



# Improving Care Transitions and Reducing Readmissions in the COPD/COVID-19 Population

Learning Collaborative

Session 3:

Using Data as Improvement Strategy

August 16, 2023

# Welcome!



Please introduce yourself in the chat box with your name, your role in your organization, and the name of your organization

# Meet the Team



Rebecca Hancock, PhD, RN, CNS



Lynn Seaver-Forsey, PhD, RN, CPPS, CPHQ



Jessica Goldstein, MD, FACEP



Kim Werkmeister, MS, RN, CPHQ, CPPS



Bruce Spurlock, MD



Madeline Wilson, MSN, RN, CLSSBB

# Collaborative Webinar Series

Webinar Date	<i>Planned Topic</i>
6/21/2023	Overview/Goals – <a href="#">Recording</a> & <a href="#">Slides</a>
7/19/2023	Self-assessment & Addressing Gaps in Transitions – <a href="#">Recording</a> & <a href="#">Slides</a>
8/16/2023	Using Data as Improvement Strategy
9/20/2023	Strengthening Partnerships Across the continuum
10/18/2023	Specific practices to improve care transitions
11/15/2023	Refinement of specific practices to improve care transitions
12/6/2023	Sustainability Plan

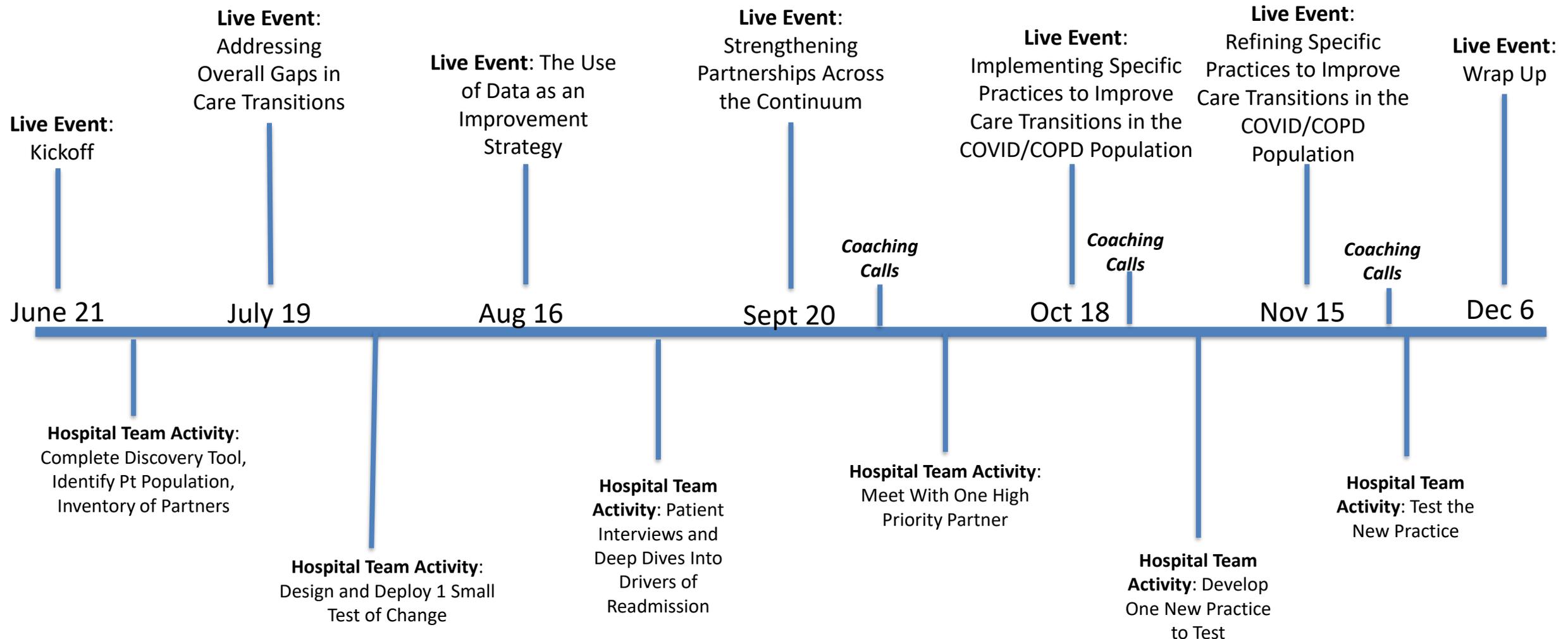
Once you register for the series you can attend any of the monthly webinars.

Register in advance for the meetings:

<https://ihaconnect-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMscu6trzMogNCzBtr4yG47jZb5xOKKVGXt>

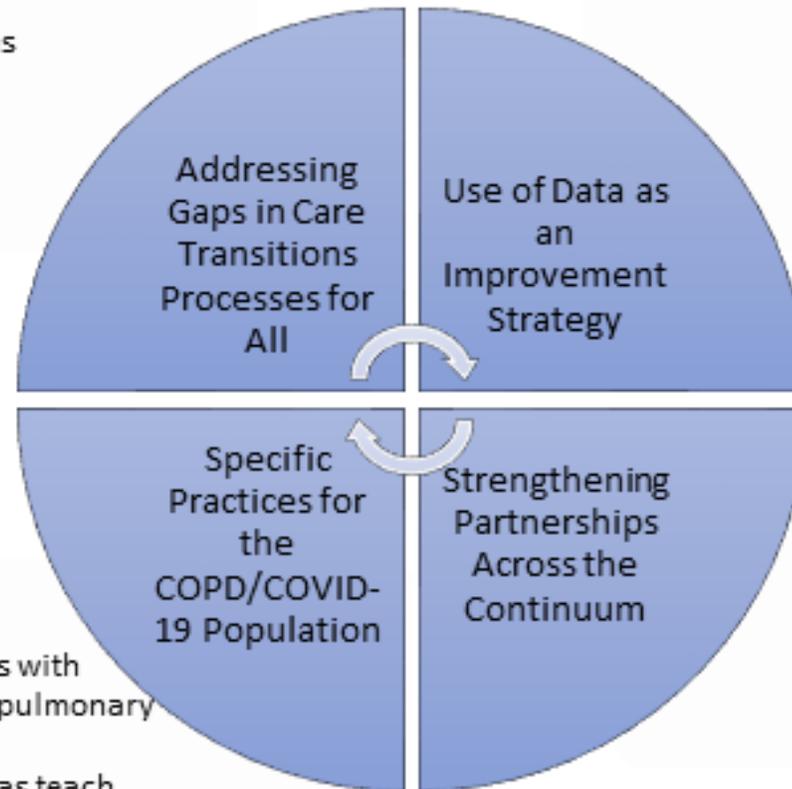
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meetings.

# Roadmap for the Collaborative



# A Review of the Collaborative Focus Areas

- Reliability testing for routine care transitions practices
- Addressing staffing challenges for staff engaged in care transitions
- Identifying gaps in different discharge dispositions



- Deep dive at the individual hospital level
- Identification of high utilizers and their specific drivers
- Optimizing other data sources like d/c phone calls, SNF f/u, readmission interviews, HCAHPS results

- Co-designing practices with physicians to support pulmonary rehab
- Simulation strategies as teach back for COPD patients
- Pharmacy interventions

- Co-designing practices with patient family partners
- Co-designing practices with post acute care providers
- Co-designing practices with shelters, housing insecurity, other social needs organizations

# Addressing Gaps in Care Transitions Processes for All

- Reliability testing for routine care transitions practices
- Addressing staffing challenges for staff engaged in care transitions
- Identifying gaps in different discharge dispositions



# Homework After Our Last Meeting

- Review your readmissions data if you have not yet had an opportunity to do so
- Complete a Discovery Tool for 5 to 10 patient records if you have not yet had an opportunity to do so
- Interview 1 or 2 currently or recently readmitted patients with a diagnosis of COPD / COVID / Respiratory Disease to learn more about the specific challenges that bring them back to the hospital
- Get your improvement team together to talk about the contributing factors to readmissions and create a list of 3-5 ideas about “enhanced care transitions needs” for the team to test



### COVID-19 / COPD Readmissions Discovery Tool

**FOCUS:** review 5 - 10 medical records of currently, or recently discharged, readmitted patients who presented in the index (first admission) visit with a diagnosis that includes COVID-19 (active or past) and COPD. You will need to review the index medical record, along with the readmission medical record. The primary diagnosis for the medical records being reviewed does not need to be COVID-19 or COPD, but rather one of the patient's list of diagnoses.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** 1. If documentation is found for the process, mark "YES" in the box 2. If documentation is not found for the process, mark "NO" 3. If process is not applicable to the medical record, mark "N/A"

**Note:** Do not spend more than 20-30 minutes per medical record

**GOAL:** After completing the review of all records, rate the records with the highest number of "NO" responses. This will identify priority focus areas for improvement.

Medical Record #									
Medical Record Review									
Documentation that a medication list was provided to patient or caregiver at discharge during the index admission.									
Information about the patient's condition was documented and provided to the next level of care receiver during the index admission. <small>(Check provided to Patient, Caregiver, New Health, Primary Care Provider, SNF, etc.)</small>									
For patients with a comorbid behavioral health condition, a follow up appointment with a behavioral health provider is documented in the index admission.									
For patients that require assistance from social services, a direct linkage documented instead of asking patient to self-navigate during the index admission.									
The primary learner/caregiver is identified and documented in the medical record during the index.									



## READMISSIONS INTERVIEW GUIDELINES

**OBJECTIVE OF THE INTERVIEW**

To facilitate the development of effective strategies that minimize hospital readmissions for patients. By gathering qualitative insights on the factors that contributed to a readmission, these interviews provide valuable insights to validate or challenge assumptions derived from aggregated readmissions data. This comprehensive understanding of the underlying causes enables hospitals to create targeted approaches for preventing future hospital visits.



**GOLD STANDARD**  
Patients and Families are engaged in ALL quality improvement projects!

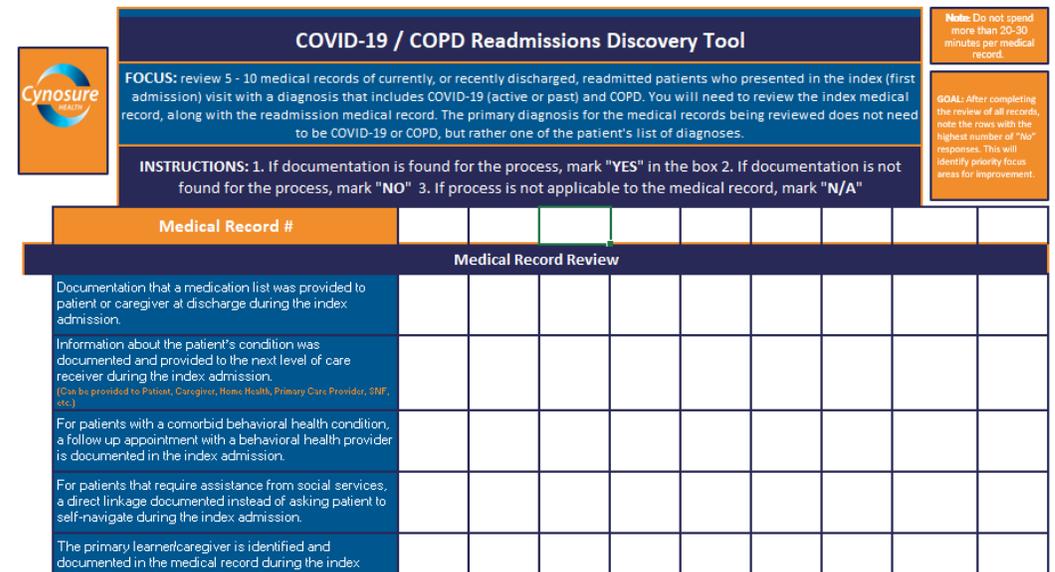
**TIPS FOR IDENTIFYING PEOPLE TO INTERVIEW**

-  Anyone with lived experience being readmitted to your hospital will have critical insights for your quality improvement efforts!

# Stories from the Field: Discovery Tools

Have received completed Discovery Tools from:

- Marion General
- Greene County
- Harrison
- Memorial Jasper
- Schneck
- St. Elizabeth Dearborn



**COVID-19 / COPD Readmissions Discovery Tool**

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***What did you learn from the Discovery Tool process? What do you still need to learn in order to design a small test of change?***

# What are the Discovery Tools telling us?



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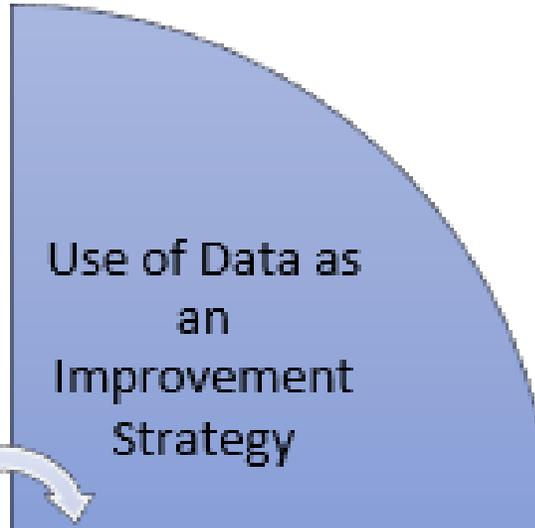
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## Top Findings:

- Transportation challenges
- Referral to Pulmonary Rehab

# Use of Data as an Improvement Strategy

- Deep dive at the individual hospital level
- Identification of high utilizers and their specific drivers
- Optimizing other data sources like d/c phone calls, SNF f/u, readmission interviews, HCAHPS results



Use of Data as  
an  
Improvement  
Strategy

**What are you learning from the data? What priorities are emerging?**



# Stories from the Field: Data Insights

## **Harrison County Corydon, IN**

April Shewmaker  
Care Coordination Mgr

Use of Covid-19 codes and  
COPD primary/secondary  
diagnosis codes

Z-codes



# Data Diagnostic Codes

## COVID-19 Codes

COVID-Category	Code	Description
History of COVID-19	J12.82	Pneumonia due to coronavirus disease 2019
History of COVID-19	U07.1	COVID-19
History of COVID-19	U09.9	Post COVID-19 condition, unspecified
History of COVID-19	Z86.16	Personal history of COVID-19

← Datalink I-HOPE

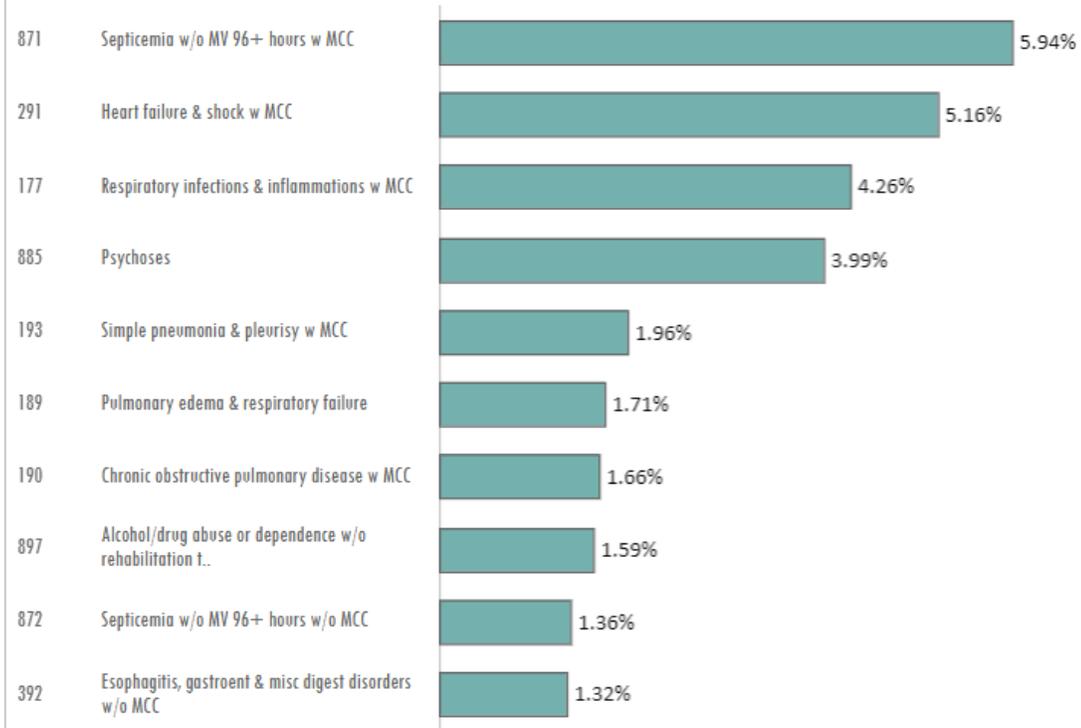
## COPD Codes

← Datalink I-HOPE

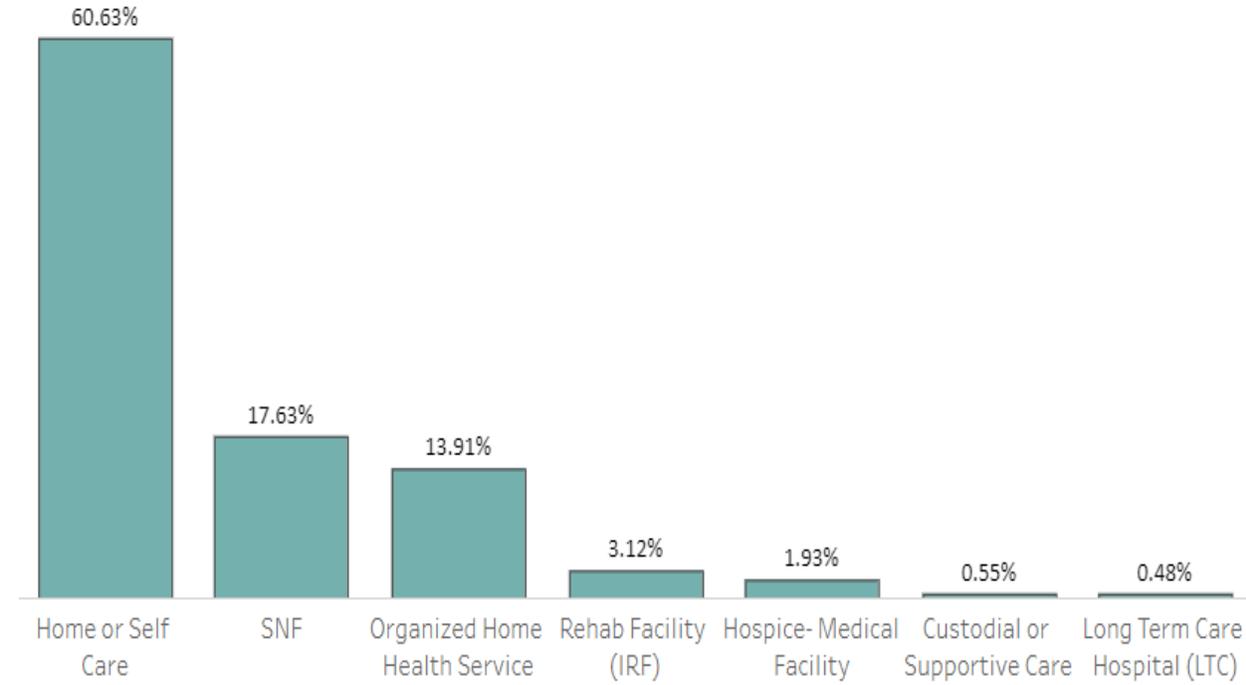
ICD-10-CM Code (index claim, principal diagnosis code) ▾	Description ▾	Principal Diagnosis Code - No Additional Coding Requirements ▾
J41.0	Simple chronic bronchitis	Y
J41.1	Mucopurulent chronic bronchitis	Y
J41.8	Mixed simple and mucopurulent chronic bronchitis	Y
J42	Unspecified chronic bronchitis	Y
J43.0	Unilateral pulmonary emphysema [MacLeod's syndrome]	Y
J43.1	Panlobular emphysema	Y
J43.2	Centrilobular emphysema	Y
J43.8	Other emphysema	Y
J43.9	Emphysema, unspecified	Y
J44.0	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease with (acute) lower respiratory infection	Y
J44.1	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease with (acute) exacerbation	Y
J44.9	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, unspecified	Y

# What is the Indiana data telling us?

Most Frequent Readmission **MSDRG** Codes of Index Discharge



Most Frequent Readmission **Discharge Status** of Index Discharge

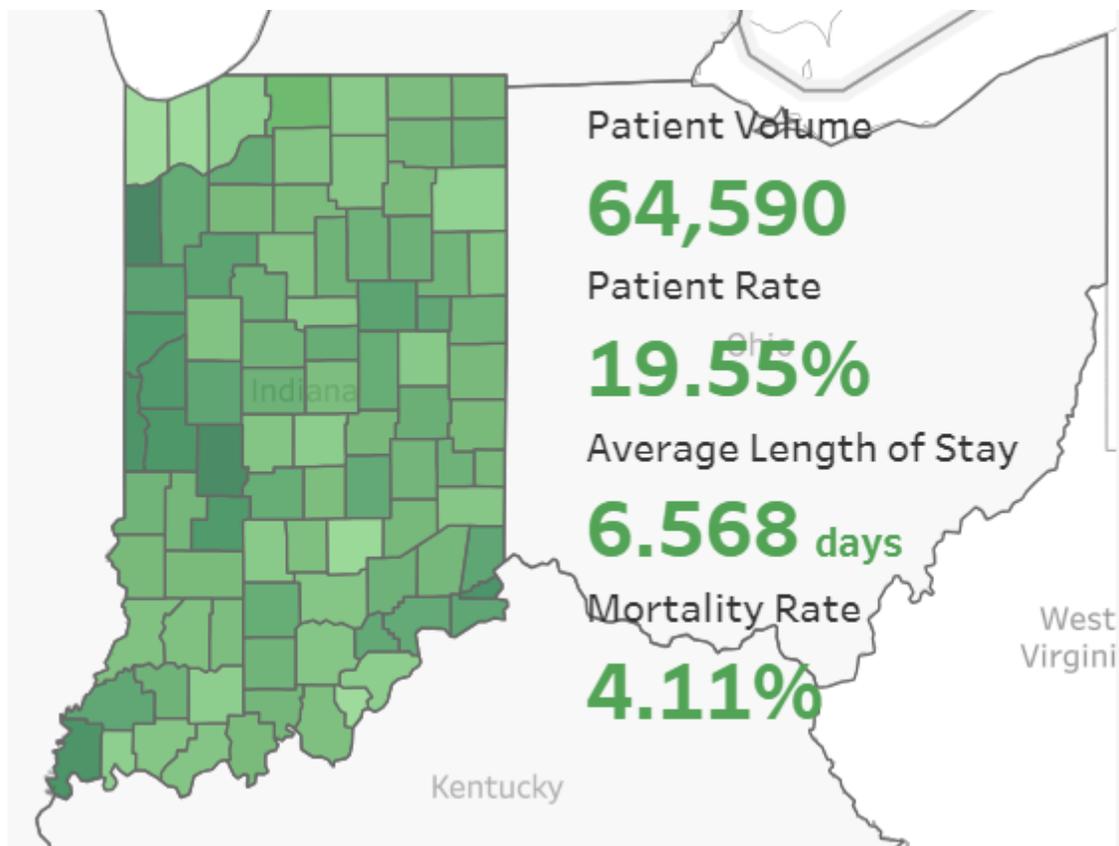


All IN Hosps: 17% of top 10 readmissions respiratory in nature  
COPD #7 in top 10

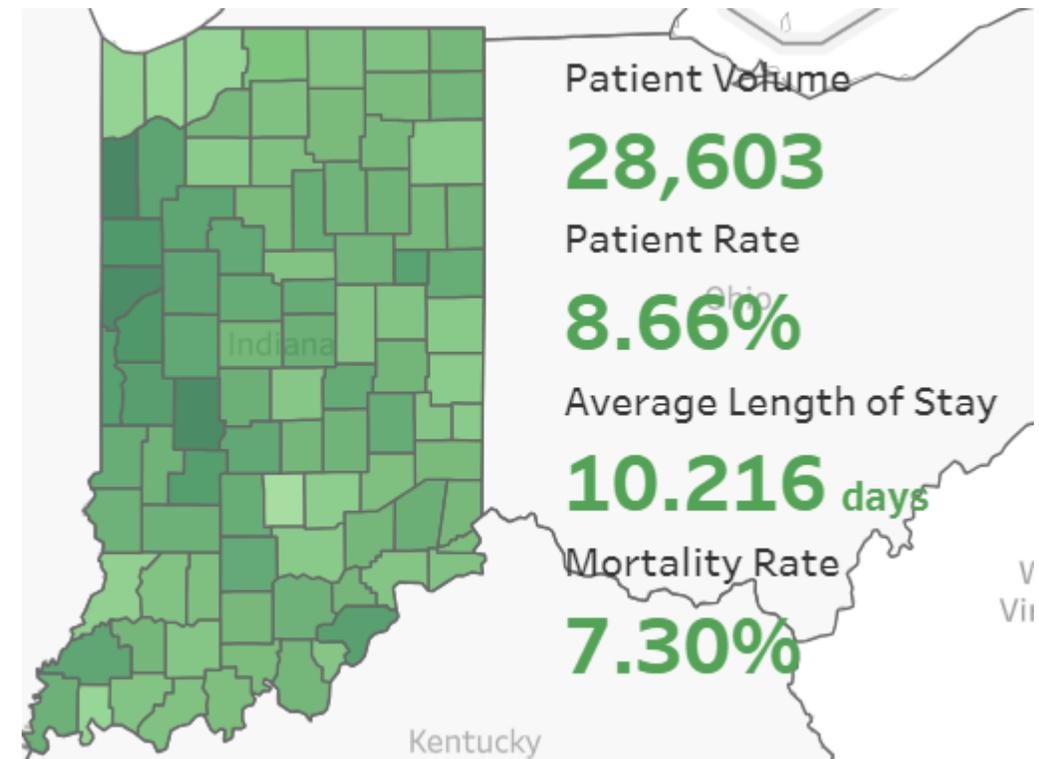
Most readmits from home/self care

# I-HOPE Indiana Hospitals 2021 to Q1 2023

## COPD Patients



## COVID-19 Patients



# Why were the COPD patients readmitted?

Top 10 Readmission Record Primary Diagnosis Codes from COPD Patients Index Admissions

*When patients were readmitted, what was their primary diagnosis?*

	2022 Q1	2022 Q2	2022 Q3	2022 Q4
<b>Total Readmissions (including outside top 10)</b>	794	700	793	763
A419 Sepsis, unspecified organism	51	65	56	67
U071 COVID-19	99	16	56	27
J441 Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease w (acute) exac..	50	38	45	55
I130 Hyp hrt & chr kdny dis w hrt fail and stg 1-4/unsp chr k..	54	36	43	33
J189 Pneumonia, unspecified organism	35	40	34	42
I110 Hypertensive heart disease with heart failure	16	41	33	29
J9621 Acute and chronic respiratory failure with hypoxia	19	24	27	24
N179 Acute kidney failure, unspecified	12	23	16	23
J9601 Acute respiratory failure with hypoxia	6	7	10	18
J690 Pneumonitis due to inhalation of food and vomit	7	11	13	10

Sepsis, COVID-19 and CHF most common with pneumonia

# Why were the COVID-19 patients readmitted?

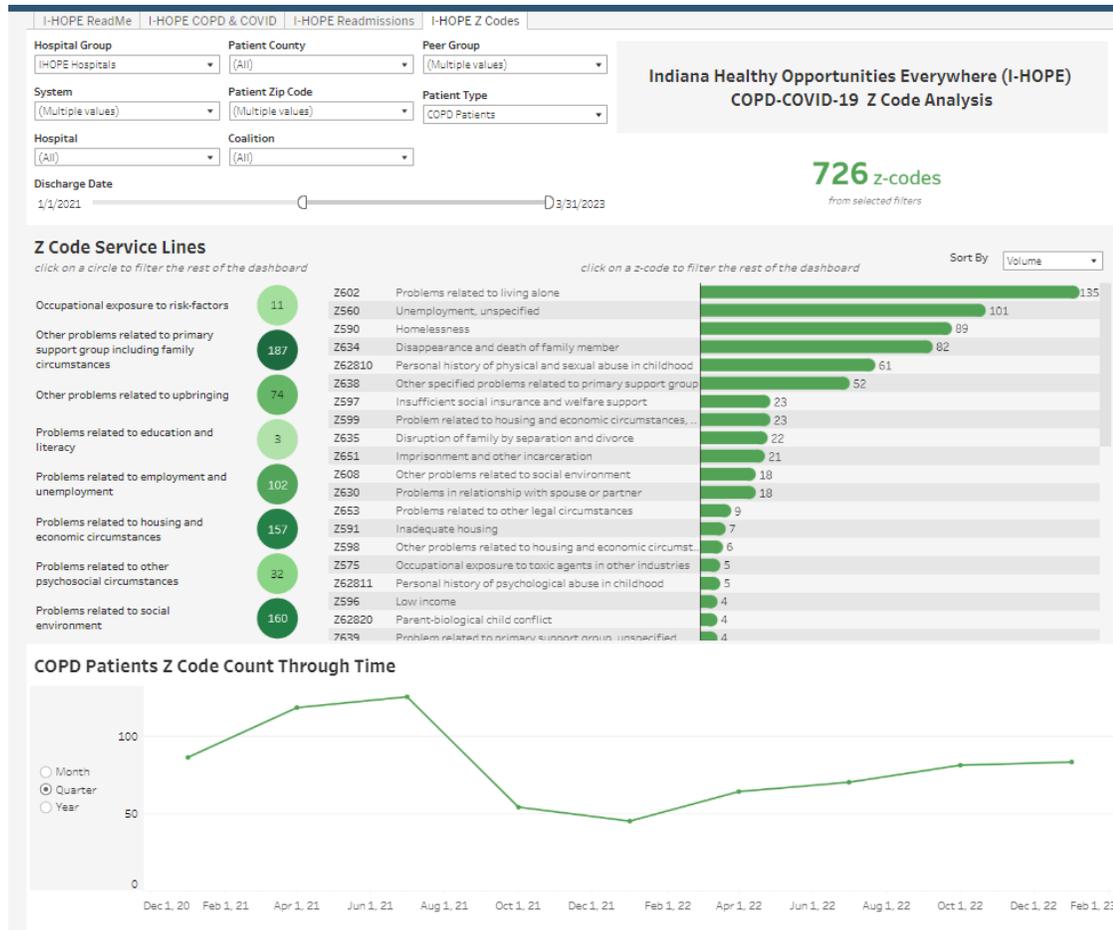
Top 10 Readmission Record Primary Diagnosis  
Codes from COVID-19 Patients Index Admissions

*When patients were readmitted, what was their primary diagnosis?*

	2022 Q1	2022 Q2	2022 Q3	2022 Q4
<b>Total Readmissions (including outside top 10)</b>	439	64	233	131
U071 COVID-19	277	42	142	79
A4189 Other specified sepsis	32	3	11	8
A419 Sepsis, unspecified organism	9	1	5	4
N179 Acute kidney failure, unspecified	6		3	2
J690 Pneumonitis due to inhalation of food and vomit	1	1	1	4
E871 Hypo-osmolality and hyponatremia	3		2	1
I480 Paroxysmal atrial fibrillation	3		2	1
K7290 Hepatic failure, unspecified without coma			6	
E1010 Type 1 diabetes mellitus with ketoacidosis without ..	4			1
I130 Hyp hrt & chr kdny dis w hrt fail and stg 1-4/unsp ch..	2			3

COVID-19 and Sepsis most common

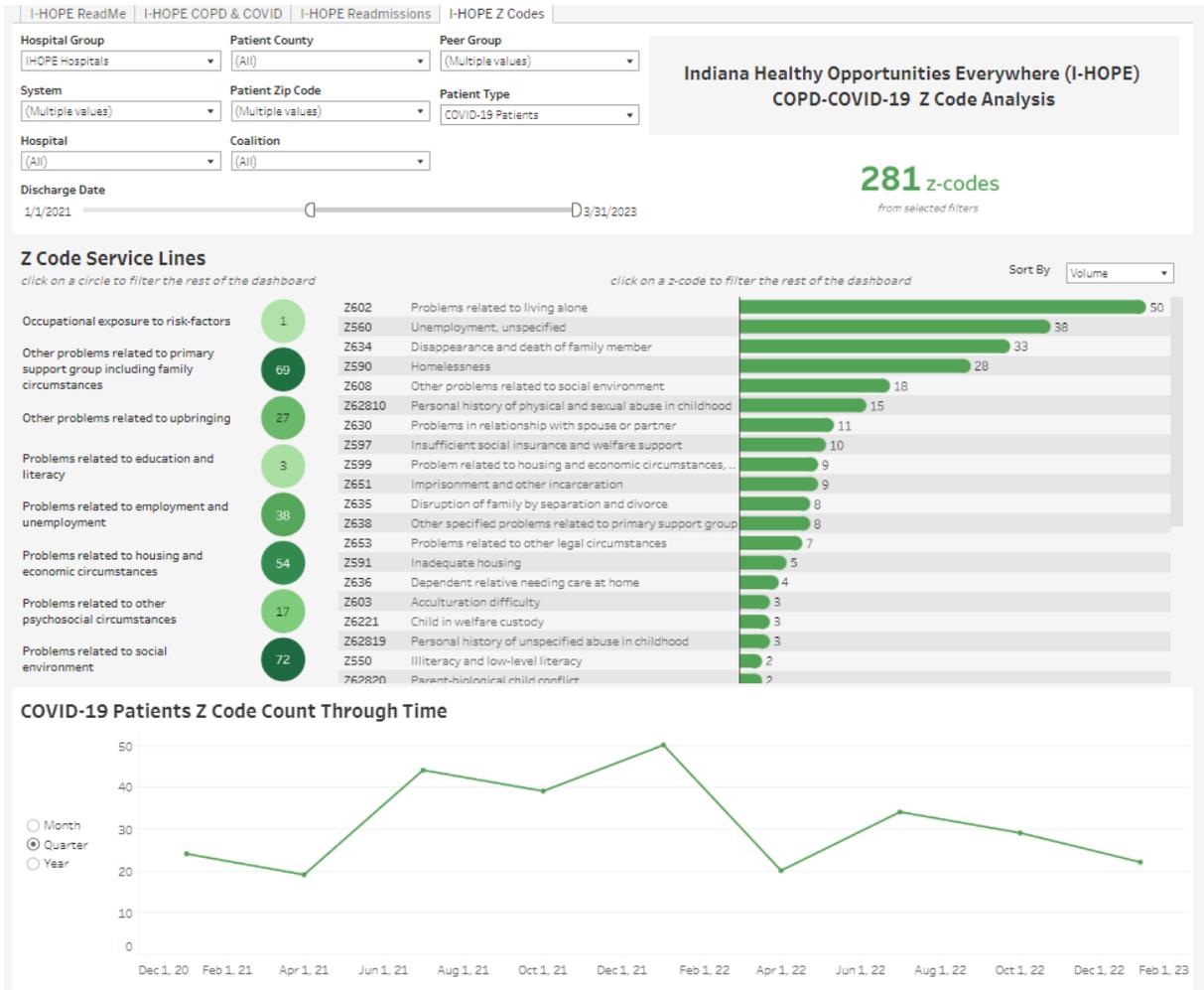
# What SDOH's are associated with COPD patients?



## Top Z-codes for COPD

- Problems living alone
- unemployment
- homelessness
- disappearance and death of family member

# What SDOH's are associated with COVID-19 patients?



## Top Z codes for COVID-19

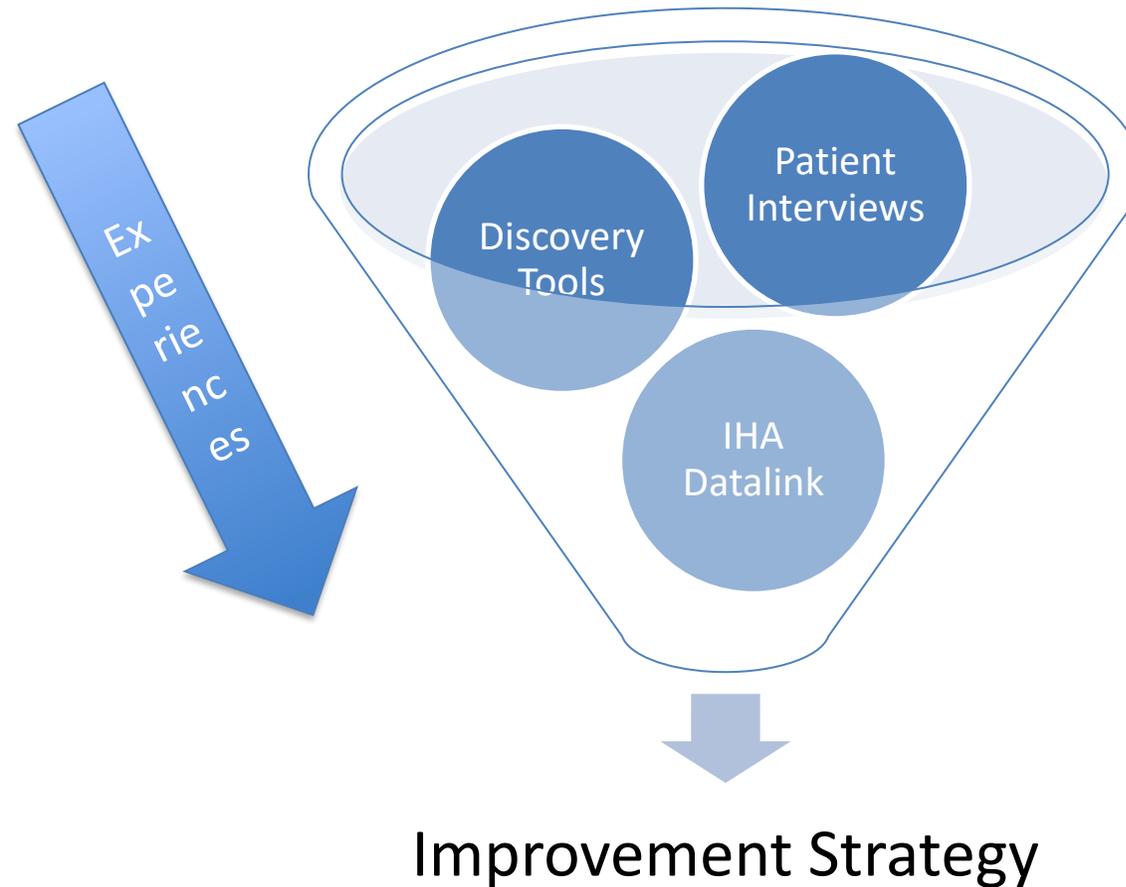
- Problems r/t living alone
- Unemployment
- Disappearance and death of family member

# Discussion Question



*What are the biggest challenges your patients and staff experience in trying to get patients both referred to AND participating in pulmonary rehabilitation following hospitalization for patients with COVID / COPD/ Respiratory Disease?*

# Planning Small Test of Change



# Strategy Planning Sessions with Physician Expert

One or two 30-minute meetings with your team to strategize:

- How to address care transitions challenges
- How to engage clinical staff
- How to increase referrals to pulmonary rehab
- Sign Up Link: [IHOPE Strategy Sessions with Dr. Jessica Goldstein \(office.com\)](#)

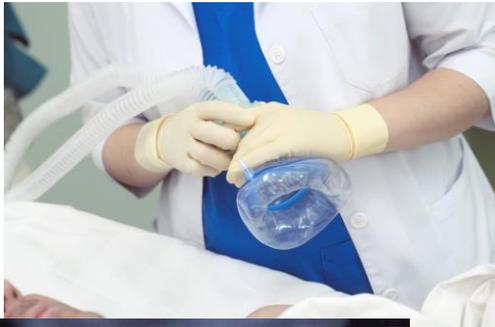


# Next Steps: Find Out More

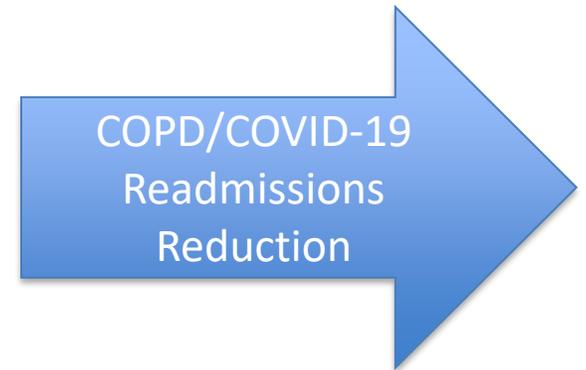
- ✓ Review your readmissions data if you have not yet had an opportunity to do so
- ✓ Complete a Discovery Tool for 5 to 10 patient records if you have not yet had an opportunity to do so
- Interview 1 or 2 currently or recently readmitted patients with a diagnosis of COPD / COVID / Respiratory Disease to learn more about the specific challenges that bring them back to the hospital
- Interview 1 or 2 providers to find out what challenges they face in referring patients to pulmonary rehab
- Get your improvement team together to talk about the contributing factors to readmissions and create a list of 3-5 ideas about “enhanced care transitions needs” for the team to test
- Set up a strategy session for your team with our Physician Advisor



# IHA Webpage Resources Available



- Focus on COPD/SDOH z-code Training
- Tools: Oximeters, Oral Hygiene
- Asthma/COPD/COVID-19 Therapies
- Pulmonary Rehab Education
- Smoking Cessation Education
- Datalink SDOH/Readmission Dashboard
- COPD Educator Courses
- Asthma Certification Courses
- Culture of Patient Safety Implications—community / family resources



# Questions?



We've got answers!



# See You Next Month!

September 16, 2023

3:00 – 4:00 pm ET

Questions before we meet next month?

Reach out to Rebecca Hancock at [rhancock@ihaconnect.org](mailto:rhancock@ihaconnect.org) at any time!

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