



Dr. Brown's Medical Webinar  
Lindsey Green, Pulling out all the Stops for Interdisciplinary Continuous Improvement  
September 21, 2023  
Q and A

**Q: Can you discuss how to get involved in these types of projects for therapists when billable hours are such a focus, and we don't always have time allotted for additional projects?**

LG: Clinical care is a constant push and pull of many demands to achieve high quality care delivery. The demands are primarily focused on current patient care, but without focus on continuous improvement we will not successfully move care forward. Amidst demands of productivity, there are opportunities to participate in continuous improvement efforts, whether a healthcare professional is driving the change or contributing to the identification, development, and implementation. When time outside of patient care is limited, seize opportunities to discuss improvement opportunities at the bedside and during rounds. These brief moments can generate ideas, engage interest, and reinforce new practices for sustainability of improvement efforts. Written communication (e.g., emails, texts) are another way to quickly participate in and contribute to continuous improvement efforts. Additionally, interdisciplinary teams should have opportunities to collaborate during unit meetings, whether that is during short shift huddles or a formal routine meeting (e.g., unit-based councils, developmental committee). These meetings may take extra time outside of the productivity/billable hours, but they are integral for interdisciplinary teams to move care forward together.

**Q: What do we do when someone comes with just one article and wants to change all based on that info?**

LG: It depends! The level of evidence presented in the article matters. If the article is a systematic review or national guideline then it may be considered substantial evidence to be considered for a change in practice. If the article describes a single study or is a literature review or an opinion article, then the article should not be considered substantial evidence to make a change in practice. However, the article may be a trigger to identify an opportunity to improve practice. No matter the type of article, your team will still need to work through the steps of evidence-based practice implementation (define the problem/opportunity for improvement, collect & appraise evidence, implement change, monitor outcomes, share results, continuous evaluation) before making any changes.