Ambulatory Surgery Center Survey on Patient Safety Culture: Composites and Items

In this document, the items in the Ambulatory Surgery Center Survey on Patient Safety Culture are grouped according to the safety culture composites they are intended to measure. The item's survey location is shown to the left of each item. Negatively worded items are indicated. Reliability statistics based on the pilot test data from 59 ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs) and over 1,800 ASC staff are provided for the dimensions.

1. Communication About Patient Information

(Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Most of the time, Always, Does not apply/Don't Know)

A1. Important patient care information is clearly communicated across areas in this facility.

A5. Key information about patients is missing when it is needed. (Negatively worded)

A7. We share key information about patients as soon as it becomes available.[1]

A9. Within this facility, we do a good job communicating information that affects patient care.

Reliability of this composite—Cronbach's alpha (4 items) = .71

2. Communication Openness

(Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Most of the time, Always, Does not apply/Don't Know)

A2. We feel comfortable asking questions when something doesn't seem right.

A4. When we see someone with more authority doing something unsafe for patients, we speak up.

A6. Our ideas and suggestions are valued in this facility.

Reliability of this composite—Cronbach's alpha (3 items) = .69

3. Staffing, Work Pressure, and Pace

(Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Most of the time, Always)

A3. We have enough staff to handle the workload.

A8. There is enough time between procedures to properly prepare for the next one.

A10. We feel rushed when taking care of patients. (Negatively worded)

Reliability of this composite—Cronbach's alpha (3 items) = .78

4. Teamwork

(Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Agree, Strongly Agree, Does not apply/Don't Know)

B1. When someone in this facility gets really busy, others help out.

B4. Doctors and staff clearly understand each other's roles and responsibilities.

B6. Our facility allows disrespectful behavior by those working here. (Negatively worded)

B8. We work together as an effective team.

---

[1] Adapted from Singer S. 2011. Safe Surgery 2015: South Carolina Tool 2: Surgical Safety Culture Survey. http://www.safesurgery2015.org. Accessed October 27, 2014.

Reliability of this composite—Cronbach's alpha (4 items) = .74

5. Staff Training

(Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Agree, Strongly Agree, Does not apply/Don't Know)

B2. Staff who are new to this facility receive adequate orientation.

B3. Staff feel pressured to do tasks they haven't been trained to do. (Negatively worded)

B5. We get the on-the-job training we need in this facility.

B7. Staff get the refresher training they need.

Reliability of this composite—Cronbach's alpha (4 items) = .83

6. Organizational Learning – Continuous Improvement

(Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Agree, Strongly Agree, Does not apply/Don't Know)

C1. This facility actively looks for ways to improve patient safety.

C3. We make improvements when someone points out patient safety problems.

C6. We are good at changing processes to make sure the same patient safety problems don't happen again.

Reliability of this composite—Cronbach's alpha (4 items) = .83

7. Response to Mistakes

(Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Agree, Strongly Agree, Does not apply/Don't Know)

C2. Staff are treated fairly when they make mistakes.

C4. Learning, rather than blame, is emphasized when mistakes are made.

C5. Staff are told about patient safety problems that happen in this facility.

Reliability of this composite—Cronbach's alpha (3 items) = .78

8. Management Support for Patient Safety

(Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Agree, Strongly Agree, Does not apply/Don't Know)

E1. Managers encourage everyone to suggest ways to improve patient safety.

E2. Management examines near-miss events that could have harmed patients but did not.

E3. Management provides adequate resources to improve patient safety.

Reliability of this composite—Cronbach's alpha (3 items) = .84

Composite scores are not calculated for the following three composites:

Near-Miss Documentation

(Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Most of the time, Always, Does not apply/Don't know)

D1. When something happens that could harm the patient, but does not, how often is it documented in an incident or occurrence report?

Overall Patient Safety Rating

(Poor, Fair, Good, Very good, Excellent)

F0. Please give your facility an overall rating on patient safety.

Communication in the Surgery/Procedure Room

(Yes, No)

G0. Are you typically in the room during surgeries, procedures, or treatments?

(Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Most of the time, Always, Does not apply/Don't know)

In the past 6 months, how often were the following actions done in your facility?

G1. Just before the start of procedures, all team members stopped to discuss the overall plan of what was to be done.

G2. Just before the start of procedures, the doctor encouraged every team member to speak up at any time if they had any concerns.

G3. Immediately after procedures, team members discussed any concerns for patient recovery.