

PDSA Worksheet for Testing Change – Example

Hospital: Blue Ox Medical Center Prepared By: ED Nurse Manager – Stroke Coordinator

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Aim

Overall goal you wish to achieve; make sure it is time-specific, measureable, and defines the specific population of patients that will be affected
By June 2017, increase the number of follow-up PCP visits scheduled for stroke patients prior to discharge from 50% to 70%.

Every goal will require multiple smaller tests of change

Plan

1. Describe your test of change

Change	Person responsible	When to be done	Where to be done	Status (not started, in process, delayed, not on track or completed)
Follow-up appointment will be made and noted in chart	Health Unit Clerk (HUC)	6/1/17 – 7/30/17	In-patient neuro unit	Completed on 7/30/17

2. List tasks needed to set up this test of change

Tasks	Person responsible	When to be done	Where to be done	Status
1. Scheduling Follow-up appointment will be built into order set	Stroke coordinator and HUC	7/15/17 – 9/1/17	IT, In-patient neuro unit	In Progress as of 7/30/17
2. Develop materials for training Health Unit Clerks				
3. Procedure developed for scheduling appointments on weekends and after hours				
4. HUCs will schedule appointment during the week				
5. Appointment will be included in patient discharge summary				
6. Appointment will be included in feedback loop document for hospitals and clinics				

3. Predict what will happen when the test is carried out

Predicted Outcome	Measures to determine if prediction succeeds
Ten consecutive patients will have a primary care appointment scheduled prior to discharge	A chart audit will be conducted to see if appointment is scheduled.

Do: Describe what actually happened when you ran the test

During the week, the HUC scheduled the appointment. For discharges on weekends, appointments were not scheduled.

Study: Describe the measured results and how they compared to the predictions

Case review, chart audits, and interviews found that for discharges during the week, the procedure worked well and the number of appointments scheduled increased. For weekend patient discharges, the HUC did not see the order set for scheduling the appointment or forgot to document in the chart that an appointment had been made.

Act: Describe what modifications to the plan will be made for the next cycle from what you learned

Stroke coordinator will review the process for patients discharged on weekends. If the patient's primary care provider is in the same health system, the ED nurse that conducts the 72 hours post-discharge follow-up phone call will make the appointment Monday morning if the patient has not already done so.

[This goes back to the "Plan" step again]

Note: this is an example of a quality improvement project. If you choose to conduct a similar project, the content should be adapted based on your specific agency and its policies and protocols.

Template by adapted from Institute for Healthcare Improvement by the Minnesota Stroke Program.