Joint Commission Resources

Innovative ways to use Tracers with AMP®

New data collection options lead to innovative ways to use Tracers with AMP® to help improve patient safety, quality, and performance

Tracers with AMP® now offers new ways to collect the data your organization needs to improve patient safety, quality, and performance. Previously, data could only be tracked as compliant or non-compliant to Joint Commission standards and Elements of Performance (EP). With this new enhancement, questions can also be answered as open ended, multiple choice and yes/no. This new flexibility allows users to collect data to meet goals beyond Joint Commission accreditation.

Here are a few examples of how our customers are transforming the way they use Tracers with AMP® :
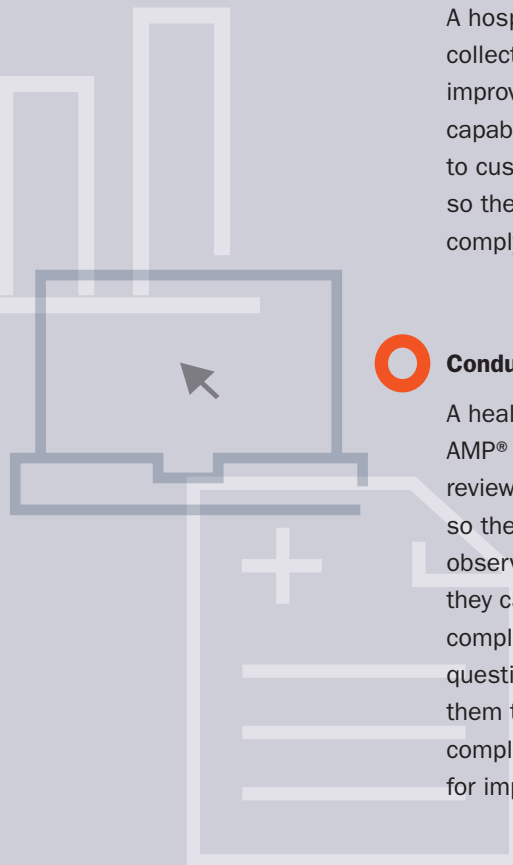
Tracking Safety Champions

A large health system, which had been using Tracers with AMP® for accreditation preparation for years, is now using the tool to track their unit-based safety champion program. A separate tool was previously used for patient safety activities, but with the new data collection options in Tracers with AMP®, they were able to streamline data collection efforts with a single tool. Their safety champion program designated safety champions for patient care and environment of care who use Tracers with AMP® to document error prevention techniques and environment of care safety issues. The safety champions provide and document on-the-spot safety coaching to either reinforce safe behaviors or correct potential safety issues. Data collected is then used to track and provide incentives to the most active safety champions.

Collecting Data for Leapfrog

A hospital is using Tracers with AMP® to collect hand hygiene data for analysis and improvement. When the new data collection capabilities were launched, they were able to customize the hand hygiene questions so the data collected and reported can also comply with Leapfrog's requirements.
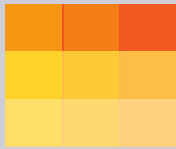
Conducting Medical Record Reviews

A health system is utilizing Tracers with AMP® to conduct their medical record reviews. Questions and answers are tailored so the provider name is recorded with each observation. Through Illuminate Analytics™, they can immediately analyze medical record compliance by provider name, hospital, question, and by EP. These analytics allow them to easily identify areas that are least compliant and target them for opportunities for improvement.

Preventing Healthcare-Acquired Infections (HAI)

A hospital is using Tracers with AMP® to support the implementation of evidence-based strategies to prevent catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI). To prevent CAUTIs, this organization defined and implemented key prevention strategies, such as ensuring the catheter and collection tube are free of kinks and the collection bag is below the level of the bladder. Tracers with AMP® is used to observe real-time practices and ensure appropriate interventions are implemented as planned. During the tracer, when deficiencies in practice are identified, the observer may correct the issue and educate responsible staff and the patient to ensure that strategies to prevent infection are consistently implemented and sustained. Tracer with AMP® allows leaders to collect information necessary to identify and prioritize risks and subsequently plan and implement process improvements. Once process improvements are implemented, reports and information available in Illuminate Analytics™ are instrumental for trending, comparison, and measuring improvements.

Adding the SAFER™ Matrix to Identify Risk

To help analyze risk, many health systems are adding the SAFER Matrix drop down to their tracer questions. By adding this feature, users can determine how likely something is to cause harm to a patient and the scope of the problem. Tracer data can then be analyzed using the new SAFER Matrix dashboards within Illuminate Analytics™.

Training and Education During the COVID-19 Pandemic

A university hospital is utilizing COVID-19 templates in Tracers with AMP® to train and ensure compliance during the COVID-19 pandemic. By implementing a tracer program using staff who would otherwise be furloughed, an environment was created where safety was everyone's priority. Tracer data was collected, reviewed, analyzed, and reported at daily huddles to identify hot spots of noncompliance or areas where some just-in-time training was necessary.

If you would like to learn more about Tracers with AMP® and how it can help your organization reach its patient safety and quality goals, we invite you to join one of our demos.

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