

Top Research Priorities for Hospital Care

The i-HOPE Study: Improving Hospital Outcomes through Patient Engagement

Our goal is to improve the care of hospitalized patients.

A group of hospitalist researchers and patients partnered with the Society of Hospital Medicine and a variety of patient, caregiver and stakeholder organizations to develop a list of research questions to improve the care of hospitalized patients.

What did we do?

1. Asked a broad range of patients and stakeholders to tell us the most important unanswered questions regarding hospital care.
2. Categorized questions, determining which were most frequently asked.
3. Prioritized questions to see which were most important to patients and stakeholders.
4. Reframed questions into research format.

Prioritized Research Questions

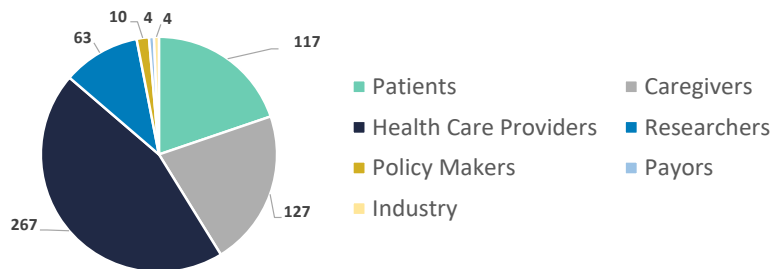
Patient refers to patients, families, caregivers, surrogates

For more information: <https://www.hospitalmedicine.org/clinical-topics/i-HOPE-study>

1. What interventions ensure that patients share in decision making regarding their goals and plans of care?
2. What are the most effective discharge handoff practices between hospitals and other providers?
3. How can the care team best coordinate education on medications, medical conditions, hospital care and discharge for hospitalized patients to minimize confusion?
4. For inpatients, what comprises a collaborative discharge process that fosters understanding, empowerment, and effective management of their health at home?
5. What are effective strategies to identifying and overcoming barriers to comprehension of information delivered to patients during hospitalization and at discharge?
6. Can telemedicine technology be used to reduce readmissions or improve transitions of care in hospitalized patients?
7. Who should the patient call after discharge, if they have questions, concerns, or need to be connected to appropriate resources?
8. What are the most effective ways for patients and providers to partner in understanding information about diagnosis, steps taken to explore it, treatments undertaken, and what needs to happen after discharge?
9. What are patient's expectations related to the treatment of pain?
10. What are the best interventions to achieve medication optimization throughout a patient's care trajectory?
11. Would providing more clear and accessible information regarding hospital practices (e.g. parking, cafeteria, protocols for entering rooms, etc.) result in improved patient experiences compared to current practices?

Who submitted questions?

Our stakeholders and Patient Family Advisory Councils (PFAC) reached 499 respondents, who submitted 782 questions.



What is next?

- We hope these questions can be used by researchers and funders for research studies to improve the care of hospitalized patients.
- We also hope that patients, families and caregivers can use these questions to advocate for better care practices, and partner with health care providers to improve hospital care.
- **Share and discuss with your network and help us make this resource available to everyone!**



For more information on this project and how to get involved, please visit our website at: <https://www.hospitalmedicine.org/clinical-topics/i-HOPE-study>

Our i-HOPE partners:

- Agency for Health Research and Quality Evidence Based Practice Centers Scientific Resource Center
- Alzheimer's Association
- American Academy of Hospice & Palliative Medicine
- American Academy of Neurology
- American Academy of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
- American Association of Neurological Surgeons
- American Association of Nurse Practitioners
- American College of Clinical Pharmacy
- American Geriatrics Society
- American Nurses Credentialing Center
- American Society of Plastic Surgeons
- Community First Health Plans
- Congress of Neurological Surgeons
- Health Hats
- Health Research & Educational Trust - American Hospital Association
- Institute for Healthcare Communication
- Institute for Healthcare Excellence
- Institute for Patient and Family Centered Care
- Living Beyond Breast Cancer
- Louise H. Batz Patient Safety Foundation
- Minnesota Hospital Association
- National Alliance for Caregiving
- Partnership to Improve Patient Care
- Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute Ambassador Program
- Planetree International
- Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine
- Society of General Internal Medicine
- Society for Medical Decision Making
- US Department of Veterans Affairs, Hospitalist Field Advisory Committee
- US Department of Veterans Affairs, Health Services Research & Development

This project was funded through a Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Eugene Washington Engagement Award (#3939).