Revised Standards for Quality Improvement Reporting Excellence (SQUIRE 2.0)

Title and Abstract

Title: Indicate that the manuscript concerns an initiative to improve healthcare (broadly defined to include the quality, safety, effectiveness, patient-centeredness, timeliness, cost, efficiency, and equity of healthcare)

Abstract:

- a. Provide adequate information to aid in searching and indexing
- b. Summarize all key information from various sections of the text using the abstract format of the intended publication or a structured summary such as: background, local problem, methods, interventions, results, conclusions

Introduction

Problem: Nature and significance of the local problem

Available Knowledge: Summary of what is currently known about the problem, including relevant previous studies

Rationale: Informal or formal frameworks, models, concepts, and/or theories used to explain the problem, any reasons or assumptions that were used to develop the intervention(s), and reasons why the intervention(s) was expected to work

Specific Aims: Purpose of the project and this report

Methods

Context: Contextual elements considered important at the outset of introducing the intervention(s)

Intervention(s):

- a. Description of the intervention(s) in sufficient detail that others could reproduce it
- b. Specifics of the team involved in the work

Study of the Intervention(s):

a. Approach chosen for assessing the impact of the intervention(s)

Modified from the SQUIRE 2.0 Guidelines, Ogrinc G, Davies L, Goodman D, Batalden PB, Davidoff F, Stevens D. SQUIRE 2.0 (*Standards for QUality Improvement Reporting Excellence*): Revised publication guidelines from a detailed consensus process. *BMJ Quality and Safety*. Online first, September 15, 2015.

b. Approach used to establish whether the observed outcomes were due to the intervention(s)

Measures:

- a. Measures chosen for studying processes and outcomes of the intervention(s), including rationale for choosing them, their operational definitions, and their validity and reliability
- b. Description of the approach to the ongoing assessment of contextual elements that contributed to the success, failure, efficiency, and cost
- c. Methods employed for assessing completeness and accuracy of data

Analysis:

- a. Qualitative and quantitative methods used to draw inferences from the data
- b. Methods for understanding variation within the data, including the effects of time as a variable

Ethical Considerations: Ethical aspects of implementing and studying the intervention(s) and how they were addressed, including, but not limited to, formal ethics review and potential conflict(s) of interest

Results

Result:

- a. Initial steps of the intervention(s) and their evolution over time (e.g., time-line diagram, flow chart, or table), including modifications made to the intervention during the project
- b. Details of the process measures and outcome
- c. Contextual elements that interacted with the intervention(s)
- d. Observed associations between outcomes, interventions, and relevant contextual elements
- e. Unintended consequences such as unexpected benefits, problems, failures, or costs associated with the intervention(s).
- f. Details about missing data

Discussion

Summary:

- a. Key findings, including relevance to the rationale and specific aims
- b. Particular strengths of the project

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Interpretation:

- a. Nature of the association between the intervention(s) and the outcomes
- b. Comparison of results with findings from other publications
- c. Impact of the project on people and systems
- d. Reasons for any differences between observed and anticipated outcomes, including the influence of context
- e. Costs and strategic trade-offs, including opportunity costs

Limitations:

- a. Limits to the generalizability of the work
- b. Factors that might have limited internal validity such as confounding, bias, or imprecision in the design, methods, measurement, or analysis
- c. Efforts made to minimize and adjust for limitations

Conclusions:

- a. Usefulness of the work
- b. Sustainability
- c. Potential for spread to other contexts
- d. Implications for practice and for further study in the field
- e. Suggested next steps

Other

Funding: Sources of funding that supported this work. Role, if any, of the funding organization in the design, implementation, interpretation, and reporting