

HIGH LEVEL FLOW CHARTS FOR RELIABLE DESIGN



WHY IN A COVID CRISIS ARE WE TALKING ABOUT RELIABLE DESIGN?

- We want GOOD OUTCOMES.
- We want standardized processes with a HIGH COMPLIANCE RATE throughout the nursing home for LONG TERM success.
- We want SIMPLE, DOABLE and MINIMAL RESOURCE approaches because we have limited time, energy and resources.
- We want to invest in approaches that can be applied to other situations for continuous quality improvement.
- Reliability occurs by DESIGN and not by accident.

WHAT IS RELIABLE DESIGN?

 To design a non-catastrophic process to 95% or better reliability with the understanding that at this level SUSTAINABILITY of the process is HIGHLY LIKELY.

WANT TO GET GREATER RELIABILITY IN YOUR PROCESS?

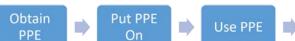
- Think about different processes you want to improve.
- Select one process and clearly state the process using 2-5 words: (examples)
 - proper PPE use
 - resident cohorting
- preventing staff burnout

Take PPE

Off

- COVID testing
- visitation booths
- Keep it really simple by breaking the design into obvious steps. Limit it to only FOUR STEPS.
- Use a high level flow chart for reliable design.

HIGH LEVEL FLOW CHARTS



- Each box is a process with attributes.
- Determine which process (box) you are having the most problem with and why.
- That process then becomes a logical improvement focus.

HOW DO YOU DETERMINE WHICH STEP YOU ARE HAVING THE MOST PROBLEM WITH?

- Ask ANCHORING QUESTIONS.
 - "What is the most challenging part of obtaining your PPE?" or
 - "Tell me about the last time you had trouble accessing PPE."
- Ask 5 direct care staff if they can name the 5 attributes for a given process in question.

KEEP IN MIND



- If the flow diagram doesn't seem TOO SIMPLE, complexity has already crept into your design.
- Complexity is the enemy of reliable design because 5 direct care staff will be less likely to be able to articulate the 5 attributes.

High Level Flow Charts for Reliable Design by Roger Resar and Frank Federico, IHI, Marla DeVries, THE GREEN HOUSE® Project, and Arkansas COVID-19 Action Network



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