Hospital at Home
National Practice Standards

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Introduction

- Hospital at Home (HaH) is the delivery of hospital-level care at home instead of in the traditional hospital
- 10s of 1000s of acutely ill patients cared for at home
- No existing national practice standards or standardization

Methods

12/2019: Practice standards council formed → 10/2020: Domain and standards development → 11/2021: Comment period → 3/2022: Revision → 6/2022: National survey fielded

Figure 1. Practice Standards Development Process

Results

- 49 responding hospitals (response rate, 24%)
- Most hospitals were large (65% >299 beds), nonprofit (85%), teaching (90%), metro (98%), and cared for a large proportion of patients with Medicaid.
- All practices met or exceeded the standards for more than 90% of the standards.
  - Information systems and management scored highest
  - Leadership standards were most often not met

There are now *Practice Standards* for
Hospital at Home

Domain definitions

Domain	Definition
1 Leadership	Develop leadership infrastructure for the development of policies, procedures, personnel, and protocols that ensures the delivery of high quality, safe, ethical care
2 Education and Training	Follow professional standards of the discipline and adapt them to the clinical care of HaH
3 Human Resources Management	Qualify and manage organizational human resources to maintain the goals of HaH care
4 Information Systems and Management	Manage and safeguard patient and clinician information
5 Quality and Quality Improvement	Adopt quality measures that inform and improve HaH care
6 Safe Practice and Environment	Policies, protocols, and practices are in place to promote patient safety
7 Clinical Standards and Protocols	Adopt staff and patient/family/caregiver(s) standards and protocols

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Figure 2. Practice Standard Self-Rating By Domain
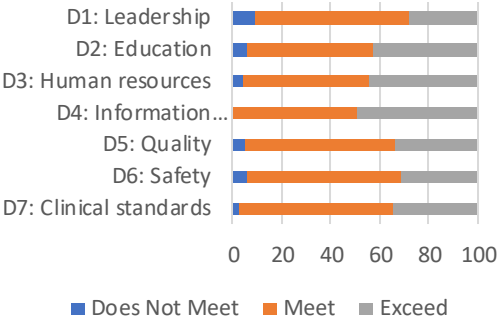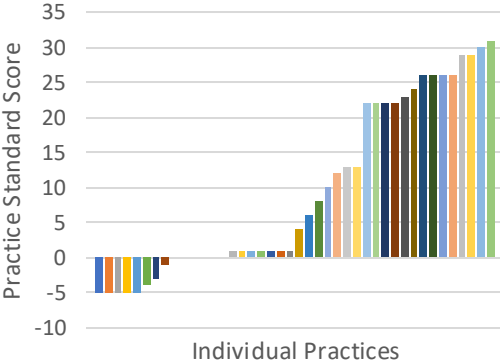
Does Not Meet   Meet   Exceed

Figure 3. Practice Standard Score by Practice

Conclusions

- For a novel set of practice standard, the majority of surveyed programs met the standards
- There remain areas for improvement as the country standardizes the practice of HaH

Acknowledgement