

# Quick Tip

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## SBAR Communication Tool

- Effective communication promotes patient safety and a strong safety culture.
- Transfer of accountability - or providing "report" or "handover"- is a crucial component of the care transition process.
- SBAR tool is used to communicate clear elements of a patient's condition and care plan for transfer of accountability.



Q-Tip #15

<b>S</b>	<b>Situation-</b> What is going on with the patient? What is the situation you are calling/communicating about?
<b>B</b>	<b>Background-</b> What is the background or context on this patient?
<b>A</b>	<b>Assessment-</b> What is the problem? E.g. <i>vital signs, laboratory results, mobility, bracelets applied...</i>
<b>R</b>	<b>Recommendation-</b> What is the next step in the management of the patient?

- The "sender" and "receiver" share **equal responsibility** of ensuring SBAR is complete and accurate.



*Standardized communication tools improve patient safety!*

More Information:  
[www.pemreg hos.org/accreditationhub](http://www.pemreg hos.org/accreditationhub)

# SBAR Communication Tool

## Discussion Questions & Activities

### **Non-Clinical**

- How are barriers to accessibility addressed in your area?  
(Prompts: physical accessibility, equity lens, accommodations, sensory needs, language, etc.)

### **Clinical**

- Ask the team, what does SBAR stand for?
- Ask the team, who is responsible for ensuring SBAR is complete and accurate?
- Have a discussion about what does using SBAR (strategy) support.
- Ask the team, to validate if The Interdepartmental Patient Transfer Communication Tool (SBAR) is retained on the patient chart as part of the patient record.