
* “What doesn’t seem to be working well?”

Additional resources are available in the “resources” section of this course to help draw your patients into informed consent discussions. These resources include worksheets to help patients think through their options, and the website of the Informed Medical Decisions Foundation. |
| **Slide 32: Strategy 7: Elicit goals and values** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| When reading the last paragraph, show a patient and doctor. The patient’s conversation bubble says, “What would you do?” The doctor’s bubble says, “The question is, what’s important to **you**?” | **Section 3. Strategies for Presenting Choices****Strategy 7: Elicit Goals and Values****Patients don’t all want the same thing.** **Find out what your patient’s goals and values are.*** What matters to you most?
	+ Minimizing pain?
	+ Getting back to work or school quickly?
	+ Being able to participate in a favorite activity?
	+ Reducing risk of future injury or illness?
	+ Living as long as possible?
* What are your main concerns about the possible treatments?
	+ Side effects?
	+ Dependency?
	+ Possible complications?
	+ Likelihood of success?
 | Patients don’t all want the same thing. Treatments have different consequences, and some will matter more to one patient than another. Using Strategy 7, you’ll help your patient figure out what’s important to him or her.To get at your patients’ treatment goals and values, you might try asking “What matters to you most?” You may need to probe a bit further, by asking about specific outcomes such as minimizing pain, getting back to work or school quickly, and being able to participate in a favorite activity. Some goals may be longer term, like reducing risk of future injury or illness or living as long as possible.Treatment choices may be influenced by concerns about the treatments themselves. Again, you may have to probe to find out what’s really on your patients’ minds. Is it side effects? Or are they worried about being dependent on others, or on medicines? Or about possible complications? Or perhaps they’re concerned about whether the treatment is likely to be successful.Patients may ask you “What would you do?” Remember that what a person chooses depends on their goals and values, and your patient’s goals and values may be different from yours. It’s tempting to jump in with your recommendation, but try to help your patients to think about what’s important to **them**. |

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| Slide 33: **Strategy 8: Encourage questions**  |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| Jamie: Explore making this interactive.List as a reference: AHRQ’s Health Literacy Universal Precautions Toolkit Tool 14: Encourage Questions<http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/quality-patient-safety/quality-resources/tools/literacy-toolkit/index.html>  | **Section 3. Strategies for Presenting Choices****Strategy 8: Encourage Questions****Reasons for unasked questions*** Ashamed or shy
* Perceived time constraints
* Still processing the information
* Information overload
* Poor recall
* Perception that provider is not listening or is pre-occupied

**Strategies to encourage questions*** Invite questions with body language.
* Don’t interrupt.
* Solicit questions at multiple intervals

**SAY:**"I know I'm giving you a lot of information. Many people find this confusing. Let me pause here so you can tell me what questions you have."**DON’T SAY:**“Do you have any questions?Norma Kenoyer, Iowa New Readers | Patients often have unanswered questions about their choices. They may be ashamed to ask questions, fearing they will seem foolish. Or they might just be shy by nature. So you’ll need to encourage them to ask questions, which is our eighth strategy.They may think that you don’t have enough time to answer their questions. Or, they may not be able to process the information quickly enough to be able to come up with questions.Patients may simply be overwhelmed with the amount and flow of information. Or they may have forgotten their questions by the time you’ve finished presenting information on all the choices.Here are some suggestions for how you can encourage your patients to get the information they need to make informed decisions.* Invite questions with your body language. Lean forward. Look expectantly. Signal that you have the time and want to listen to their questions.
* When they do start asking questions, don’t interrupt them. It may take a little while ‘till they get to what’s on their mind. Wait until they get their question out rather than trying to anticipate it.
* Don’t wait until the end of the discussion to solicit questions. Chunk out the information and ask for questions after each piece of information. Creating multiple opportunities to ask questions increases the likelihood that patients will speak up.
* Create the expectation that they have questions by saying something like, “"I know I'm giving you a lot of information. Let me pause here so you can tell me what questions you have." Don’t ask simply ask, “Do you have any questions?” You’re likely to get a quick shake of the head.

Click on Norma Kenoyer, a member of Iowa New Readers, to hear how patients pick up on the cues you send. Audio clip: My doctor just seemed like he was in a hurry. I read his body language. He’d ask if I had any questions, and I said no and he’d walk out the door. I could have asked him this and that, but he couldn’t even give me a chance. It was, “Any questions?” and out the door he went before I could even think.  |

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| Slide 34: **Strategy 9 for Presenting Choices: Show High-Quality Decision Aids**  |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| **JAMIE: Use visual to present this slide**Could use an edited down version of this video to illustrate decision aids are complements, not substitutes, of the IC discussion<http://vimeo.com/88269615>Note: video is 4 min 14 seconds and will have to be edited. We will request copyright authorization from the informed medical decisions foundation.For the resources section, offer this resource to learn more about the standards for high-quality decision aids: Volk RJ, Llewelyn-Thomas H, Stacey D, Elwyn G (2013). **Ten years of the International Patient Decision Aid Standards Collaboration: evolution of the core dimensions for assessing the quality of patient decision aids.** http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6947/13/S2/S1what constitutes a high-quality decision aid: | **Section 3. Strategies for Presenting Choice****Strategy 9: Show High-Quality Decision Aids** **Decision aids unbiased information**. They can be:* Paper based
* Audio-visual
* Multi- media
* Web-based
* Interactive
* For patient use
* For joint use by patient and clinician

Decision aids are **NOT** a substitute for the informed consent discussion, even if offered as part of a high-quality computerized informed consent system. [EMBED VIDEO HERE.]**Decision aids provide information about:*** Options
* Outcomes
* Benefits
* Harms
* Risks

**Using decision aids:*** Helps clinicians structure conversations with patients
* Improves patients’ knowledge about what their options are
* Increases accuracy of patients’ expectations of possible benefits, harms, and risks of different options
* Clarifies for patients what matters most to them
* Increases patient participation and communication
* Helps patients weigh options based on their values
* Makes it more likely that patients reach decisions consistent with their goals and values.
* Equips patients to cope better with treatment outcomes or adverse events.

[Reference: Kinnersley et al 2013; Legare et al. 2014.] | **Strategy 9: Show high-quality decision aids** A decision aid presents the various options in an unbiased way to patients so that they can make an informed choice. Decision aids can be paper-based, audio-visual, multimedia, web-based, or interactive. Some decision aids are meant for patients to use on their own, while other decision aids are to be used jointly, with someone helping the patient process the information and highlight important points. Decision aids are designed to complement, rather than replace, the informed consent discussion, even if they’re offered as part of a high-quality computerized informed consent system. For example, after a patient has viewed a decision aid, the clinician can use teach-back to make sure the patient understood the information, personalize the information for that patient, encourage and answer questions, and discuss the information in the context of the patient’s goals and values.Decision aids provide information about:* The various options available for a specific medical problem or screening procedure,
* Expected outcomes for the various options, and
* Potential benefits, harms, and risks.

Clinicians often find that using decision aids helps them structure conversations about choices with patients. Research suggests using decision aids improves patients’ knowledge of the options available to them. Patients who use decision aids have more accurate expectations of possible benefits, harms, and risks of their options. Most importantly, decision aids help patients clarify what matters most to them, makes them more likely to participate in the decision-making process and communicate effectively with their providers, and makes them more likely to reach decisions consistent with their goals and values. And finally, patients whose decisions are fully informed through the use of decision aids are better able to cope with treatment outcomes and adverse events. |

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| Slide 35: **Finding High-Quality Decision Aids** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| Add to resources: Option Grids: <http://www.optiongrid.co.uk/> | **Section 3. Strategies for Presenting Choice****Strategy 9: Show High-Quality Decision Aids****Finding high quality decision aids*** Your hospital resource center
* Free from reputable sources on the Internet
* See resources section in this course

**Consideration when choosing decision aids*** Type of learner
* Equipment (e.g., DVD player, computer)
* Comfort with using the Internet
 | **Where can you find high-quality decision aids?*** Your hospital may have a library of decision aids for use in the informed consent process, and
* Some decision aids are available for free from reputable sources on the internet such as the Informed Medical Decisions Foundation, the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, and the Mayo clinic.
* Please see the resources section of this course for details.

When using a decision aid, consider how your patient best learns. Is your patient one who likes to read information, or would they rather see and listen to it? If a multimedia resource is being recommended, make sure your patient has the right equipment to view it. And if the decision aid is available on a Web site, make sure your patient is comfortable using the Internet. You may need to make arrangements to show the decision aid to your patient in your office, and offer adaptive software for people with low vision or other disabilities. |

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| Slide 36: **Strategy 4 for Presenting Choices: Explain benefits, harms, and risks of all options** |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| Consider flashing the graphic on-screen when the audio says “and show a visual representation like this one “.For the resources section, include this link for an example of a “paling palette” chart: <http://www.riskcomm.com/images/Palette1Downs.pdf>Also include this link to create your own paling palette:<http://www.riskcomm.com/introvisualaids.php?p=5>Also include this reference about the story of the Navajo cancer patient:[Reference: Carrese JA, Rhodes LA. Bridging cultural differences in medical practice. The case of discussing negative information with Navajo patients. *J Gen Intern Med.* Feb 2000;15(2):92-96.] | **Section 3. Strategies for Presenting Choices****Strategy 10: Explain Benefits, Harms and Risks of All Options** * Describe each option neutrally, including the option of doing nothing.
* Acknowledge uncertainty
* Avoid subjective terms
* Offer information in more than one way
* 16% of patients had this complication, and 84% did not.
* That means about 1 in 6 people got this complication, and 5 in 6 did not.

* Personalize the benefits, harms, and risks
* Be clear about duration of effects.
* Discuss clinicians qualifications and experience
* Let your patient decide what benefits, harms, and risks are important.
* Bring in a cultural broker, as needed
* Suggest consulting other clinicians.
* Talk about costs.
 | **Strategy 4: Explain benefits, harms and risks of all options.**  This strategy is the heart of the informed consent discussion. For informed consent to truly be an informed choice, you have to neutrally lay out the benefits, harms, and risks of **all** the options, including the option of doing nothing - not just the option you recommend. This takes a concerted effort, because there is often an unconscious tendency to lead the patient in a particular direction.You also want to acknowledge that there’s often uncertainty regarding the outcomes of the options. Don’t be afraid to share the limitations of the evidence. For example, you might say, “Some research shows that this treatment is effective, and some shows that it’s not effective. We’re not sure how effective this treatment will be for you.”Some harms are relatively easy to explain. For example, “You will be tender where we cut your skin,” or “You won’t be able to drive for a month,” are harms that you expect. But when there’s a risk of a harm rather than a virtual certainty, it can be challenging. You’ll want to avoid using subjective terms like, “very likely.” You may know that 80% of patients will get a given result, but if you say it’s very likely, the patient may think it’s 95% and this may affect their decision. So it’s important to use actual numbers.At the same time, numbers can be confusing. Since different people process information in different ways, it’s often helpful to present information in more than one way, including percentages, frequencies, and visuals. It’s also helpful to frame the information in a balanced way, meaning that you present both the positive and the negative consequences.For example, you can say, “16% of patients had this complication, and 84% did not. That means one in six people had this complication, and five in six did not.” It also can help to show a visual representation like this one. The resources section for this training has a link to a website that allows you to create this kind of chart. It’s also important to say when your patient is more or less likely than the average patient to experience particular benefits, harms or risks. For example, if your patient has diabetes, she needs to know that her healing time may be longer than the average patient.Some benefits and harms are time limited. Be clear about how long you expect a benefit or harm to last. How experienced the clinician is can affect the risk. The National Quality Forum recommends that informed consent discussions where surgery is an option should mention about how many times the surgeon has performed a given procedure in the past year and in his or her lifetime, since that information is critical to assess competence and risk. You should also let patients know if other members of the team will be performing major tasks, and what their experience and qualifications are.Let your patient decide what benefits, harms, and risks are important. For example, don’t minimize the importance of a risk. You may think that losing hair or not being able to drive for a period of time don’t matter much, but your patient may not agree.Another challenge is that even if they are proficient in English, your patients may come from different countries or ethnic groups, and they may think differently about benefits, harms, and risks. For example, it’s often a good idea to engage the patient with the word “you,” as in, “you may have this side effect.” But for many Navajo patients, it may be more helpful to say “some people,” as in, “some people may have this side effect happen to them,” because a commonly held Navajo belief is that negative words and thoughts about one’s own health become self-fulfilling. You can’t be familiar with every group’s health beliefs and practices, but you can bring in cultural brokers to help bridge the gap. Cultural brokers are people, such as interpreters or traditional healers, who can help you frame the discussion in a way that is appropriate in the patient’s culture. It may also be appropriate to encourage your patient to consult with other clinicians to help them make their decision. You may not know all the benefits, harms, and risks of some of you patients’ options. For example, if surgery is an option and you’re not a surgeon, your patient will need to talk to a surgeon to be able to seriously consider that option. You also want to let patients know that they not only have a choice of treatments, but also a choice about who provides that treatment. Some clinicians may feel insulted or insecure when patients seek second opinions, but think of it as a positive: it makes the patient more confident that they are making the right choice. Finally, don’t be afraid to talk about costs. We often feel like talking about money is taboo, but affordability is a very real consideration for patients. You won’t be able to tell them exactly what their out-of-pocket costs will be, but you may be able to give them a sense of the relative costs of alternative treatments. Encourage your patients to consult with their insurance company to find out what their coverage is and how much the alternatives they are considering will cost them. |
| Slide 37: **Help the patient to reach a decision** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
|  | **Section 3. Strategies for Presenting Choices****Strategy 10: Explain Benefits, Harms and Risks of All Options** **Help the patient evaluate their options based on their goals and values.** * Ask the patient what they’re thinking
* Answer any additional questions
* Offer information relevant to their goals and values
* Help the patient to assess the feasibility of each option, e.g., timetables, cost, support needs, time off work

**Help the patient choose.*** + - Elicit the patient’s assessment of the pros and cons
		- Reflect back other considerations that the patient raised earlier in the conversation.

. | Once you’ve described the options, help the patient to evaluate their options based on their goals and values, and facilitate their deliberation and decision-making. You can start by asking the patient what they’re thinking about the options. Based on what the patient shares with you, you can answer any additional questions, and offer information that is relevant to their goals and values. The patient may also need your help to assess the feasibility of each option, including which options are offered at your facility, how soon it can be done, who could do it, how much it will cost, what support needs the patient will have, and how much time they will likely need to take off from work.Then, ask the patient what they choose. If they are having trouble coming to a decision, you can ask them to describe the pros and cons of the different alternatives, from their perspective, and reflect back on other considerations that the patient raised earlier in the conversation.  |

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| Slide 38: **Putting it all together- a model informed consent conversation** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| *[This could be illustrated with one or more photos – possibly Ken Burns style animation. We can also highlight each strategy used, as it is used, by flashing the strategy’s name on the screen]**We will need to get copyright permission for the use of the graphic shown on* [this website](http://hannahpartos.com/tag/central-line/) . | **Putting it all together**[picture of a newborn in ICU bed with IV line and oxygen tubes in his nose; then picture of doctor sitting down and talking with mom [possibly with another woman present]; then picture of a central line and/or picture about central lines (see below, from [this website](http://hannahpartos.com/tag/central-line/); we will seek copyright permission)] | **Putting it all together**Adrian is a 14-day-old boy who was brought to the hospital on his 6th day of life for lethargy. He was admitted for hypoxia and diagnosed as having meningitis. Several attempts were made, unsuccessfully, to perform a lumbar puncture to confirm the diagnosisAs a precautionary measure, Adrian has been receiving a course of intravenous antibiotics for the past 8 days, but all of his visible veins have been damaged by the treatment. There are two days of treatment to go, and there is no way to place another intravenous line. Adrian’s mother is very tired and stressed out.Doctor: Ms. Jensen, unfortunately the treatment has damaged Adrian’s veins.Mom: I know, the nurse told me that.Doctor: So we need to talk about what the options are right now. Is there anyone you’d like to have with you while we discuss this? **[Strategy: prepare for the informed consent discussion (inclusion of all important parties)]**Mom: Yeah. My sister. She just went out to get us sandwiches.Doctor: It’s important that we make some decisions pretty quickly. Can you call her and ask her to come back?Mom: Sure.When Adrian’s aunt returns…Doctor: Let’s step over here where we can talk privately. **[Strategy: Prepare for the informed consent discussion (private space)]** I was just telling your sister that Adrian’s veins have been damaged and we can’t put another needle in the veins we’ve already used to give Adrian more medicine. **[Strategy used: use health literacy universal precautions (use plain, non-medical language)]**Sister: OK.Doctor (speaking slowly, with pauses): Adrian should get another two more days of medicine. Since we can’t put a needle into the veins that we can get to easily, we could use what’s called a central line to give him the rest of his medicine. The central line gets the medicine to a vein inside his body. Let me show you what the central line looks like [show a picture of a central line]. It’s a very thin and long tube that we insert in this vein here (show picture with subclavian vein like the one shown [here](http://hannahpartos.com/tag/central-line/)) **[Strategy used: use health literacy universal precautions (speak slowly, use visual aids)**] We then thread it all the way to the heart. This will allow us to give Adrian the rest of his medicine and the heart will pump it throughout his body. Just to make sure I explained that properly, can you tell me what you understood about what a central line is and why we’d use one? **[Strategy used: use teach-back (chunk and check)]**Mom: It’s a tube that goes into his chest, all the way to his heart. And you want to use it to give him the rest of his medicine.Doctor: Right. If we give him medicine for another two days we’ll be sure the meningitis is gone. If he doesn’t finish the medicine, the meningitis could come back even worse than before. Mom: I sure don’t want that.Doctor: Now I have to tell you that there are risks in using a central line. In this hospital, about 1% -- that’s one of every 100 patients -- winds up with a life-threatening infection as a result of using a central line. **[Strategy used: explain benefits, harms, and risks of all options (offer information in more than one way)]**Mom (sounding scared): Can’t we just stop his treatment now, since we’re only two days short and he seems to be doing fine? We’re not even sure that he has meningitis.Doctor: You absolutely could choose to do that. **[Strategy used: Offer choices]** But I have to tell you there are risks of not giving him the rest of his medicine too. I can’t give you the exact odds, but if Adrian stops the medicine now there’s a greater chance the meningitis will come back, assuming he has meningitis. I think you know that meningitis is a very serious condition. About 25% of newborns with meningitis – that’s 1 out of 4 babies – don’t make it. And of those that live, about a third have problems later on like seizures and learning disabilities. **[Strategy used: explain benefits, harms, and risks of all options, including the option of no treatment.]**Mom: Wow. That’s really scary.Doctor: I know. And I’m not sure I explained it that well. Can you tell me what you think will happen if we don’t give Adrian any more medicine?Mom: There’s a 25% chance he’ll die.Doctor: Well, there’s a 25% chance he’ll die **if** he has meningitis and **if** the meningitis comes back. We don’t know exactly how likely it is to come back if we don’t give him two more days of medicine. But the chances are greater than if we give him the rest of the medicine. (pause) So let’s see if I explained that more clearly. Can you tell me what you think will happen if we **don’t** give Adrian the last two days of medicine. **[Strategy: teach-back (re-teach using different words]**Mom (a little uncertain): He’s more likely to get meningitis again… if he has it now. And if he gets it again, there’s a 25% chance he’ll die. Is that right?Doctor: That’s right. (pause). And what about if we **do** give him the medicine using the central line? What might happen then?Mom: It should make him better and prevent the meningitis from coming back.Doctor: Yes. And what else could happen?Sister: He could get an infection. Mom: An infection that could kill him.Doctor: Yes…that could unfortunately happen, . (pause) I’ve given you a lot of information and you’ve got a hard decision to make. Now I’m sure you have some questions you’d like to ask me. What more can I tell you? **[Strategy used: encourage questions].** Mom: How sure are you that Adrian has meningitis?Doctor: It’s hard to say. As you know, we weren’t able to get the fluid we needed to do the tests to be absolutely sure. The fact that he was inactive when you brought him in and he’s responded to the medicine makes it pretty likely that he has meningitis. If I had to put a number on it, I’d say that I’m 80% sure that he has meningitis. **[Strategy used: explain benefits, harms and risks of all options (acknowledge uncertainty)]** Sister: That’s pretty sure. Doctor: But I’m NOT certain; I’m NOT 100% sure. What else is on your minds?Sister: What are the chances Adrian will die if he gets an infection from the line?Doctor: The chances of his dying from an infection from the central line are very small – only 2 out of 1,000 babies who get a central line die of an infection. (pause) What other questions do you have? **[Strategies used: explain benefits, harms and risks of all options (avoid subjective terms); encourage questions]**Mom (sobbing slightly): I can’t think of any more. My poor Adrian! He’s been through so much already.Doctor: He really has. Poor little guy. When you think about making this decision, what are you thinking about? What are your main concerns? (**Strategy used: elicit goals and values)**Mom: I just want to take him home. I want to get out of this hospital and get back to a normal life. My other kids are going to drive my mother to an early grave. We can’t go on like this much longer. Doctor: You’ve been through a lot. I hear how much you’d like to go home and get back to the rest of your family. It can be so hard being pulled in different directions. You want to do what’s best for Adrian and you’re also worried about the rest of your family. **[Strategy used: (engage the patient and their family and friends (put patients, families and friends at ease and show respect: listen, use a caring tone)]**Mom: (sniffling) Yes Dr. Tabor. I just don’t know what to do. What should I do?Doctor: It’s a tough decision. There’s a risk either way, and people feel differently about what risks they’re willing to take. Why don’t you take a little time to think about it and talk with your sister?Mom: Yes…I need time to think.Doctor: Good. Then let’s say you two talk and I’ll come back in an hour. And if you have any more questions before then, have the nurse page me. How does that sound? **[Strategy used: engage the patient and their family and friends (don’t rush a decision)].**Mom: OK…thanks.Sister: Yes, thanks very much doctor. |

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| Slide 39:  **Section 4. Documenting and Confirming Informed Consent and Being Part of a Team**  |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
|  | **Section 4. Documenting and Confirming Informed Consent and Being Part of a Team** * + Documenting Consent
	+ Confirming Consent
	+ Understanding Team Roles
 | In this last section, we’ll talk about how to document informed consent, confirming consent that took place earlier, and what roles various members of the health care team can play in the informed consent process. |

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| Slide 40: Section **Documenting Consent**  |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| Visual or bullet depicting documentation | **Section 4. Documenting and Confirming Informed Consent and Being Part of a Team****Documenting Consent****Consult hospital policies*** Hospital blanket “consent to treat” form,
* Oral consent only
* Oral consent and documentation of the discussion via a note in the patient’s medical record
* Specific written consent

**Make sure informed consent documentation is complete*** Use of interpreters
* Choices presented
* Decision aids showed
* Use of teach-back to verify understanding
* Patient’s decision, including choice of no treatment
 | If you’ve followed the process described in this training, you’ve had an informed consent discussion with your patient, presenting choices clearly and verifying that they were understood. Now your patient has made a decision, and you need to document the process you followed.There are different ways in which informed consent is documented depending on the nature of the proposed treatment and the urgency of the care. Hospitals must develop written policies and procedures related to documentation of the informed consent. Be sure to consult your hospital’s policies. In general, signed consent should be obtained for all major therapeutic and diagnostic procedures. A separate written consent should be obtained when using anesthesia by the clinician administering it. If the patient is unable to sign written documentation, oral consent must be documented in the medical record. Make sure your documentation is complete. If you have used an interpreter during the informed consent discussion, make a note in the record and have the interpreter sign the informed consent form if one is being used.Document the choices you presented to the patient, any decision aids you shared, and your use of teach back to verify that your patient understood the benefits, harms, and risks of each alternative.Finally, document the patient’s decision, even when patients choose **not** to have a treatment or procedure. For both the patient’s protection and yours, consider documenting every informed consent discussion in the patient’s record even if it’s not required by hospital policy. If a lawsuit is brought against you or the hospital, that documentation could be helpful. Documentation will also supply critical information to auditors checking to see if hospital informed consent policies are being followed. |

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| Slide 41: **Appropriate documentation**  |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| Jamie: Consider having visuals to present examples of appropriate and inappropriate documentation practices emphasizing when and how documentation and verification should occur | **Section 4. Documenting and Confirming Informed Consent and Being Part of a Team** **Documenting Informed Consent**While documentation policies are often hospital specific and relate to local and state laws, here are some examples of appropriate documentation and verification practices.**Use of a reader-friendly consent form** Source: <http://www.iom.edu/~/media/Files/Activity%20Files/PublicHealth/HealthLiteracy/2013-APR-11/Abrams.pdf>**Use of a chart note to document the informed consent conversation. Example:** Mom and Mom’s sister were present for the IC discussion. Tabor explained benefits and risks of CL (prevent meningitis recurrence, but small risk of CLABSI) vs. not completing CTX course (no CLABSI, but risk of meningitis recurrence). Checked mom understood what placing a CL entailed and the benefits and risks of CL and not completing CTX course. Answered questions about relative risks of each option. Extra time (1 hour) was given to Mom after initial conversation to reach a decision. Mom opted for CL. (Signed IC form attached.) |  |

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| Slide 42: **Confirming Documentation and Understanding** |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| Consider having Barb Giardino read this in her own voice | **Section 4. Documenting and Confirming Informed Consent and Being Part of a Team****Confirming Consent*** Informed consent discussion can occur in advance of test, treatment, or procedure
* Check informed consent documentation
* Confirm patient understanding using teach-back immediately before test, treatment, or procedure

**Confirming questions**Just to make sure we’ve explained everything properly, tell me…* What are you having done today?
* How do you expect to feel afterwards?
* How do you hope this will help you?
* How likely do you think it is that you will get those results?
* What are the risks? How likely are they to happen?

Picture of young Filipina womanCaption: Click to hear the true story of a near-miss medical error | Often an informed consent discussion occurs days or weeks ahead of a test, treatment, or procedure. The form may have already been signed outside the hospital.Before you proceed with the test, treatment, or procedure, a member of the hospital staff should check that all the necessarily informed consent documentation is in place. More importantly, you should check with the patient that he or she truly understands what is going to happen and the associated benefits, harms, and risks. The patient may have misunderstood or forgotten what you told him or her, gotten conflicting information from other health care professionals, gotten misinformation from the Internet, or otherwise become confused. As a safety precaution, check that the patient has understood and agreed to the test, treatment, or procedure right before it’s done. The teach-back method that you learned earlier can help you confirm that your patient understands. You can ask:* What are you having done today?
* How do you expect to feel afterwards?
* What results do you expect? How likely is it that you will get those results?
* What are risks? How likely are they to happen?

When picture is clicked:Ligaya, a young, woman who did not speak English, arrived for a tubal ligation. Just to confirm the patient’s understanding of the procedure, her surgeon asked her through an interpreter, “What are you having done today?” Ligaya replied that she was having her tubes tied and that 5 years later, when she decided to start her family, she would return to have the tubes untied. The surgeon explained that the procedure was permanent and that there would be no possibility of future pregnancies. With this information, Ligaya decided to not have the procedure. |

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| **Slide 43: Understanding Team Roles** |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| Video: CUS words<http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/education/curriculum-tools/teamstepps/lep/videos/cuswords/index.html>In resources section, insert link to TeamSTEPPS coaching presentation<http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/education/curriculum-tools/teamstepps/instructor/fundamentals/module9/igcoaching.html> | **Section 4. Documenting and Confirming Informed Consent and Being Part of a Team** **Understanding Team Roles*** Obtaining informed choice can be a team process
* Clarity on team roles is important
* Every team member has a responsibility for safety.

BUTTON FOR CUS VIDEO | Since several care team members may be involved in the informed choice communication process, it is important for each team member to have a clear understanding of his or her role and the role of other care team members. Every team member has a responsibility for safety. This video tells you about using CUS words as a way to respectfully raise issues about the informed consent process, or any other aspect of care, with other team members. The acronym “CUS” stands for: Concerned, Uncomfortable, and Safety. In this video, an interpreter uses these words to bring up a concern with the clinician about her use of complex language and the patient’s understanding. If your hospital is uses TeamSTEPPS, this tool will be familiar, since it came from the TeamSTEPPS Patient Safety system. |

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| **Slide 44:** Informed Consent Team Roles and Responsibilities |  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| Jamie –we will need a table like the one on this slide for the resources section. Salome will create it. Possible Title: “Informed Consent Team Roles and Responsibilities” (template).In that document, under “person responsible”, keep “Clinician/anesthesiologist who is delivering the care (non-delegable) and leave the other cells blank.  | **Example: Informed Consent Team Roles and Responsibilities**

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| **Role** | **Person Responsible** |
| Overall responsibility for obtaining informed consent | Clinician/ anesthesiologist who is delivering the care (non-delegable duty) |
| Assess and address special communication needs (such as limited English proficiency or impaired hearing) | Intake staff, nursing staff, and/or clinician/ anesthesiologist |
| Assess the patient’s decision making capacity | Clinician/anesthesiologist  |
| Identify/assign alternate decision-makers if a patient lacks decision making capacity  | Clinician/ anesthesiologist  |
| Schedule times and rooms for discussions, if needed | Receptionist |
| Explain choices including benefits, harms, and risks; use teach-back to verify patient understanding  | Clinician/anesthesiologist  |
| Interpret for patients with limited English proficiency | Professional medical interpreter |
| Show decision aids | Nurse educator |
| Help patient to clarify their goals and values | Nurse educator |
| Stop the line (i.e., halt any activity that could cause harm) if it seems like the patient didn’t understand | Any team member |
| Make a decision | Patient or authorized representative |
| Document the patient’s choice (may include signing the form and/or documenting informed consent conversations in the patient’s record) | Clinician/anesthesiologist |
| Confirm that informed consent discussion has been appropriately documented  | Nurse |
| Confirm the patient understands benefits, harms, and risks immediately before test, treatment, or procedure is performed | Clinician |

**See resources section for a customizable table.** | We have provided a customizable table in the resources section to help you clarify roles within your team with respect to informed consent.On this slide is a completed example of this table. Actual roles and persons responsible may be different in your hospital. Consult with your team members when you complete this chart for use in your unit. |

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| Slide 45: **Course Summary**  |
| Content to the designer | On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
|  | Course Summary:* Patients have the right to decide what happens to their Bodies. Clinicians are responsible for helping patients to make informed choices about their medical care, which can be challenging. Several strategies can help you to help your patients make informed choices about their medical care.
* Clear communication strategies:
1. Prepare for the Informed Consent Discussion
2. Use Health Literacy Universal Precautions
3. Remove Language Barriers
4. Use Teach-Back
* Strategies for presenting choices:
1. Strategy 5: Offer Choices
2. Strategy 6: Engage the Patient and Their Family and Friends
3. Strategy 7: Elicit Goals and Values
4. Strategy 8: Encourage Questions
5. Strategy 9: Show High Quality Decision Aids
6. Strategy 10: Explain Benefits, Harms, and Risks of All Options
* Appropriately documenting the informed consent process and confirming the patient’s understanding can help to protect patients and clinicians.
* While the clinician performing a procedure or prescribing a treatment is responsible for obtaining informed consent, multiple team members may be involved in helping patients make an informed choice. Team roles should be clarified in advance in each hospital unit.
 |  Before you go, let us quickly recap. We have learnt that: * Patients have the right to decide what happens to their Bodies. Clinicians are responsible for helping patients to make informed choices about their medical care, which can be challenging. Several strategies can help you to help your patients make informed choices about their medical care.
* Clear communication strategies:
1. Prepare for the Informed Consent Discussion
2. Use Health Literacy Universal Precautions
3. Remove Language Barriers
4. Use Teach-Back
* Strategies for presenting choices:
1. Strategy 5: Offer Choices
2. Strategy 6: Engage the Patient and Their Family and Friends
3. Strategy 7: Elicit Goals and Values
4. Strategy 8: Encourage Questions
5. Strategy 9: Show High Quality Decision Aids
6. Strategy 10: Explain Benefits, Harms, and Risks of All Options
* Appropriately documenting the informed consent process and confirming the patient’s understanding can help to protect patients and clinicians.
* While the clinician performing a procedure or prescribing a treatment is responsible for obtaining informed consent, multiple team members may be involved in helping patients make an informed choice. Team roles should be clarified in advance in each hospital unit.
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| Slide 46: **Post-Test**  |
| On-Screen Content | Audio Guidance |
| Post-test content refined after course review by Cindy and ESP |  |