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# A&F METALAB

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# CURRENT STATE OF IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE – AUDIT AND FEEDBACK

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- Cochrane 2012 review – 140 trials of audit and feedback, median absolute improvement +4%, interquartile range +1% to +16%
- Larger effects were seen if:
  - baseline compliance was low.
  - the source was a supervisor or colleague
  - it was provided more than once
  - it was delivered in both verbal and written formats
  - it included both explicit targets and an action plan

Ivers (2012) *Cochrane Library*



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# IMPLEMENTATION LABORATORIES TO OPTIMISE AUDIT AND FEEDBACK



RESEARCH AND REPORTING METHODOLOGY

## Reinvigorating stagnant science: implementation laboratories and a meta-laboratory to efficiently advance the science of audit and feedback

JM Grimshaw,<sup>1,2</sup> Noah Ivers,<sup>3,4</sup> Stefanie Linklater,<sup>1</sup> Robbie Foy,<sup>5</sup> Jill J Francis,<sup>6</sup> Wouter T Gude,<sup>7</sup> Sylvia J Hysong,<sup>8,9</sup> on behalf of the Audit and Feedback MetaLab

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Received 18 May 2018  
Revised 8 January 2019  
Accepted 12 February 2019

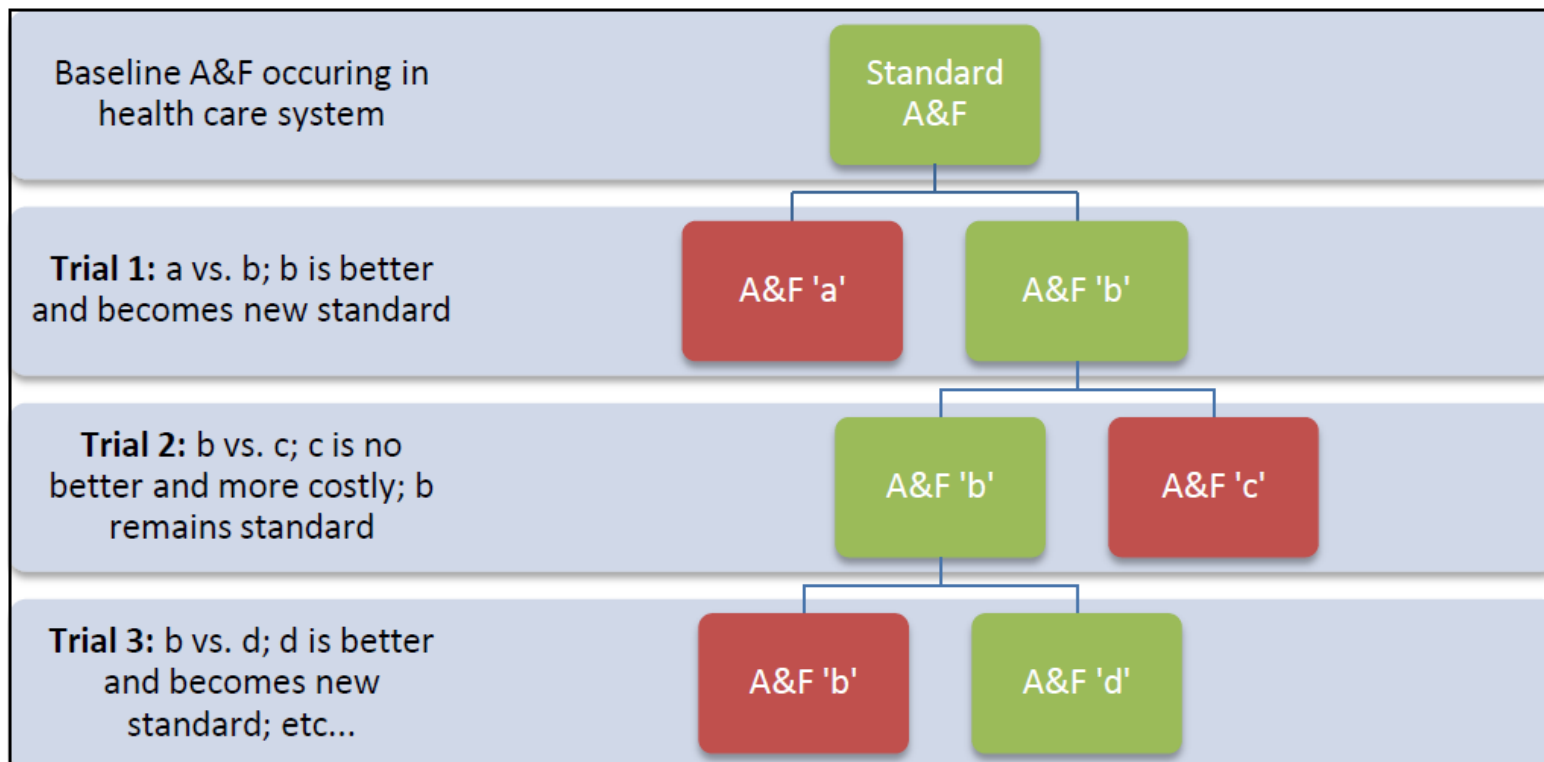
### ABSTRACT

Audit and feedback (A&F) is a commonly used quality improvement (QI) approach. A Cochrane review indicates that A&F is generally effective and leads to modest improvements in professional practice but with considerable variation in the observed effects. While we have some understanding of factors that enhance the effects of A&F, further research needs to explore when A&F is most likely to be effective and how to optimise it. To do this, we need to move away from two-arm trials of A&F compared with control in favour of head-to-head trials of different ways of providing A&F. This paper describes implementation laboratories involving collaborations between healthcare organisations

additional trials of A&F against control were published that did not substantially advance our knowledge. Furthermore, many of these trials did not incorporate A&F features likely to enhance the effectiveness, leading to the suggestion that we have a stagnant science despite growing literature. As Ioannidis *et al* point out ‘although replication of previous research is a core principle of science, at some point, duplicative investigations contribute little additional value’.<sup>3</sup>

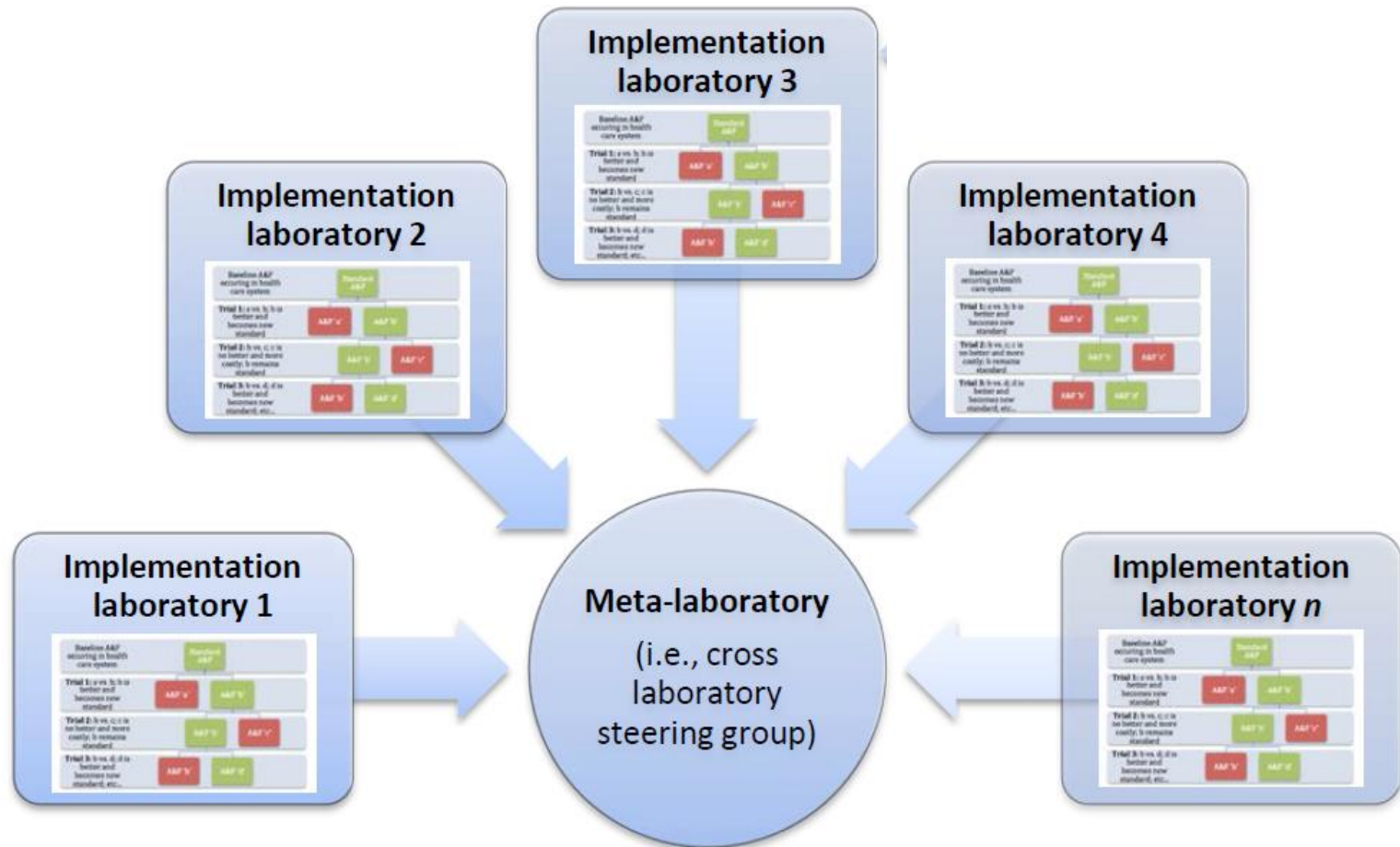


# IMPLEMENTATION LABORATORIES TO OPTIMISE AUDIT AND FEEDBACK





# IMPLEMENTATION META-LABORATORIES



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# PPE Safety Observations for COVID Safety in Acute Care Setting

Collaboration between QI and  
Research in clinical practice

Samantha Hamilton, Director, Quality, Patient Safety & IPAC,  
The Ottawa Hospital

Metalab presentation Aug 20, 2020





# A Problem to be Solved

- Education and communication provided for Covid safety (i.e. demo's of proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and donning and doffing of that PPE), however -
- Concern by executives that healthcare workers (HCWs) may not be acting in accordance with Infection Prevention & Control (IPAC) instructions for their safety and patient safety
- Desired approach (for assurance & 'in-the-moment coaching'):
  - Individually → supportive, encouraging versus compliance oriented
  - In aggregate → formative





# Audit & Feedback Intervention

- ‘Safety Observations’ performed by ‘Safety Champions’ providing:
  - in the moment coaching and education
  - generating assurance in the form of a ‘Safety Rate’
  - real-time feedback by unit, role
  - ability to monitor trends week over week
  - providing aggregate input to areas of need (i.e. gaps in doffing gowns)



# Audit & Feedback Intervention – the How

- Use of modified 'Hand Hygiene App' to incorporate additional PPE and full donning & doffing sequence
- IPAC Infection Control Practitioners (ICPs) and selected RNs seconded to perform Safety Observations designated to specific COVID positive units
- Consistent education on criteria
- Creation of real-time dashboard
- Emergency, Intensive Care Units, designated COVID positive units

Sequence	Safety Criteria	Order	Division Codes
Donning Face Shield	Face shield does not angle upwards away from face	4	ANP Anatomical Pathology
Doffing Face Shield	Face shield: Removed by grasping band from back of head Discarded appropriately Did not touch face post removal Left procedure mask in place	9	BIO Biochemistry
Donning Gloves	Gloves extend over cuff of gown	5	CA Cardiac Anesthesiology
Doffing Gloves	Gloves removed and discarded in the patient room away from the patient Used no touch method to remove gloves	6	CAR Cardiology
Donning Gown	Gown opening to back Ties secure at neck and waist	2	CAS Cardiac Surgery
Doffing Gown	Gown: Unfastened bottom then top tie Peeled gown away using top ties, turning contaminated surface toward inside Rolled into bundle and discarded in patient room	7	CU Haematology
Doffing Hand Hygiene 1	Hand hygiene performed for minimum 15 seconds with ABHR or one minute with soap and water	8	CRI Critical Care
Explanation Categories			DEN Dental Surgery
Category	Description	Order	DER Dermatology
Lack of knowledge/skills	Did not know the proper technique	1	ECC Riverside Eye Care Centre
Memory/attention	Forgot technique or equipment	2	EMG Emergency
Situational	Emergency, too busy	3	END Endocrinology and Metabolism
Environmental	Physical layout of unit, doffing area etc.	4	ENT Otolaryngology
Supplies	Insufficient supply of appropriate PPE (e.g. Purell, gowns, gloves etc.)	5	EYE Eye Institute
Belief	Did not feel that it was important or did not believe there was a safety risk	6	FAM Family Practice
Emotion	Too tired, stressed, overwhelmed	7	GAS Gastroenterology
			GEO General Ob/Gyn
			GER Geriatrics
			GES General Surgery
			GM General Medicine
			GP/SH General Psychiatry
			INF Infectious Diseases
			LAB Hematopathology & Transfusion



# Feedback – Real-time, filterable dashboard

## COVID-19 PPE Safety Observations

Total HCPs Observed

2287

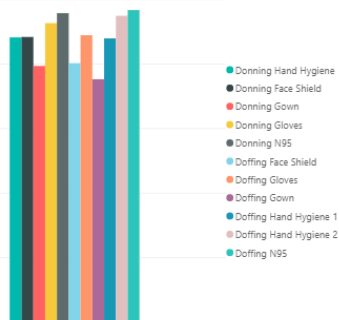
Safety Rate

87.8%

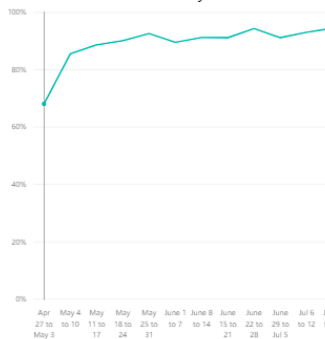
Total Observations

14K

### Donning & Doffing Safety Rates



### Safety Rate Trend

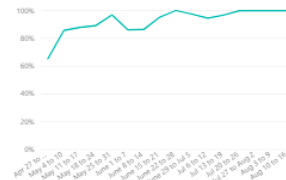


Overall Donning Safety Rate  
88.7%

### Donning PPE Safety Rates

More Info

#### Donning Hand Hygiene



#### Donning Gown



#### Donning N95



#### Donning Face Shield



#### Donning Gloves



Filters

Search

Filters on all pages

Campus  
is (All)

Unit  
is (All)

Week Date Range  
is (All)

HCP  
is (All)

HcpDivision  
is (All)

Shift Type  
is (All)

Overview

Donning

Doffing

Donning Trends

Doffing Trends

Criteria

Observation Data

Explanations



# Broad Communications Strategy

- CEO All Staff updates
- Medical Advisory Committee
- Executive Committee
- Unit-based (Clinical Directors, Physician Leads, unit managers)



# Improvements noted week over week - Donning

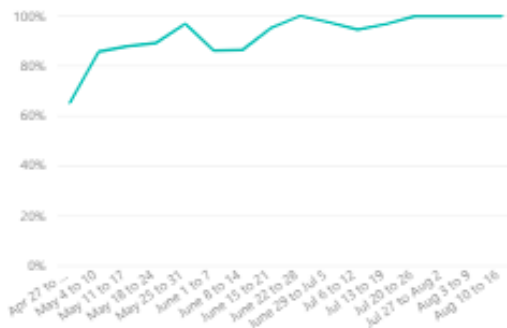
Overall Donning Safety Rate

88.7%

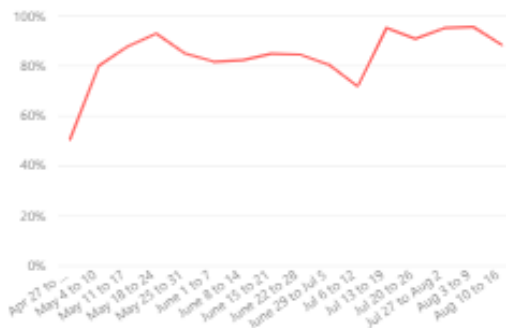
## Donning PPE Safety Rates

 More Info

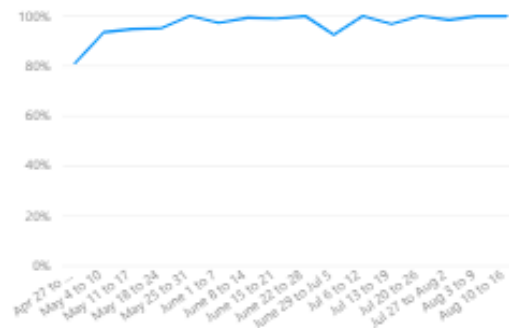
Donning Hand Hygiene



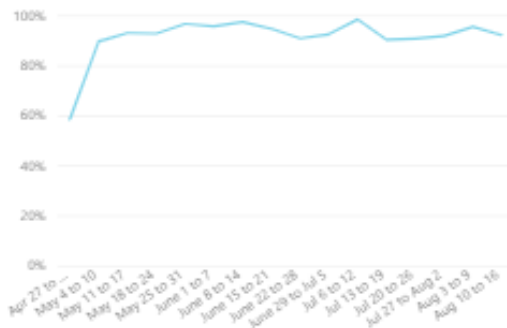
Donning Gown



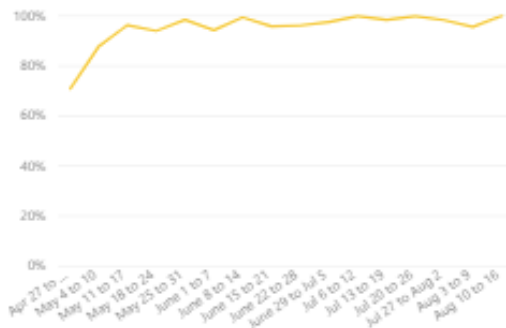
Donning N95



Donning Face Shield



Donning Gloves





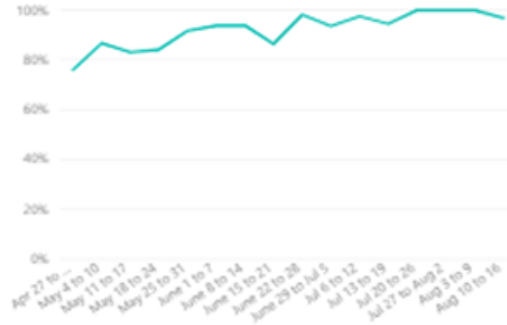
# Improvements noted week over week - Doffing

Overall Doffing Safety Rate  
**86.9%**

## Doffing PPE Safety Rates

 More Info

Doffing Gloves



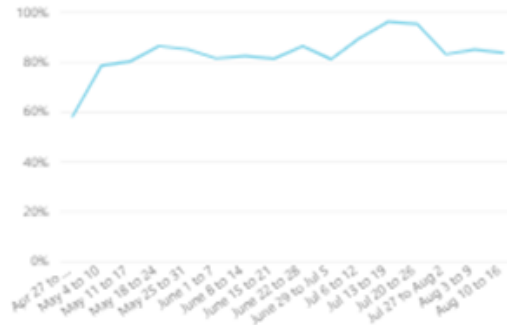
Doffing Gown



Doffing Hand Hygiene 1



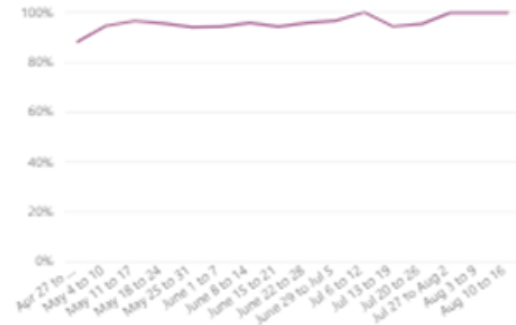
Doffing Face Shield



Doffing N95



Doffing Hand Hygiene 2

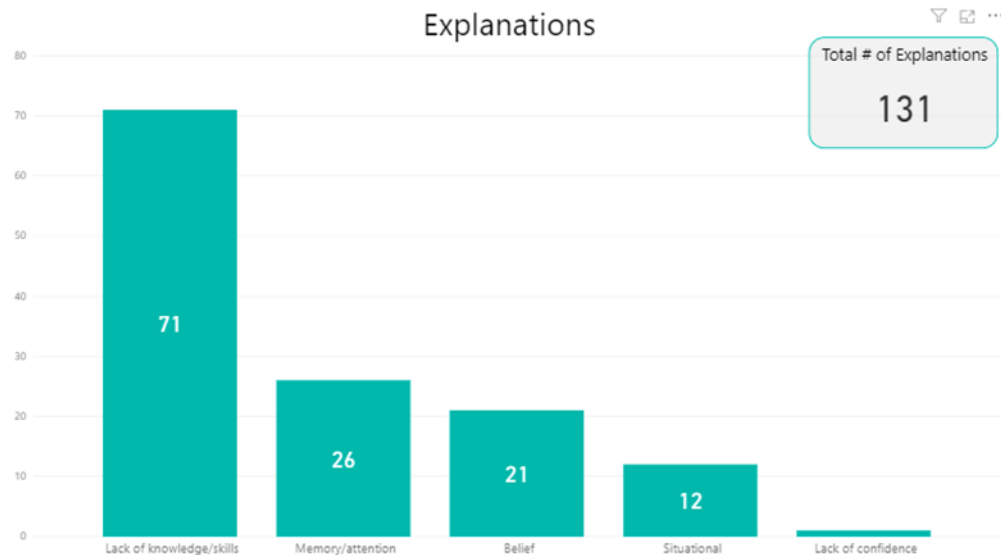




# Barriers to High Safety Rates

- Tactical (access to, location of PPE)
- Behavioural (beliefs, skills, confidence)
- Collaboration with Centre for Practice Changing Research – TDFs:
  - strategies to address behaviours observed
  - ‘tool-up’ the Safety Champions in their real-time coaching

COVID-19 PPE Safety Checks





# Challenges to Sustaining the Effort

- Availability of resources (pulled to support long-term care, non-urgent surgery resumed)
- When numbers of COVID-positive patients declined, number of observations similarly declined
- Government guidance on atypical symptoms and 'asymptomatic' testing served to 'dilute' the need for droplet/contact precautions
- ***What keeps us awake at night (besides the obvious!)***



# Adding value to A&F on PPE using behaviour change approaches

Dr. Nicola McCleary

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Implementation Research & Eastern Ontario  
Regional Laboratory Association

Deputy Lead, Psychology and Health  
Research Group



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# Team members involved



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# Why a behaviour change approach



Guideline  
Technique  
Medication  
Intervention  
Policy  
Technology



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Someone in the healthcare system's **behaviour** need(s) to change

- Donning & doffing PPE, and providing coaching, are sets of behaviours
- Encouraging appropriate practice = supporting behaviour change
- This framing allows us to draw on decades of research in psychology



# Our overall process

- **Immediate aim:** Establish what champions are currently doing, what challenges they face, then suggest strategies for supporting them to increase their effectiveness
- Initial 'interviews' with champions & team debrief
- Further 'focus groups' with champions & team debrief
- Suggest strategies for optimization




# The audit and coaching process

1. As part of shift huddles, champions did demos, informed staff they would be doing 'safety checks', and answered questions
2. Observations sometimes silent, other times introduced non-threateningly with emphasis on staff safety
3. If see suboptimal practice, usually spot correct at end...



Next time...

4. ... but interrupt if big issue with key phrases




Just for safety's sake...




# What is working well

1. Non-punitive, non-threatening communication is key



Here to help  
keep you safe



Not here to get  
you in trouble

2. Relating to staff on a collegial level when providing coaching


3. Highly experienced Nurse Educators – experts in building rapport, providing feedback, relating on a human level



Gentle  
finessing



# Challenges experienced

1. Perception that champions are 'the police'
  2. Some staff not receptive to/dismissive of feedback (particular issue with physicians), some avoidance
  3. Seconded champions – uncertainties around which approaches/phrasing will elicit positive vs defensive reactions
- 
- Physicians didn't tend to attend ward huddles
- Variation in how initiative discussed by ward leaders at huddles



# Instances and drivers of suboptimal practice

Observed suboptimal practice across a range of specific donning and doffing behaviours, but suboptimal doffing generally more common (and poses greater safety risk)

1. Space/layout limitations
2. Challenging situations: time, emergency
3. Inconsistent types of PPE
4. Not knowing how to do it
5. Low risk perceptions balanced with desire to preserve PPE



# Drawing on behaviour change expertise to map key challenges to solutions

## Theoretical Domains Framework (TDF)

Which domains do these drivers of suboptimal practice fall under?

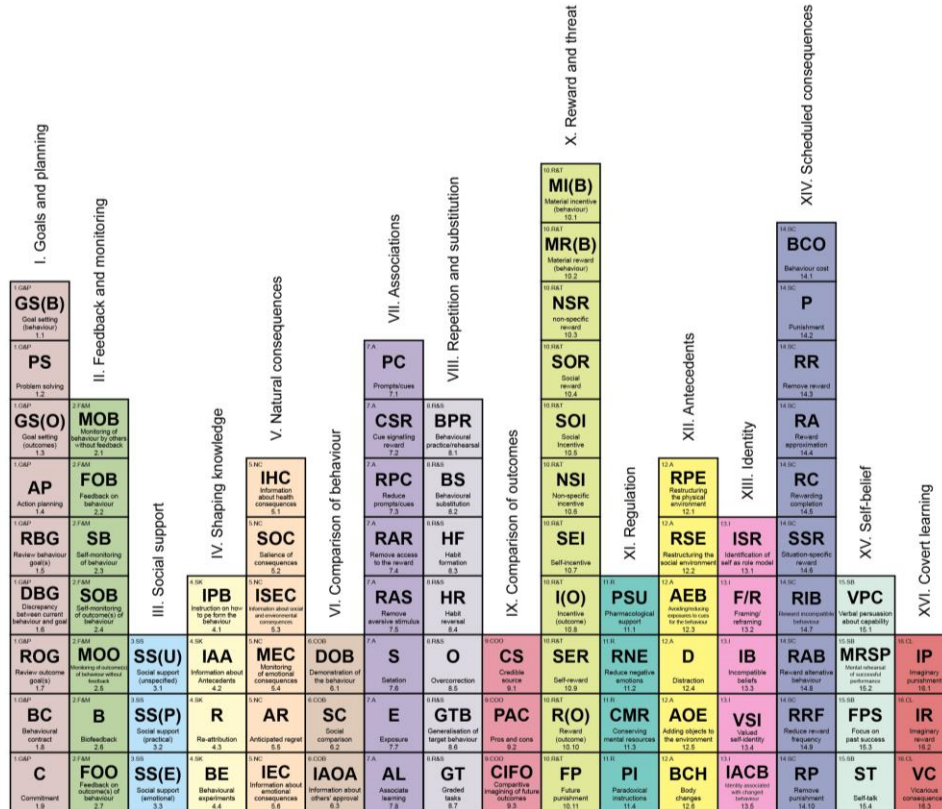
TDF domain	Description
Knowledge	An awareness of the existence of something
Skills	An ability or proficiency acquired through practice
Social/professional role and identity	A coherent set of behaviors and displayed personal qualities of an individual in a social or work setting
Beliefs about capabilities	Acceptance of the truth, reality, or validity about an ability, talent, or facility that a person can put to constructive use
Optimism	The confidence that things will happen for the best, or that desired goals will be attained
Beliefs about consequences	Acceptance of the truth, reality, or validity about outcomes of a behavior in a given situation
Reinforcement	Increasing the probability of a response by arranging a dependent relationship, or contingency, between the response and a given stimulus
Intentions	A conscious decision to perform a behavior or a resolve to act in a certain way
Goals	Mental representation of outcomes or end states that an individual wants to achieve
Memory, attention and decision processes	The ability to retain information, focus selectively on aspects of the environment, and choose between two or more alternatives
Environmental context and resources	Any circumstance of a person's situation or environment that discourages or encourages the development of skills and abilities, independence, social competence, and adaptive behavior
Social influences	Those interpersonal processes that can cause an individual to change their thoughts, feelings, or behaviors
Emotion	A complex reaction pattern, involving experiential, behavioral, and physiological elements, by which the individual attempts to deal with a personally significant matter or event
Behavioral regulation	Anything aimed at managing or changing objectively observed or measured actions



# Mapping drivers of suboptimal practice to behaviour change techniques (BCTs)



Theory and Technique Tool



	Kn	Sk	SPRI	BaCa	Op	BaCo	Re	In	Go	MADP	ECR	SI
1.1. Goal setting (behaviour)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
1.2. Problem solving	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
1.3. Goal setting (outcome)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
1.4. Action planning	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
1.5. Review behaviour goal(s)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
1.6. Discrepancy between current behaviour ...	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
1.7. Review outcome goal(s)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
1.8. Behavioural contrast	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

Which BCTs are best suited to address these drivers of suboptimal practice?



# Mapping drivers of suboptimal practice to potential solutions

Drivers of suboptimal practice	Potential TDF Domains	Potential BCTs
Not 'knowing' how to do it  Challenging situations: time, emergency	Knowledge	Instruction on how to perform behaviour; Demonstration of the behaviour; Behavioural practice/rehearsal
	Skills	
	Beliefs about capabilities	



# Mapping drivers of suboptimal practice to potential solutions

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Challenging situations: time, emergency	Skills	
	Beliefs about capabilities	
Low risk perceptions & desire to preserve PPE	Beliefs about consequences	Information about health consequences; Information about social and environmental consequences



# Mapping drivers of suboptimal practice to potential solutions

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Low risk perceptions & desire to preserve PPE	Beliefs about consequences	Information about health consequences; Information about social and environmental consequences
Space/layout limitations Inconsistent types of PPE	Environmental context and resources	Restructuring the physical environment; Adding objects to the environment



# Mapping drivers of suboptimal practice to potential solutions

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Challenging situations: time, emergency	Skills	
	Beliefs about capabilities	
Low risk perceptions & desire to preserve PPE	Beliefs about consequences	Information about health consequences; Information about social and environmental consequences
Space/layout limitations	Environmental context and resources	Restructuring the physical environment; Adding objects to the environment
Inconsistent types of PPE		
Perception that champions are 'the police'	Social influences	Social support; Information about others' approval; Social reward
Staff not receptive to/dismissive of feedback (particularly physicians), some avoidance		



# Suggested solutions

Involvement of and reinforcement from individuals at different 'levels' (champions, ward leadership, physician leadership, hospital leadership)

Provide opportunities to practice, generally & in mock challenging situations;  
Focus demos on key areas where improvement needed (and key challenges);  
Demos for physicians at their meetings

Add more Purell stations where needed

Streamline which types of PPE go to which depts

Not 'knowing' how to do it

Challenging situations:  
time, emergency

Space/layout limitations

Inconsistent types of PPE

Hospital & physician leadership communications

- Introduce program & nurses, emphasize importance & safety, highlight infection consequences (staff, families, teams, patients), reassurance re. PPE levels

Ward meetings & physician meetings

- Emphasize importance & safety, discuss audit results, 'well done', note areas for improvement, highlight infection consequences (staff, families, teams, patients), messaging re. champions are part of our team and are here to help

Champions continue with safety framing;

At ward huddles, demo the audit & coaching process with a senior staff member

Low risk perceptions & desire to preserve PPE

Perception that champions are 'the police'

Staff not receptive to/dismissive of feedback (particularly physicians), some avoidance



## **Audit & feedback on PPE use: key conclusions**

- Safe use of PPE important to control pandemic and protect staff and patients
- TOH developed an audit and feedback initiative to support healthcare professionals with PPE donning and doffing
- Dramatic improvement initially, but still areas for improvement
- Behaviour change approach provided new insights and opportunities to enhance the initiative
- Ongoing challenge to maintain behaviours as cases reduce (important for ensuring staff ready for 2nd wave)



# Protecting healthcare workers during the COVID-19 pandemic:

## Improving safe usage of Personal Protective Equipment by remote feedback

Co-Principal Investigators:  
Sylvain Boet, MD, PhD  
Nicole Etherington, PhD





# Background

- High rate of infection among HCWs
- PPE donning/doffing mistakes are common
- Feedback is critical for improving practice
- Remote feedback has proven to be effective in many other contexts, including resident education during COVID-19
- Proposed intervention: remote video feedback through existing smart phone technology



# Intervention





# Advantages of remote feedback

- Flexibility: time and location chosen by participant
- Customization in content and delivery of feedback
- Anonymity
- Less resource-intensive
- Wider reach
- Safety of assessors
- Individual accountability
- Continuous practice



## **Disadvantages of remote feedback**

- May not be possible during all clinical situations
- Potential for distraction
- Feedback may be ignored
- Requires a second team member to record participant
- Voluntary



# Approach

- Pilot before and after cohort study at The Ottawa Hospital (~n=730)
- Primary outcomes:
  - **Effectiveness:** # donning and doffing errors per HCW and across departments
  - **Feasibility:** # unique HCWs who participate, # HCWs who submit >1 video, # video recordings received
  - **Acceptability** (rated by HCWs)



# Approach

- Secondary outcomes:
  - **HCW absenteeism**
  - **HCW COVID-19 infection rate**
- Poisson regression adjusting for:
  - Clustering of multiple observations on the same HCW
  - HCW profession, years of experience, sex



## Next steps

- Training session by IPAC team with assessors
- “Soft launch” with operating room HCWs
- Roll-out across all TOH departments



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