

[Closing the Loop: A Guide to Safer Ambulatory Referrals in the EHR Era.](#)

This report from an expert panel convened by CRICO and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement / National Patient Safety Foundation was published in 2017 by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement.

The following organizations have endorsed the use of this report as a valuable resource in efforts to improve the reliability of the specialist referral process:

 <p>American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing</p> <p><i>Many settings. Multiple roles. One unifying specialty.</i></p>	<p>American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing http://www.aaacn.org</p> <p>The American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing (AAACN) is a welcoming, unifying community for registered nurses in all ambulatory care settings. AAACN is the only specialty nursing association that focuses on excellence in ambulatory care. This professional organization offers connections with others in similar roles, help in advancing practice and leadership skills, and advocacy that promotes greater appreciation for the specialty of ambulatory care nursing.</p>
 <p>AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS</p>	<p>American Academy of Family Physicians http://www.aafp.org</p> <p>Founded in 1947, the AAFP represents 129,000 physicians and medical students nationwide. It is the only medical society devoted solely to primary care. Family physicians conduct approximately one in five office visits and provide more care for America's underserved and rural populations than any other medical specialty. Family medicine's cornerstone is an ongoing, personal patient-physician relationship focused on integrated care.</p>
 <p>American College of Physicians Leading Internal Medicine, Improving Lives</p>	<p>American College of Physicians http://www.acponline.org</p> <p>The American College of Physicians is the largest medical specialty organization in the United States with members in more than 145 countries worldwide. ACP membership includes 152,000 internal medicine physicians (internists), related subspecialists, and medical students. Internal medicine physicians are specialists who apply scientific knowledge and clinical expertise to the diagnosis, treatment, and compassionate care of adults across the spectrum from health to complex illness.</p>
 <p>AMGA Advancing High Performance Health</p>	<p>AMGA http://www.amga.org</p> <p>At AMGA, we're leading the transformation of healthcare in America because we believe in the power of healthier communities. By working alongside top professionals in our field and acting as their voice in the public sphere, we're paving the way for medical groups and integrated systems of care to deliver the next level of high-performance health care.</p>

	<p>athenahealth https://www.athenahealth.com/</p> <p>At athenahealth, everything we do is to enhance the experience and outcomes of healthcare. Today, we connect 106,000 providers and 102 million patients through clinical and financial services like electronic health records, population health tools, revenue cycle management, and care coordination. And, because we believe that collaboration and innovation will make healthcare work as it should, we're building the nation's only platform where providers, patients, payers and innovators can partner to transform care, together.</p>
	<p>Betsy Lehman Center for Patient Safety http://www.betsylehmancenterma.gov</p> <p>The Betsy Lehman Center is a Massachusetts state agency that conducts research and analysis, convenes quality improvement initiatives, and carries out a program of strategic communications to support healthcare providers, policymakers, and consumers working together to improve patient safety in all care settings.</p>
	<p>HIMSS http://www.himss.org/library/quality-patient-safety</p> <p>HIMSS is a global, cause-based, not-for-profit organization focused on better health through information and technology. HIMSS leads efforts to optimize health engagements and care outcomes using information and technology.</p>
	<p>Massachusetts Coalition for the Prevention of Medical Errors http://www.macoalition.org</p> <p>The Massachusetts Coalition for the Prevention of Medical Errors is a public-private partnership whose mission is to improve patient safety and eliminate medical errors in Massachusetts. The Coalition leverages the efforts of its multi-stakeholder member organizations to achieve this goal, promoting a systems-oriented approach, identifying causes of medical errors, and sharing, developing, and supporting implementation of strategies for prevention.</p>
	<p>National Association for Healthcare Quality (NAHQ) http://www.nahq.org</p> <p>The National Association for Healthcare Quality (NAHQ) prepares a coordinated, competent workforce to advance the healthcare quality profession, defines the profession's standard of excellence, and equips professionals and organizations to meet these standards. NAHQ offers the only accredited certification in healthcare quality, the CPHQ, a credential that more than 10,000 individuals actively hold today.</p>
	<p>Partners HealthCare http://www.partners.org</p> <p>Partners HealthCare is an integrated health care system, founded by Brigham and Women's Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital, that offers patients a continuum of coordinated and high-quality care. In addition to its two academic medical centers, the system includes community and specialty hospitals, a managed care organization, a physician network, community health centers, home health and long-term care services, and other health care entities. Partners is a non-profit organization that is committed to patient care, research, teaching, and service to the community. In addition, Partners is one of the nation's leading biomedical research organizations and is a principal teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School.</p>



**Regenstrief
Institute**

Regenstrief Institute
<http://www.regenstrief.org>

Regenstrief Institute is a dynamic, people-centered research organization driven by a mission of connecting and innovating for better health. We envision a world where better information empowers people to stop disease and realize true health.



**SOCIETY^{to}
IMPROVE
DIAGNOSISⁱⁿ
MEDICINE**

Society to Improve Diagnosis in Medicine
<http://www.improvediagnosis.org>

The Society to Improve Diagnosis in Medicine (SIDM) catalyzes and leads change to improve diagnosis and eliminate harm from diagnostic error. We work in partnership with patients, their families, the healthcare community and every interested stakeholder. SIDM is the only national organization focused solely on the problem of diagnostic error and improving the accuracy and timeliness of diagnosis. In 2015, SIDM established the Coalition to Improve Diagnosis, to increase awareness and actions that improve diagnosis. Members of the Coalition represent hundreds of thousands of healthcare providers and patients—and the leading health organizations and government agencies involved in patient care. Together, we work to find solutions that enhance diagnostic safety and quality, reduce harm, and ultimately, ensure better health outcomes for patients.