

“The nexus between health literacy and patient outcomes: Initiatives on the horizon at UAB, in Alabama and across the nation”

Presented by:

Joy P. Deupree, PhD, MSN, RN, WHNP-BC

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Executive Nurse Fellow-2014-2017

Assistant Professor and Director of Community Engagement

deupreej@uab.edu 205-934-6487

UAB THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM

Knowledge that will change your world

Objectives

At the conclusion of the presentation the audience will be able to:

- Identify disparities associated with low health literacy nationwide
- Compare and contrast the economic impact of low health literacy in regions of the U.S.
- Discuss initiatives focused on health literacy at UAB
- Discuss initiatives on the horizon in Alabama
- Discuss initiatives ongoing in the nation

Health Literacy

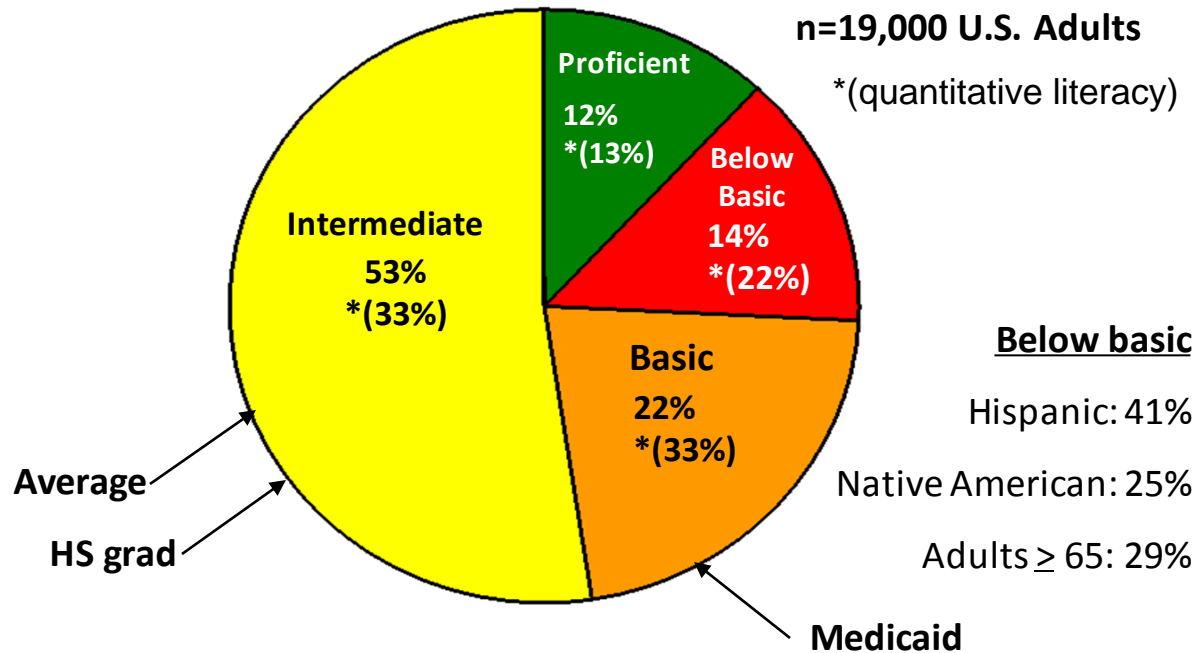
Health literacy goes beyond a narrow concept of health education and individual behavior-oriented communication, and addresses the environmental, political and social factors that determine health.

(WHO, 1998)

*Defined... “the degree to which individuals **have the capacity to obtain, process, and understand** basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions.” (HHS,2000)*

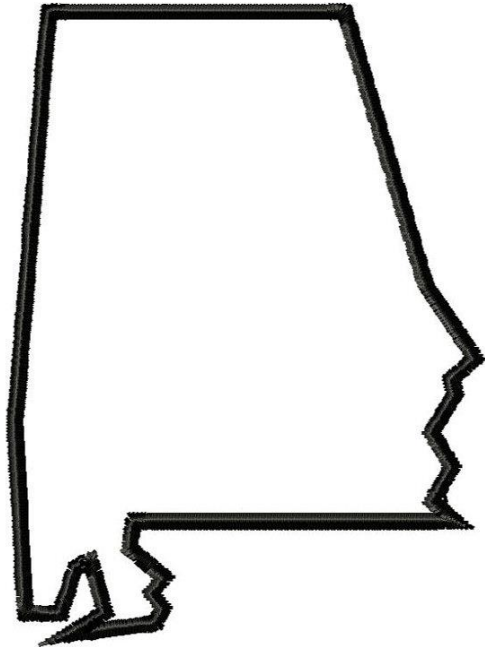
National Assessment of Adult Literacy

Assessed functional skills in clinical, preventive, and navigational tasks



National Adult Literacy Survey (NALs) National Assessment of Adult Literacy (NAAL):
National Center for Educational Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Education, 1992, 2003.

General literacy in Alabama



510,000 of Alabama's Adults (9.5%) lack *basic* literacy skills-**they cannot read**

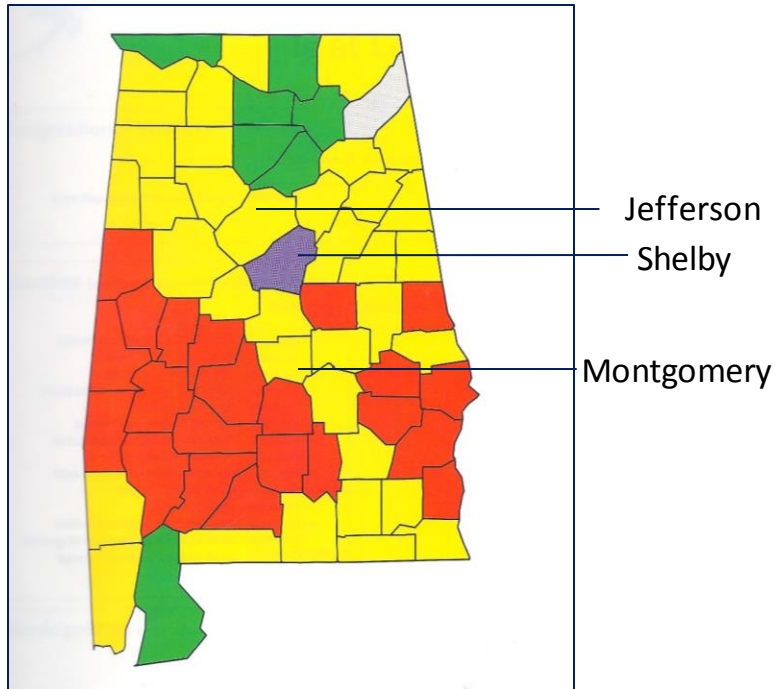
25% lack a high school degree

(American Community Survey; NALS 2003)

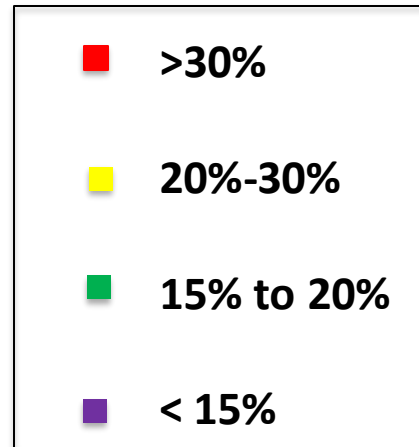
Up to 59% of adults in Alabama suffer from low health literacy

(Source: <http://nces.ed.gov/naal/estimates/StateEstimates.aspx>)

Low literacy rates by county-Alabama



% Adults with Level 1 Literacy Skills –reads
at or below the 5th grade reading level



(NALS, 1992; NAALs 2003)

Disparities/At-risk populations associated with low health literacy

Those disproportionately affected by low HL are:

- Poor
- Members of cultural and ethnic minorities
- Recent refugees and immigrants and Non-native speakers of English
- Southern and western region of the US
- Those with less than a HS degree or GED
- LARGEST GROUP: Those who are over the age of 65; (IOM, 2004; NCES 2003;1993)
- 9 out of 10 American adults have difficulty with health information (Koh, HHS 2007)
- By **2030 close to ¼ of all US Adults** will be 65 years or older (US Census)

The FACE OF HEALTH LITERACY-Actual Patient Encounters #1

Health outcomes- Alabama

- 48/50 for diabetes
- 49/50 cardiovascular deaths
- 49/50 for infant mortality
- 47/50 for avoidable hospital use and costs
- 45/50 for overall health outcomes

(2016 America's Health Rankings, United Health Foundation)

In plain language- health literacy contributes to

- Misunderstanding-routine for patient discharge
- Poor health outcomes
- Mistakes-especially with medication ***management-Approximately 28% of hospitalizations of older adults*** is attributed to polypharmacy and adverse drug events (ADEs) yielding increased health care costs (\$\$\$\$\$)
- Excess hospitalizations and less than 30-day readmissions (\$\$\$\$\$)
- Unnecessary deaths

[The FACE of HEALTH LITERACY-Actual Patient Encounters #2](#)

Demographics: Low health literacy in U.S.

- The south has the greatest percentages of at literacy levels 1 and 2
- 9 states = 37-38% of population
- 18 states = 39-45%
- 14 states = 45-52%
- 7 states = 53-59% (Includes Alabama)
- Mississippi and Louisiana reported the largest number of residents ranked in the lowest literacy levels at 64% and 61%, respectively. (NALS, 1992)

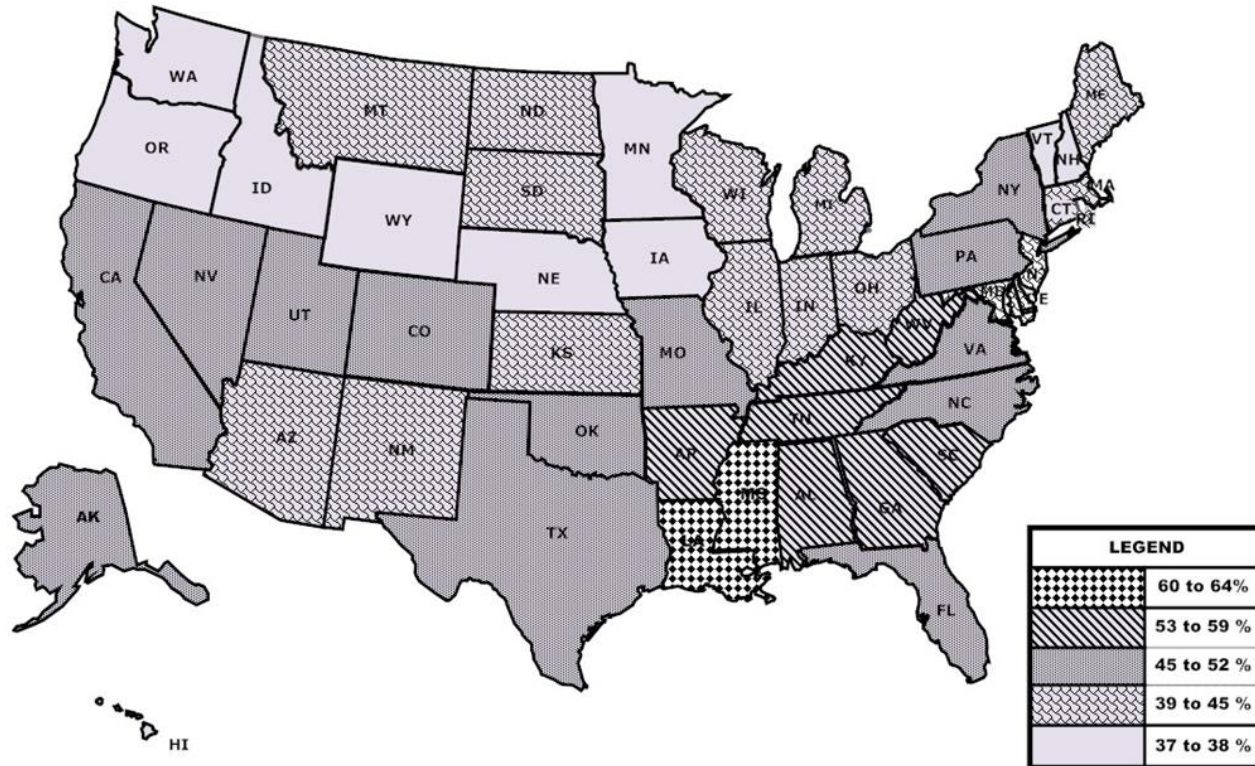


Figure 2. National Adult Literacy Survey Rankings by State 1992: Percentage of Population in each State Scoring at Literacy Levels 1 and 2 (Below Basic and Basic).

Note: From “National Adult Literacy Survey” (1992). Source: U.S. Department of Education. Public Domain Material.

Economic impact in the U. S.

Limited health literacy adds between **\$106 billion** to **\$238 billion** of unnecessary costs per year to an already overburdened health care system nationwide

([Vernon, Trujillo, Rosenbaum, & DeBuono, 2007](#))

ARKANSAS economic impact

\$1.3 to \$3 billion each year
in unnecessary health care costs

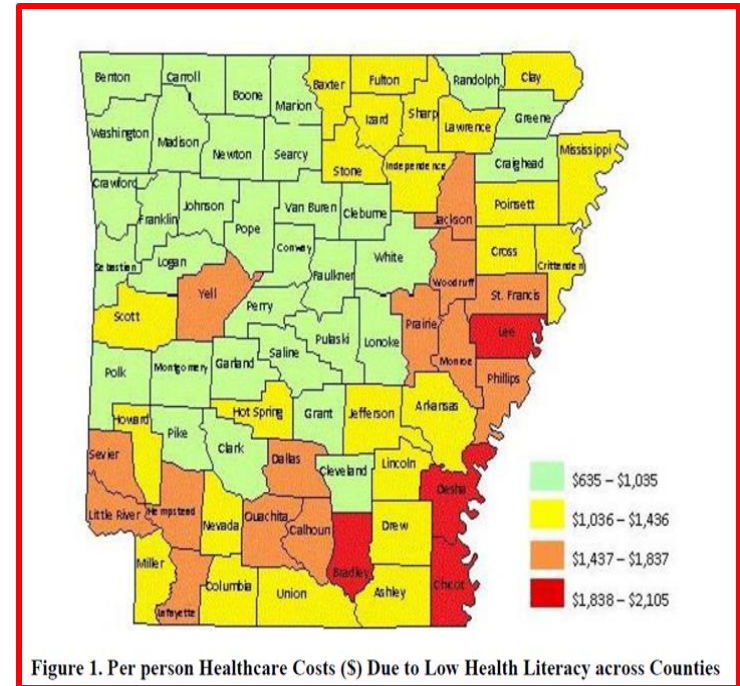


Figure 1. Per person Healthcare Costs (\$) Due to Low Health Literacy across Counties

IOM Roundtable on Health Literacy

Vision of a Health Literate America (2004)

- Everyone should have the opportunity to use reliable, understandable information to make health choices;
- Health content would be basic curriculum for K-12;
- Accountability of all health literacy policies and practices;
- Public health alerts should be presented in plain language;
- Cultural factors integrated in all aspects of patient materials;
- Health care practitioners should communicate with each other using every-day language;
- Provide ample time for discussions between patients and health care providers;
- Patients should feel comfortable to ask questions as part of healing process;
- Rights and responsibilities for health care instructions-plain language;
- Informed consent docs developed so all understand if they want to give or withhold consent based on information they need to fully understand.

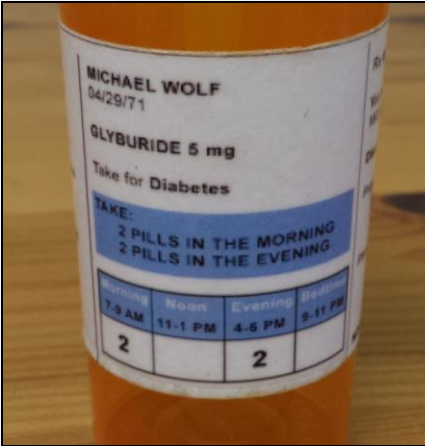
Provider knowledge caring for low HL populations- Providers are not prepared-Research Examples

- U. S. Medical Schools (Coleman & Appy, 2012)
- Nurses and other health professionals (Jukkala, Deupree, Graham, 2009; Mackert et al, 2011)
- Rural Family doctors, family medicine residents, nurses, and other health professionals (Coleman & Fromer, 2015)
- Medical students -Academic Family Medicine residents (Coleman, Garvin, Peterson-Perry, Sachdeva & Kobus, 2017)

Online Health Literacy Course offered by the CDC

- Training in health literacy, plain language, and culture and communication is essential for anyone working in health information and services. Whether you are new to these topics, need a refresher, or want to train your entire staff, the following courses are a good place to start.
- CDC [offers five online health literacy courses](#) for health professionals. Using Numbers and Explaining Risk Online Training is part of health literacy training available to the public.

Patient-Centered Label -Improve Understanding and Adherence*

<p>Michael Wolf 04/29/71</p> <p>Glyburide 5 mg</p> <p>Take for <u>Diabetes</u></p> <p>Take 2 pills at breakfast</p> <p> 2 pills at dinner</p>	<p>Rx#: 1234567 10/30/2008</p> <p>You have 11 refills 180 pills</p> <p>Discard after 10/30/2009</p> <p>Provider: Ruth Parker, MD Emory Medical Center (414) 123-4567</p> <p>Pharmacy: NoVA ScriptsCentral 11445 Sunset Blvd. Reston, VA (713) 123-4567</p> <p>NDC # 1234567</p>	<p>Important</p> <p>Do not drink alcohol.</p> <p>Limit your time in the sun.</p>	
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RCT in 11 FQHCs.
429 pts w DM and/or HTN.
Average 5 meds
Mean age 52, 28% W,
39% low literacy

	Standard Label	PC Label
Understanding	59%	74%
Adherence (3 months)	30%	49%

*State Board of Pharmacy in CA passed legislation for this label

Wisconsin will soon pilot test of new pharma labels

Still Time to Vote for Your Favorite Label!

Over 800 people have already completed the Favorite Label survey and shared their opinions on what makes a good prescription label. We are well on our way to our goal of 1000 responses. Have you taken the survey yet?

If you haven't, please take a moment to take the (very short) survey. You can also choose to share a story about when you or someone else was confused by medication labels. Keep reading for a look at some of the stories we've received so far.

Click [HERE](#) to begin.

Please share the link -- bit.ly/VoteMedLabel -with your friends and family.



Here Are Some of the Stories: What's Yours?

Here are a few stories from the Favorite Label Vote. These cases illustrate the impact of unclear prescription medication labels:

The Re-Engineered Discharge Toolkit



Organizational Change to Improve Health Literacy

WORKSHOP SUMMARY



INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE
OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

The 10 Attributes of a Health Literate Organization

1. Has leadership that makes health literacy integral to its mission, structure, and operations.
2. Integrates health literacy into planning, evaluation measures, patient safety, and quality improvement.
3. Prepares the workforce to be health literate and monitors progress.
4. Includes populations served in the design, implementation, and evaluation of health information and services.
5. Meets the needs of populations with a range of health literacy skills while avoiding stigmatization.
6. Uses health literacy strategies in interpersonal communications; confirms understanding at all points of contact.
7. Provides easy access to health information and services and navigation assistance.
8. Designs and distributes print, audiovisual, and social media content that is easy to understand and act on.
9. Addresses health literacy in high-risk situations, including care transitions and communications about medicines.
10. Communicates clearly what health plans cover and what individuals will have to pay for services.

*The National
Academies of*


SCIENCES
ENGINEERING
MEDICINE

HEALTH AND MEDICINE DIVISION

Building the Case for Health Literacy

A WORKSHOP

NOVEMBER 15, 2017
WASHINGTON, DC

 #HeathLitRt

*The National
Academies of* SCIENCES
ENGINEERING
MEDICINE

Professional Organizations and Development Opportunities

International Health Literacy Association

December 12, 2016

After years of preparation we have now launched the new International Health Literacy Association (IHLA). With many supporting colleagues across the world we held three unifying launching meetings in Europe, Geneva; North-America, Washington; and Asia, Haiphong in October and November 2016.



Launch of the
International Health
Literacy Association
2016

Report



Empowering People
Toward Better Health

ICCH & HARC BALTIMORE 
International Conference on Communication in Healthcare
& Health Literacy Annual Research Conference
October 8-11, 2017

PRESENTED BY



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

{HARC}
HEALTH
LITERACY
ANNUAL
RESEARCH
CONFERENCE



*Alabama Health Literacy Stakeholder Meeting
February 2016*



LEADING CHANGE



Building Healthier Communities

By Executive Order #18 by Alabama's Governor a Partnership was Named in April, 2016

Health Literacy Partnership of Alabama Leadership Team

1. Chair- Joy Deupree, UAB School of Nursing; a Robert Wood Johnson executive nurse fellow.
2. Vice Chair - Nancy E. Dunlap, professor emeritus of medicine, the University of Alabama at Birmingham.
3. John Beard, president and chairman, Alacare Home Health and Hospice Services, Inc.
4. Peggy Benson, executive officer, Alabama Board of Nursing.
5. Cynthia Bisbee, executive director, The Wellness Coalition, Montgomery.
6. Rosemary Blackmon, executive vice president and chief operating officer, Alabama Hospital Association.
7. Jim Carnes, policy director, Alabama Arise.
8. Joann Clough, transitional care coordinator and registered nurse, UAB Hospital.
9. Michael Crouch, dean and professor, McWhorter School of Pharmacy, Samford University.
10. Chanda Crutcher, chief executive officer, American Senior Assistance Programs, Inc.
11. Conan Davis, assistant dean for community collaborations and public health, UAB School of Dentistry.
12. Robin DeMonia, senior vice president, Direct Communications.
13. C. Ann Gakumo, assistant professor, UAB School of Nursing; Robert Wood Johnson nurse faculty scholar.
14. Leah Garner, director of governmental affairs and advocacy, the Business Council of Alabama.
15. Anne Hails, associate state director of community outreach, AARP Alabama.
16. Paul Kennedy, president, Walker Area Community Foundation.
17. Karen Kennedy, associate dean, UAB School of Business.
18. Kathleen Ladner, co-leader, Alabama Health Action Coalition; adjunct associate professor at UAB School of Nursing.
19. Patricia Marincic, associate professor, College of Human Sciences, Auburn University.
20. Tom Miller, medical director, Alabama Department of Public Health.
21. Margaret Morton, president, advisory committee, Alabama Network of Family Resource Centers.
22. Nan Priest, executive vice president and chief strategy officer, St. Vincent's Health System.
23. Anne Schmidt, associate medical director, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama.
24. Wesley Smith, chief executive officer, Alabama Quality Assurance Foundation.
25. Julia Sosa, director, Office of Minority Health, Alabama Department of Public Health.
26. John Stone, manager, community action, Children's of Alabama.
27. David Walters, Director for Adult Education, Alabama Community College System.
28. Cody Thompson, Director of Health Related Programs, Alabama Community College System.
29. Darlene Traffanstedt, member of the State Committee of Public Health; an internal medicine physician in Hoover.
30. April Weaver, Alabama House of Representatives.
31. Deborah Wesley, chief nursing officer, Children's of Alabama.
32. Jackie Wuska, president and chief executive officer, The United Way of West Alabama.

How do we improve patient/family-centered care and communication?

Early steps-

- Implementation of a quick assessment during intake for patients in clinics (anxiety levels are less than in hospital)
- Evaluate all patient education to ensure all are created using Culturally and Linguistically Standards (CLAS) and meet the NIH recommended level to be written at less than a <7th grade reading level; **use SIMPLY PUT to guide development for usability and understandability.**
- Professional Development for all employees that have contact with patients (CDC modules)

Advanced Work

- Pilot a best practices for discharge teaching system (The Re-Engineered Discharge Project shows great promise with complete support from administration- pilot on one unit)
- Determine if your agency/system meets the minimum criteria for the “10 Attributes of a Health Literate Organization” and if not, implement a quality improvement plan to achieve that status.

Notable Accomplishments in Alabama Since May 2016

- 50+ presentations to develop and explore partnership opportunities
- Alabama Hospital Association -Train the Trainer Workshops (2 in summer 2016)
- Alabama Board of Nursing Module Offerings (4 modules) offered online (reached 85K nurses in Alabama).
- Pharmacy initiative for state during National Pharmacy Week (AU student project)
- Medicaid of Alabama-revised 3 letters that will go out to approximately 650,000 potential Medicaid customers
- Children's of Alabama- Developed fever management tool used in the ER- ACT project.
- Health Literacy Internship Mentorship and Facilitation: Leslie Pensa (MPH/MD student) will intern with Dr. Darlene Traffanstedt and Dr. John Waites outcomes found at:<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y1nRsWw80ZM&feature=youtu.be>
- Cahaba Valley Dental Clinic- mentoring MPH students to revise all patient information sheets and patient education materials (Indigent Care Clinic)

Notable Accomplishments since 2016 continued

- Collaborated with the Alabama Department of Rural Development to create the messaging for the Baby Box Project for Alabama
- Elsevier National webinar attended by ~250. Resulted in White Paper found at: [file:///C:/Users/deupreej/Documents/PRESENTATION%20MATERIAL/Communicating-Effectively-with-Diverse-Patient-Populations%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/deupreej/Documents/PRESENTATION%20MATERIAL/Communicating-Effectively-with-Diverse-Patient-Populations%20(1).pdf)

Research Activities –since May 2016

- Advocated for BRFSS Questions to be added (analysis expected mid-2017)
- Alabama Hospital Association –collaborated with AlaHA for Quality Improvement project; analysis of 84 PEMs in 9 hospitals in AL and compared HCAHPS data for communication, and size of facility for analysis. Publication expected to be completed in September, 2017.
- Geriatric Scholars at UAB- Integrated a health literacy assessment into routine care at UAB Heart Clinic and Breast Clinic.
- DNP Project Mentor for Indigent Heart Failure Clinic and TKC for quality improvement
- Alabama Board of Nursing to launch a survey for nurses in AL
- Strategic Plan established by the Alabama Health Literacy Partnership

Health Literacy Partnership of Alabama: Strategic Plan and Recommendations for 2017

Vision: All Alabamians have the understanding they need to make informed health decisions and achieve their best possible health.

Mission: The mission of the Health Literacy Partnership of Alabama is to support patient-centered educational opportunities, guide outreach activities, and create partnerships to advance health literacy and improve health outcomes.

Priority Areas

Community Engagement

Educational Opportunities

Sustainability

Goals

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify critical needs 2. Develop partnerships/engage stakeholders 3. Establish venue to disseminate resources | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish professional development requirements 2. Develop public awareness campaigns 3. Explore opportunities K-12 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop sustainability plan 2. Establish a platform for the organization 3. Explore opportunities for funding |
|--|--|--|

Strategies and Objectives (Action Steps)

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct a statewide needs assessment to prioritize areas in need of improved health literacy efforts.
 1a) Conduct a statewide inventory of existing health literacy assets and activities such as Adult Basic Education (GED), ESL courses, library based and faith based efforts for literacy classes, community resource centers, etc.
 1b) In association with the ADPH identify critical clinical and demographic needs for beginning health literacy efforts such as infant mortality, CVD, and diabetes)
 1c) In association with the ADPH review analysis of the (4) Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System questions specific to HL previously added to ADPH data base for 2016 to determine next steps for action. 2. Develop and expand a network among healthcare organizations and other agencies to share resources for best practices of patient/provider communication. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage health related professional associations and licensure boards in AL to offer health literacy continuing education for new graduates and practicing healthcare providers.
 1a) Seek partnerships to support health literacy education for all health related professionals.
 1b) Advocate for health literacy requirements in continuing education for healthcare providers who have been working in the field but have not participated in health literacy, cultural competency, and language access training. 2. Support efforts for institutions of academic learning to incorporate training for healthcare students to ensure health literacy, plain language, and culturally and linguistically appropriate services (CLAS) are included in curriculum.
 2a) Convene a meeting of deans and leaders from institutions to establish a plan to promote inclusion of coursework on health | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a sustainability plan
 1a) Create a governing board and infrastructure which includes members who are racially and ethnically diverse and/or bilingual.
 1b) Create a detailed business plan and budget to present to potential funding agencies to demonstrate need for financial support.
 1c) Develop metrics to assess organizational results from health literacy priority areas and goals of the strategic plan. 2. Explore possibilities for a non-profit partnership(s)
 2a) Explore existing non-profit organizations that may want to serve as the platform for the HLLA.
 2b) Explore opportunities to create a new non-profit organization.
 2c) Participate in and help recruit cross-disciplinary coalitions to promote, advocate, and increase awareness for health literacy initiatives. 3. Leverage partnerships for the development of annual programs. |
|---|---|---|

- 2a) Develop a comprehensive network for partnership opportunities in order to leverage HPLA work (see List of Partnerships) that supports efforts to improve the health literacy skills of providers and consumers.
- 2b) Support evaluation studies that examine health literacy factors that influence other issues including but not limited to patient safety, emergency preparedness, health care costs and social determinants.
3. **Develop and maintain a repository to serve as an information source for health literacy initiatives, activities, and resources and make them available to healthcare providers and consumers.**
- 3a) Develop a website to make resources readily available to providers and consumers. .
- 3b) Identify linkages to advance the sharing of health literacy resources.
- 3c) Identify existing nationwide health literacy resources for inclusion in the repository for providers and consumers.
4. **Develop partnerships with the business community to raise awareness of the disparities of health literacy in Alabama.**
- 4a) Identify champions in the business community that seek to support health literacy initiatives.
- 4b) Develop a white paper-A Business Case for a Statewide HL Initiative- using examples developed by other states such as Arkansas, Wisconsin.
- 4c) Develop pilot programs to establish ROI of health literacy improvement initiatives.
- literacy and CLAS in curricula of all health professions.
- 2b) Incorporate vignettes with diverse patients, including new readers, in course presentations and trainings for health professionals.
3. **Establish Alabama Partners in Health Sciences Program (outreach to PreK-12)**
- 3a) Use direct and developmentally appropriate health literacy curriculum to enhance understanding of health and health care.
- 3b) Incorporate health education into existing science, math, literacy, social studies, and computer instruction in grades K-12 by embedding health-related tasks, skills, and examples into lesson plans
- 3c) Using existing best practices from other states provide professional development opportunities for K-12 educators with a focus on age-appropriate health literacy education.
4. **Create /leverage public awareness campaigns addressing the challenges patients and families encounter when dealing with complex health care regimens.**
- 4a) Leverage existing health literacy public awareness campaigns to bring awareness to health literacy issues in Alabama.
- 4b) Vet campaigns with non-traditional focus groups (e.g. low literate patients).
- 3a) Establish funding for health literacy initiatives—both alone and integrated into existing programs.
- 3b) Access networks with community and faith-based organizations, social service agencies, and nontraditional partners—such as foster care services, poison control centers, and literacy service providers— to deliver health and safety information to different community programs and events.
- 3c) Support and participate in media sponsored events and projects.
- 3d) Develop a speakers bureau to expand outreach.
- 3e) Send quarterly newsletters and expand base of followers via social media efforts.
4. **Seek grant opportunities.**
- 3a) Develop a template for all partners to use to seek funding for health literacy initiatives.
- 3b) Establish a Health Literacy Consortium for the purpose of targeted grant solicitation to include members from UA, UAB, UAH, AU, Samford, Troy, USA and others with interest.
- 3c) Explore funding available from NIH, PCORI, Private Foundations, NINR, the business community and others to address critical needs as determined by needs assessment.
5. **Host an annual event to maintain awareness and to raise funds for future projects sponsored by the HPLA.**
- 4a) Plan annual event
- 4b) Follow examples of events from organizations when they were getting started (example: Wisconsin, Minnesota, Florida, Arkansas)
- 4c) Include a training component at the annual event.

Organizations

Traffanstedt Internal Medicine

- Primary care practice in Hoover, AL that provides quality healthcare to adults in the Birmingham area
- Preceptor: Darlene Traffanstedt, MD

Cahaba Medical Care

- FQHC & PCMH in Centreville, AL that provides comprehensive medical care to patients of all ages and backgrounds
- Preceptor: John Waits, MD

Public Health Context

Defining The Issue

- The average American reads at the 8th grade reading level
- Proper diabetes management requires basic numeracy & literacy skills
 - Insulin-dependent diabetics must do basic math on a daily basis

The Tangible Impact

- A community health problem was identified & investigated
- Many admitted for the first time that they faced this barrier to health
- People were educated & empowered about their health
- Healthcare workers were given tools to improve community health

The Potential Impact

- Decreased health disparities
- Improved individual & community health
- Community partnerships to improve care
- Significant cost reduction

Description of the Experience

My Role

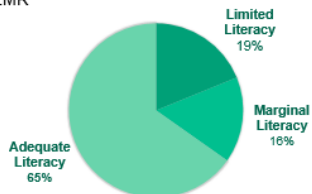
- Assess patient literacy & numeracy
- Teach basic diabetes pathophysiology, disease management skills, carbohydrate counting, & provide nutrition counseling

My Projects

- Develop a system to streamline literacy & numeracy assessments & incorporate them into primary care visits
- Promote understanding of individual deficits through the use of additional assessment tools
- Create universally user friendly blood glucose log
- Integrate patient literacy/numeracy information into the EMR

On-Site Discoveries

- At CMC, about 35% of the diabetic patients I worked with fell into either the limited or marginally literate categories
- Marginal literacy: averaged 10th grade education
- Limited literacy: averaged between 8th - 9th grade education
- Many of these patients were noted as "non-compliant" in the EMR



Personal Takeaways

- The universal precaution approach is not feasible
- You cannot predict a person's literacy/numeracy level based on short conversation or occupational status
- Literacy level & grade level are not synonymous
- Most patients are much less confident in their numeracy skills
- Educated patients can still struggle with understanding health

Lessons Learned

Lesson 1: You have to gain the trust of the community in which you serve

- I had to get to know the patient population, before I could truly begin my assessment & intervention – without finding a connection to the patient & community, my efforts were futile

Lesson 2: You have to be willing to adapt

- It took several attempts to discover the best way to assess patient literacy/numeracy & how to best use that information to help the patients understand their diabetes & how to manage it

Competencies Demonstrated

Apply design & analytical methods to describe, implement, evaluate & interpret research addressing public health concerns

- I identified health risk through meetings with community leaders and stakeholders & through extensive literature review

Design public health programs, policies & interventions, including planning, implementation, & evaluation

- I carefully selected several literacy & numeracy assessments based on evidence based practice:
 - Brief Health Literacy Screen (BHLS)
 - Subjective Numeracy Scale (SNS)
 - Prescription Label Quiz
 - Calendar Interpretation Activity

Communicate public health issues, research, practice, & intervention strategies effectively

- At the halfway point, I met with my mentors to discuss my findings
 - Educational attainment does not equate with health maintenance ability
 - Universal precautions do not work for literacy
 - Numeracy is overlooked as a necessary tool to health achievement

Assessments for Low Health Literacy at the Individual Level

- Recommend- the Brief Health Literacy Screening Tool (BRIEF) (UAB is pilot testing this in two clinics); 4 items; 2 minutes or less
- For a complete list of “tools” of the trade, visit the [Health Literacy Tool Shed](#)

The *Know Your Meds-Alabama Campaign* –(2016) CMS funding

Alabama Quality Assurance Foundation

Prevention of medication-related harm from antipsychotics and antibiotics

25,000 high-risk Alabama Medicare beneficiaries

By September 30, 2018, the care of 25,000 Alabama High Risk Medication (HRM) Medicare Beneficiaries will improve as evidenced by:

40% Reduction in adverse drug events (ADEs)

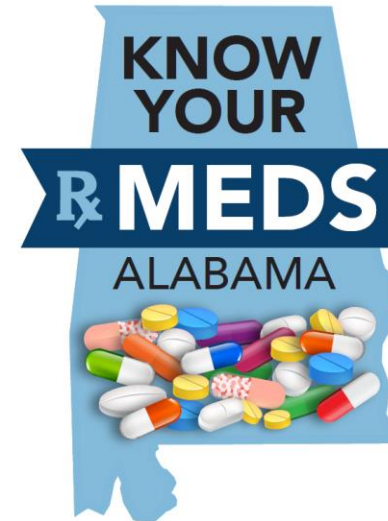
Reduced 30-day hospital readmissions and avoidable readmissions

Reduce antipsychotic medications among nursing home residents

Recruit 100 outpatient settings to fully embrace and implement

core elements of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention

(CDC) Antibiotic Stewardship (AS) Program



Study of hospitals in the south

June 2017-June 2018-early analysis

Health Literacy: Associations between patient education materials used for discharge, HCAHPS data, hospital size and CMS 30-day readmission penalties.

Joy P. Deupree, PhD, RN at the UAB School of Nursing, Birmingham, Alabama; Dixie Peterson, DNP, RN at UAB School of Nursing, Birmingham, Alabama; Peng Li, PhD at the UAB School of Public Health; Rebecca S. Miltner, PhD, RN at the UAB School of Nursing, Birmingham, Alabama.

METHODS

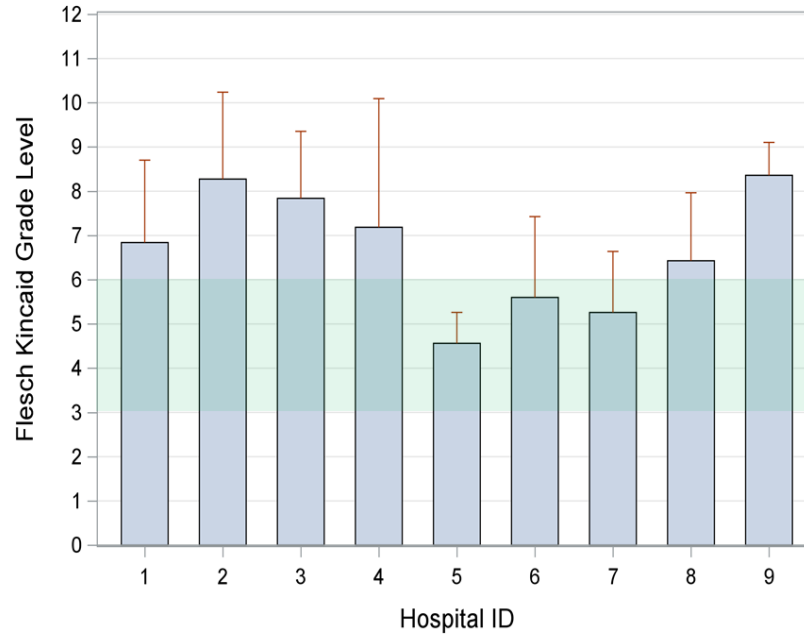
- Convenience sample; cross-section pilot study -collaboration with rural and non-rural hospitals (N = 9) located in the southern region of the U.S.
- Pearson correlation coefficients (r) -relationship between variables
- Wilcoxon test was used for the group comparisons
- Patient education materials (PEMs) used for DC teaching (n = 84)
- Public data –
 - HCAHPS questions (n=5) patient satisfaction scores for communication with physicians, nurses and staff
 - Size of hospital
 - 2016 CMS penalties for less than 30 day hospital readmission.

Self-reported hospital size, reflecting the number of inpatient beds, was stratified into three groups:

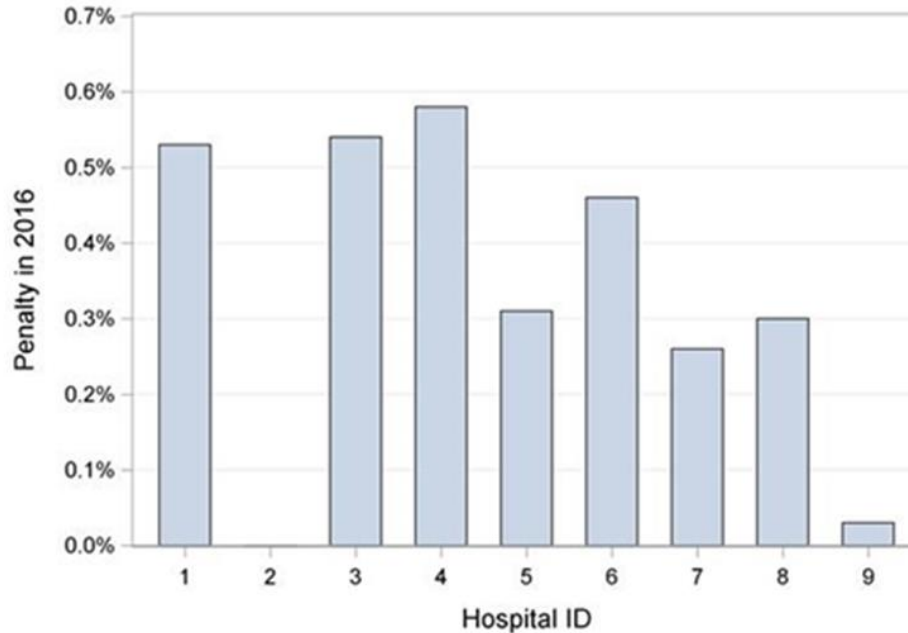
- 3 small (< 100)
- 4 medium (100-199)
- 2 large (> 200)

PEMS- should be $\leq 6^{\text{th}}$ grade reading level (NIH & AMA)

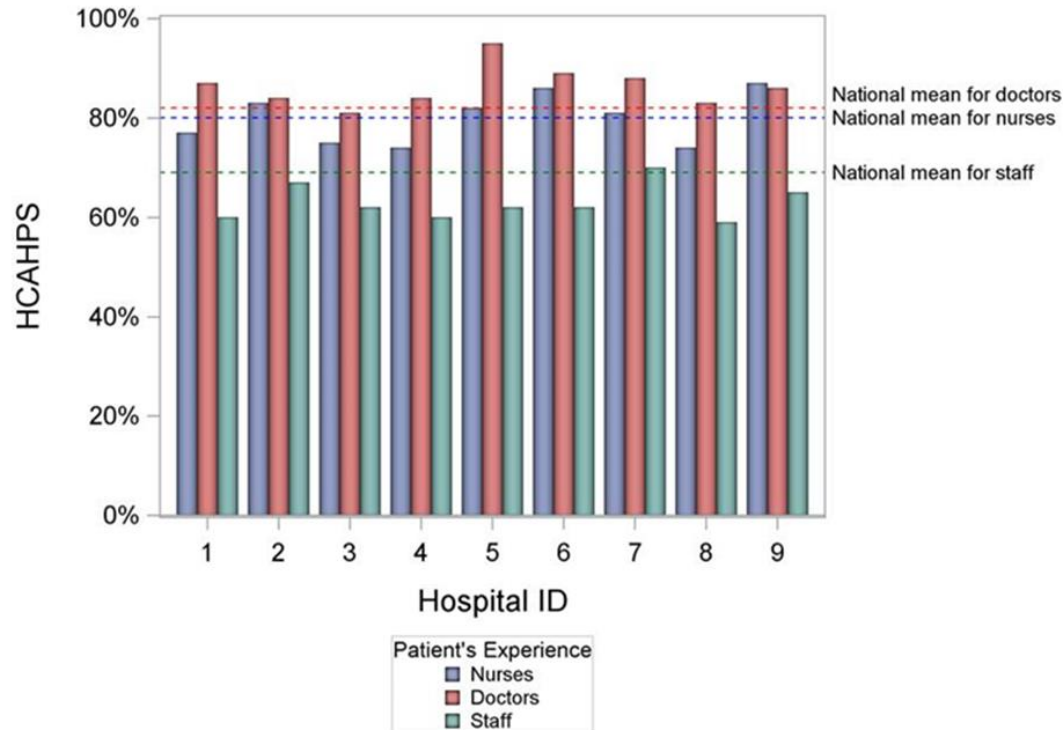
(5) hospitals average –meet a sixth-grade reading level



Regarding readmissions penalties, penalties are negatively correlated with HCAHPS for nurse ($r=-0.62$, $p=0.0750$) and staff ($r=-0.63$, $p=0.0669$) but not for doctors ($r=-0.08$, $p=0.8444$)



The patient satisfaction rates for communications are roughly equal or better than the national average for doctors but fall short for nurses and **staff comparisons**.

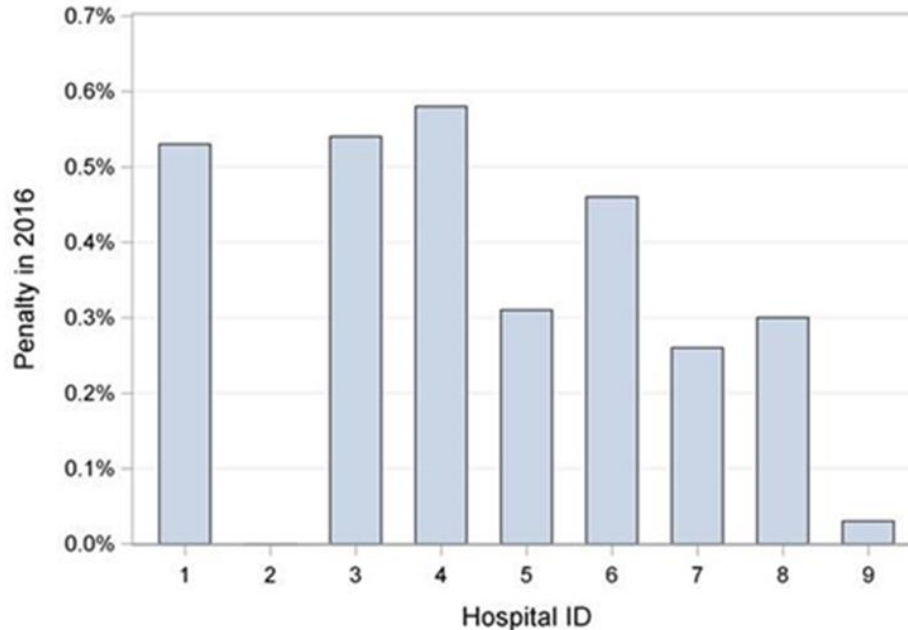


- Hospital size was negatively correlated with patient satisfaction rates on communication with physicians ($r = -0.77$, $p < 0.0001$), nurses ($r = -0.68$, $p < 0.0001$), and staff ($r = -0.35$, $p = 0.0010$). The smaller the hospital, the higher the satisfaction rates with communication
- The patient satisfaction rates on communications with physicians were $90.0 \pm 4.6\%$, $85.0 \pm 3.2\%$, and $83.5 \pm 0.7\%$ for small, medium, and large hospitals, respectively

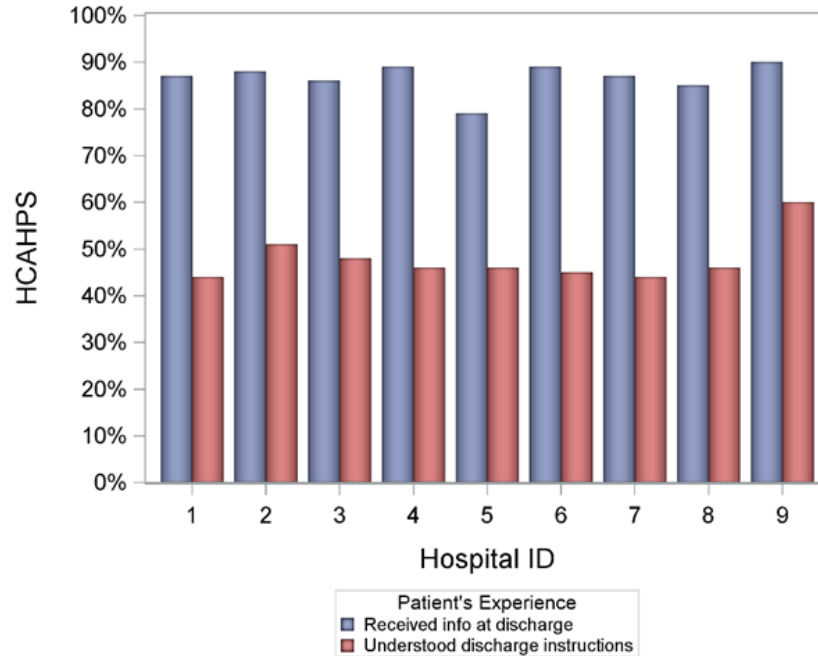
Readmission penalties

negatively correlated with HCAHPS for nurses ($r=-0.62$, $p=0.0750$) and staff ($r=-0.63$, $p=0.0669$) but not for doctors ($r=-0.08$, $p=0.8444$)

As patient satisfaction scores increase for nurses and staff; penalties decrease



Approximately 10-15% of patients report that did not receive information at discharge.
For those who report receiving it, on average less than 50% understood the discharge information.



Health Literacy Research at UAB for Numeracy

Anne Gakumo, PhD, RN

Patient Preference and Adherence

Dovepress

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ORIGINAL RESEARCH

“Keep it simple”: older African Americans’ preferences for a health literacy intervention in HIV management

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Carrie Ann Gakumo¹
Comfort C Enah¹
David E Vance^{1,2}
Efe Sahinoglu³
Jim L Raper^{1,3,4}

¹School of Nursing, ²Center for Nursing Research, ³School of Medicine, ⁴1917 HIV/AIDS Outpatient Clinic, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL, USA

Purpose: Health literacy is lower in minorities and older adults, and has been associated with nonadherence to medications, treatment, and care in people living with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Likewise, African Americans with HIV are more likely to be nonadherent to their HIV medications, less likely to keep their clinic appointments related to HIV treatment and care, and more likely to die during hospitalizations than their ethnic counterparts. The present study explored the preferences of older African Americans with HIV for a health literacy intervention to promote HIV management.

Patients and methods: In this qualitative study, 20 older adult African Americans living with HIV were recruited from an HIV/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome outpatient clinic. Data were collected through semi-structured interviews. Data analysis was performed using grounded participatory design methods, semi-structured interviews, and focus groups to determine patient preferences for intervention

A Qualitative Study on Health Numeracy and Patient–Provider Communication of Laboratory Numbers in Older African Americans with HIV



C. Ann Gakumo, PhD, RN^{*}
Jim L. Raper, PhD, CRNP, JD, FAANP, FAAN, FIDSA
Diana K. Cerice, BSN, RN
Michael J. Stand-Gravois, BSN, RN
Michael J. Mugavero, MD, MHS

How to re-create easy-to-understand materials- Student Assignment in NUR 383 at UAB School of Nursing using CDC Tool "Simply Put"

- Simply Put

Simply Put

A guide for creating easy-to-understand materials



Original Doc

ASTHMA DISCHARGE ACTION PLAN

Discharge Diagnosis: _____ Phone # for Doctor or Clinic: _____
 Doctor: _____ Location: _____
 Follow-Up Appointment (Date and Time or Time Frame): _____

I. Green Zone Use preventive medicine sick or well, every day.

Breathing is good	Medicine	Strength	Dose	How much to take	When to take it
• No cough or wheeze					
• Can work and play					

* Rinse mouth after inhaled medications
20 minutes before sports, use this medicine:

II. Yellow Zone Take quick-relief medicine to keep an asthma attack from getting bad.

Cough	Medicine (SINGLE one)	How much to take	When to take it
• Wheeze	Albuterol MDI	4 puffs with spacer	every 4 hours as needed
• Tight Chest	Xopenex MDI	4 puffs with spacer	every 4 hours as needed
• Wake up at night			

* If not improved within 1-2 days, notify M.D. If worsens notify M.D. Immediately

III. Red - Stop - Danger Get help from a doctor now! Take these medicines until you talk with your doctor.

Medicine (SINGLE one)	How much to take	When to take it
Albuterol	MDI 4 puffs with spacer or unit dose nebulized	Immediately
Xopenex	MDI 4 puffs with spacer or unit dose nebulized	Immediately

If child is unimproved 20 min. after 1st treatment, repeat. If child responds to red zone after 2nd treatment, or worsens during treatments, give 3rd treatment and seek medical attention as soon as possible. If child improves, return to yellow zone treatment plan and notify M.D. of child having been in red zone.

COMMON ASTHMA TRIGGERS

Trigger	Control Measure
• Hot air/pollution:	Stay indoors on these days as much as possible. www.airnow.gov/index
• Cigarette smoke:	Avoid exposure both inside, outside, and in car. Call 1-800-784-8663 to quit smoking now.
• Mold/Mildew:	Clean bathrooms with 1-10 bleach and when child is away, reduce humidity in home, avoid yard work in areas with decaying leaves and grass, keep closets well vented; avoid living in basement areas, avoid basements and attics.
• Strong Smells:	Clean floors while child is away, avoid use of perfumes
• Roaches:	Regular air leaks in home; keep food containers, keep kitchen clean; use roach baits throughout home according to package directions. Keep poisons out of reach of children.
• House Dust:	Avoid contact with ill persons, frequent hand washing, annual flu vaccine. Always good maintenance and pillow covers, avoid stuffed animals, avoid ceiling fan use, use air and keep humidity low in home, dust and vacuum two (2) times weekly - remove carpets if possible.
• Animals with fur:	Stay indoors when pollen counts are high; Remove all clothing, shower and wash hair after pollen exposure; keep windows closed and use air.
• Pollen:	Cover nose and mouth with scarf when cold outside, breathe through nose.
• Cold Air:	

Form # 835- Revised 1/2014

Re-Created

Asthma Action Plan



Know your common asthma triggers:

- Strong smells and perfumes
- Hot/Cold air and pollution
- Mold and mildew
- Animals with fur
- Cigarette smoke
- Roaches
- Pollen
- Dust



Green Zone

- Can breathe easy
- No coughing or wheezing
- Can work and play

What to do in each zone:

- Use daily inhaler
- Rinse mouth after using inhalers
- Use fast-acting inhaler 20 minutes before any sports or exercise

Yellow Zone

- Coughing
- Wheezing
- Tightness in chest
- Unable to sleep

- Use fast-acting inhaler to keep breathing good
- Call your doctor if breathing is not better in 1-2 days
- Call 911 if breathing gets worse after fast-acting inhaler use

Red Zone

- Inhaler not helping
- Breathing hard and fast
- Nose opens wide
- Ribs show

- Call 911 now!
- Use fast-acting inhaler and get help
- If breathing gets better, go to the yellow zone and call the doctor



Flesch Reading Ease of 62.7, and a Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level of 5.2.

Walker County Bold Goals Coalition



IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES THROUGH COORDINATED CARE

As basic as it may seem, lack of communication and protocol among doctors, nurses, hospitals, pharmacies and rehab facilities is often where patient healthcare breaks down. While each individual or entity has the best of intentions, care is usually provided without the benefit of knowing a patient's history or what other treatment he or she may be currently receiving. But that's changing in Walker County.



On August 11th, the Leadership Team of the Walker County Health Action Partnership (anchored in part by the [Bold Goals Coalition](#) and [United Way of Central Alabama](#)) voted to approve the new Coordinated Care Priority Group. Chaired by Joette Kelley Brown and Co-Chaired by Alicia Stewart, both of Ridgeview and Ridgewood Health Services, the group's overarching goal is to improve the health of Walker County residents by increasing the coordination of providers along the continuum of care.

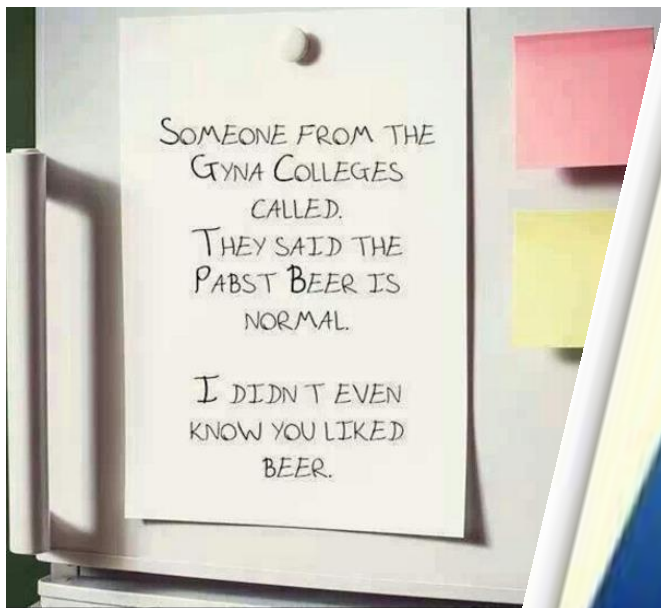
As the name implies, care coordination is a process through which teams of healthcare professionals work together to ensure that their patients' health needs are being met and that the right care is being delivered in the right place at the right time by the right person. This newly approved priority group has been meeting for several months to identify the causes of poor patient outcomes, build capacity and determine ways to work together to improve outcomes and reduce hospital readmissions. Priority Group members have been working with the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the Alabama Quality Assurance Foundation to perform a root-cause analysis and develop actionable steps to get organized and address pressing issues.

The Coordinated Care Priority Group will be primarily focused on:

- advancing health literacy and medication safety
- improving the transition of care
- enhancing end-of-life care.

There are at least 19 organizations currently involved in the priority group, including health systems, home healthcare providers, hospice, skilled nursing facilities, outpatient rehabilitation providers and local pharmacies. As the local hospital, Brookwood Baptist-Walker will play a key role in the effectiveness of this new priority group. Using local data will be key to tracking and monitoring the impact of the group's efforts on patient health outcomes.

If you would like more information on how to join the Coordinated Care Priority Group, please contact Elyse Peters, Health Action Partnership Specialist, at





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