



*The Heart of a  
Healthy Community*

# Communication

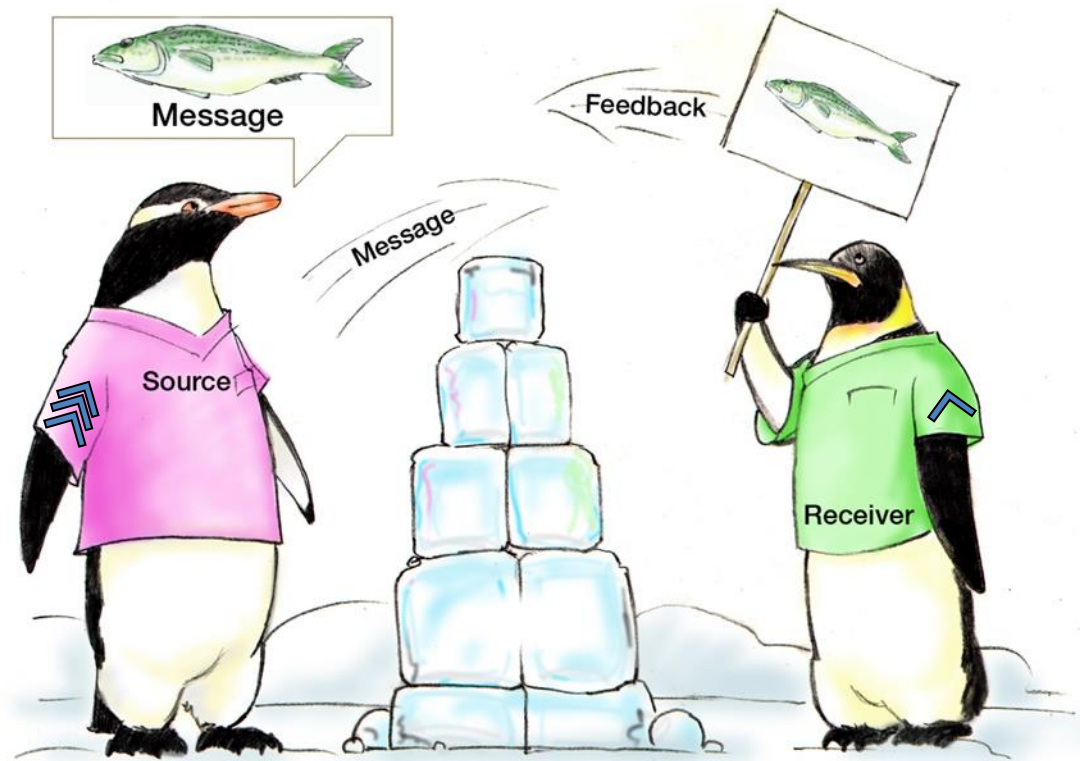
*TeamSTEPPS*

David T. Wong, MD, FACS, FCCP  
Chief of Trauma and Critical Care Services  
August 5, 2015



# Communication

## Power Differential

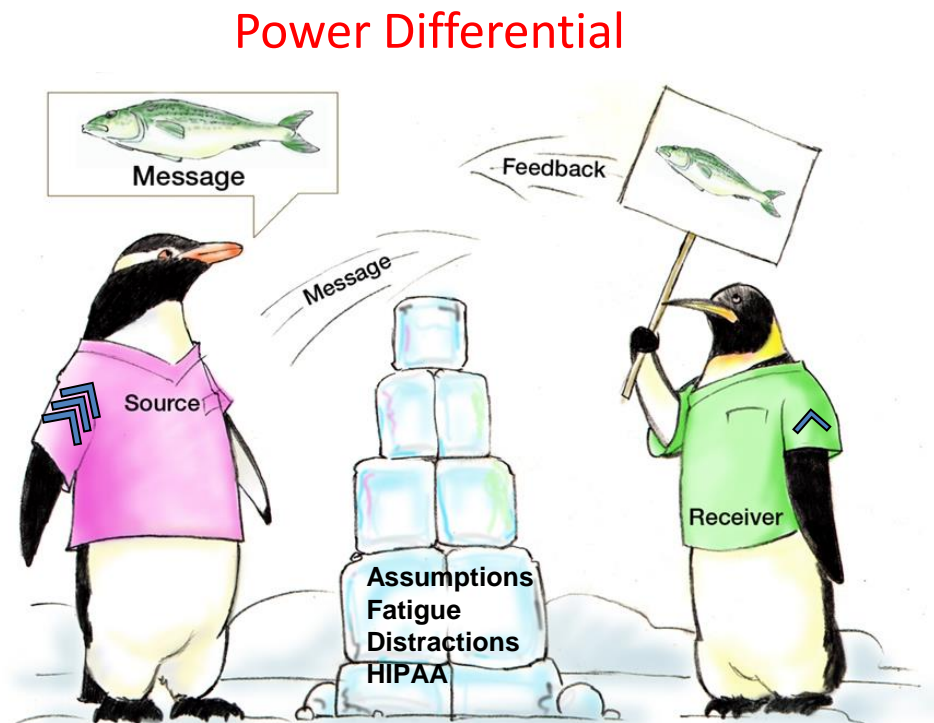


Assumptions  
Fatigue  
Distractions  
HIPAA

# Communication

## Communication is...

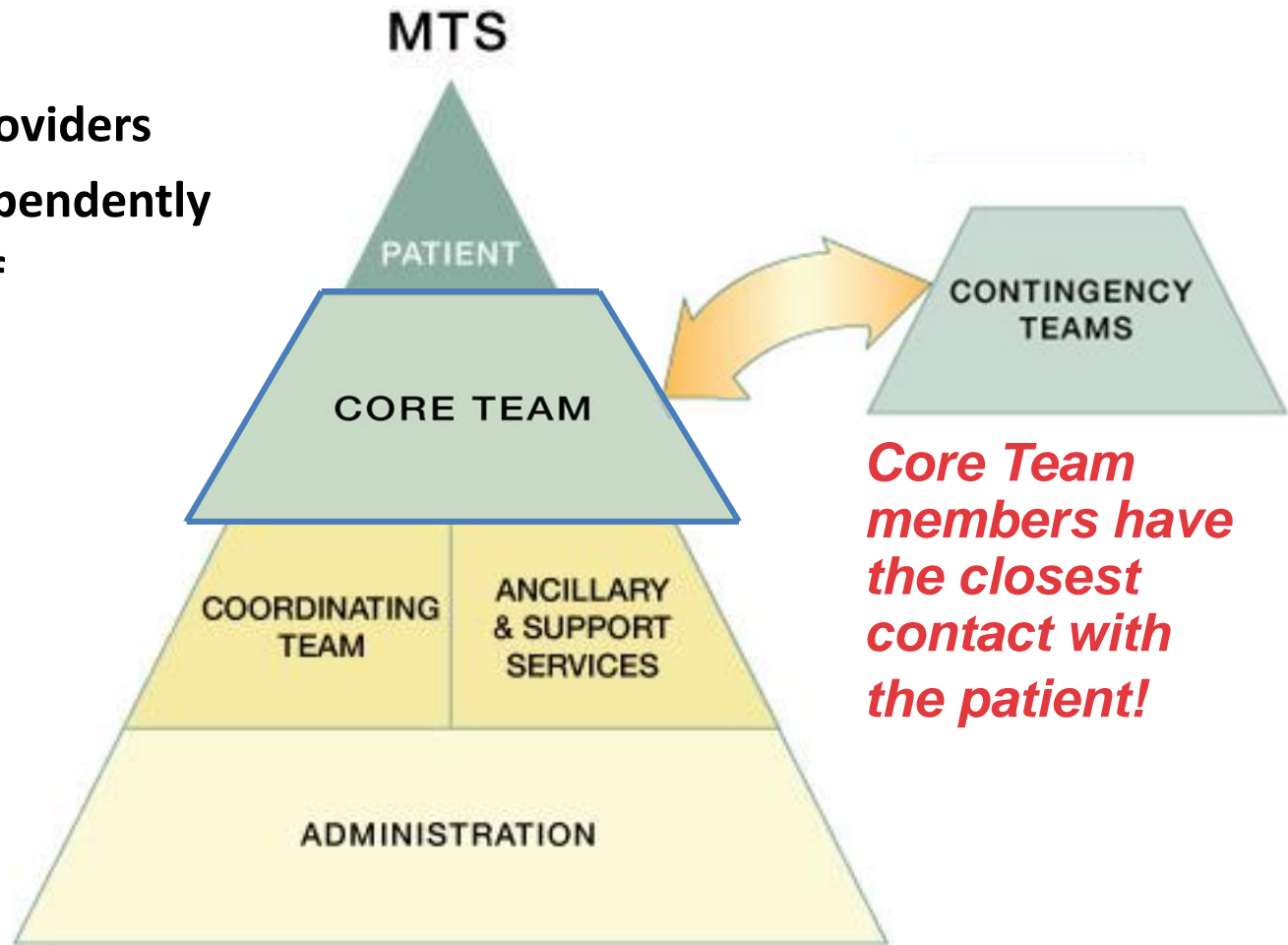
- The process by which information is **exchanged** between individuals, departments, or organizations
- The lifeline of the Core Team
- Effective when it permeates every aspect of an organization



# Communication

## A Core Team is...

A group of care providers who work interdependently to manage a set of assigned patients from point of assessment to disposition



***Core Team members have the closest contact with the patient!***

## Importance of Communication

- Joint Commission data continues to demonstrate the importance of communication in patient safety
  - 1995 - 2005: Ineffective communication identified as root cause for nearly 66 percent of all reported sentinel events\*
  - 2010 - 2013: Ineffective communication among top 3 root causes of sentinel events reported\*\*

\* (JC Root Causes and Percentages for Sentinel Events (All Categories) January 1995–December 2005)

\*\* (JC Sentinel Event Data (Root Causes by Event Type) 2004-2012)

## Standards of Effective Communication

- **Complete**
  - Communicate all relevant information
- **Clear**
  - Convey information that is plainly understood
- **Brief**
  - Communicate the information in a concise manner
- **Timely**
  - Offer and request information in an appropriate timeframe
  - Verify authenticity
  - Validate or acknowledge information

## Communication Challenges

- Power Differential
- Language barrier
- Distractions
- Physical proximity
- Personalities
- Workload
- Varying communication styles
- Conflict
- Lack of information verification
- Shift change

# Communication

## How Do We Achieve the Following?

1. Standards of Effective Communication
2. Overcome Challenges/Barriers of Communication

## ARMC will implement and monitor three tools:

1. ISBARQ
2. 2-Challenge Rule
3. 360 Peer Evaluation



Arrowhead Regional Medical Center's

# ISBARQ

## SBAR Provides...

**A framework for team members to effectively communicate information to one another**

Communicate the following information:

- **Situation**—What is going on with the patient?
- **Background**—What is the clinical background or context?
- **Assessment**—What do I think the problem is?
- **Recommendation**—What would I recommend?

## Handoff Consists of...

- Transfer of responsibility and accountability
- Clarity of information
- Verbal communication of information
- Acknowledgment by receiver
- Opportunity to review

## Handoff is...

- The transfer of information during transitions in care across the continuum
  - Includes an opportunity to ask questions, clarify, and confirm



# Communication

## “I PASS THE BATON”



- I**ntroduction: Introduce yourself and your role/job (include patient)
- P**atient: Identifiers, age, sex, location
- A**ssessment: Present chief complaint, vital signs, symptoms, and diagnosis
- S**ituation: Current status/circumstances, including code status, level of uncertainty, recent changes, and response to treatment
- S**afety: Critical lab values/reports, socioeconomic factors, allergies, and alerts (falls, isolation, etc.)

### *THE*

- B**ackground: Comorbidities, previous episodes, current medications, and family history
- A**ctions: What actions were taken or are required? Provide brief rationale
- T**iming: Level of urgency and explicit timing and prioritization of actions
- O**wnership: Who is responsible (nurse/doctor/team)?  
Include patient/family responsibilities
- N**ext: What will happen next? Anticipated changes?  
What is the plan? Are there contingency plans?

# Communication

# ARMC's ISBARQ FORM

## Transfer of Care Report

How To Use This Template:

1. For **Nurse to Nurse phone report**: RN giving report uses this form as a guide to cover pertinent patient information while RN accepting report uses a copy of the form to verify information **and communicate to other team members**.
2. For **bedside in person/Team reports or transfer of care from one team to another**: Member(s) of the team transferring care and member(s) of the team accepting care come to the bedside and each team will use template to review pertinent patient information for hand off.

<b>I</b>	Identify yourself and your patient using 2 patient identifiers (name and DOB) to the person receiving this report.		
	Ask the name of the person receiving this report Patient's Mental Status/GCS: Patient's Code Status/DNR-Withholding/Withdrawing of care form		
<b>S</b>	Transfer of care is for:		
	<b>History:</b> Neuro - Seizures - DM - Cardiac Dz- Dysthythmia - HTN - Resp Dz - Asthma - Renal Dz - Liver Dz - Other:		
<b>B</b>	<b>Allergies:</b>		
	<b>Isolation :</b>	Contact	Airborne Droplet
<b>A</b>	<b>Cultural/Interpreter:</b>	<b>Personal Belongings:</b> _____ <b>Given To:</b> _____	
	<b>Family Contact Info:</b>	<b>Location:</b> Waiting Room Unavailable	<b>Contact #:</b> _____
<b>A</b>	<b>Vital Signs:</b>	T= _____ HR= _____ BP= _____ RR= _____ SpO <sub>2</sub> = _____ Ht= _____ Wt= _____	
	<b>Skin:</b>	<b>Problem Areas:</b>	
<b>A</b>	<b>Neuro:</b>		
	<b>Respiratory:</b>	<b>Vent Settings:</b>	<b>Last ABG:</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Cardiovascular:</b>	<b>Rhythm:</b>	<b>Last EKG shows:</b>
	<b>Gastrointestinal:</b>		
<b>A</b>	<b>GU/Cath/Drains:</b>	Foley Drains: JP Hmvac	Chest Tube Other:
	<b>Dressings:</b>		
<b>A</b>	<b>Musculoskeletal:</b>		
	<b>Pain:</b>	<b>Pain Rating=</b> /10 <b>Location:</b>	<b>Pain Control Plan:</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Regional Block :</b>	Epidural Spinal Nerve Block	<b>Other:</b>
	<b>IV Site/Fluids (location):</b>	<b>Site/Fluid:</b>	<b>Site/Fluid:</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Meds:</b>	<b>Infusions/Drips:</b>	
	<b>Blood Given/Needed:</b>	<b>Given:</b>	<b>Needs:</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Monitoring Lines (location):</b>	<b>Central lines:</b>	<b>Art Line:</b> <b>Other:</b>
	<b>I&amp;O and EBL:</b>	I= _____ O= _____	<b>EBL:</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Abn Labs &amp; Last BS:</b>	BS= _____	
	<b>Issues I am Concerned About:</b>		
<b>R</b>	<b>BetaBlocker Protocol:</b>	Yes No N/A	<b>Special or Department Specific Concerns:</b>
	<b>DVT Protocol:</b>	Yes No N/A	
<b>R</b>	<b>Fall Risk:</b>	Yes No	
	<b>Special Equipment:</b>		
<b>R</b>	<b>Other:</b>		
	<b>Meds needed:</b>		
<b>R</b>	<b>Antibiotics given:</b>		
	<b>Specific care required immediately or soon:</b>		
<b>Q</b>	<b>Address any questions:</b>		

# Communication

The Charge Nurse completes the audit form and doesn't tell the sending or receiving RN that they are being audited.

## ISBARQ AUDIT TOOL

This tool will be used to audit how the transfer of care is carried out between the PACU/OR Personnel and the ICU Registered Nurse. The Charge Nurse will complete this form with every transfer from the PACU/OR. The Charge Nurse will not prompt/remind the RN about the expectation to use ISBARQ because all staff have been instructed to do so.

ITEM	YES	NO
1. Was report given over the phone prior to the patient arriving to the unit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Upon arrival, was the patient stable and monitored for SpO2 and ECG Leads prior to report?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Did the receiving RN say, "Let's pause for transfer of care report?"	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Did the sending RN/Anesthesia say, "Let's pause for transfer of care report?" if the receiving RN forgot?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Was report given in the ISBARQ format?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

From (please circle):      PACU      OR      MICU/SICU

### TEAM MEMBERS

Receiving RN (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Sending RN/Anesthesia (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Charge RN (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Charge RN (signature): \_\_\_\_\_

## AUDIT RESULTS

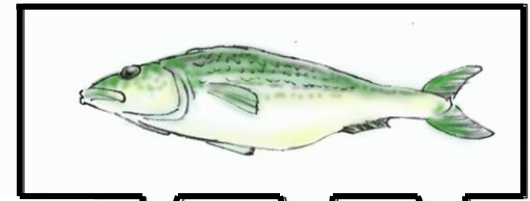
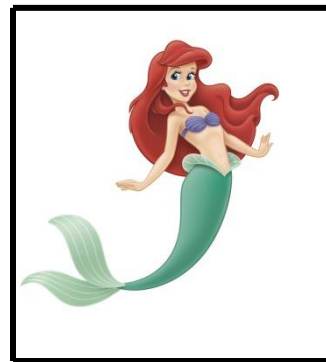
- N= 20
- Transfer of care during day shift? 19/20 (95%)
- Was report given over the phone? 14/20 (70%)
- Upon arrival, was the patient stable and monitored? 20/20 (100%)
- Did the receiving RN say, “Let’s pause for transfer of care report?” 9/20 (45%)
- Did the sending RN/Anesthesia say, “Let’s pause for transfer of care report?” 2/20 (10%)
- Was report given in the ISBARQ format? 15/20 (75%)



# Communication

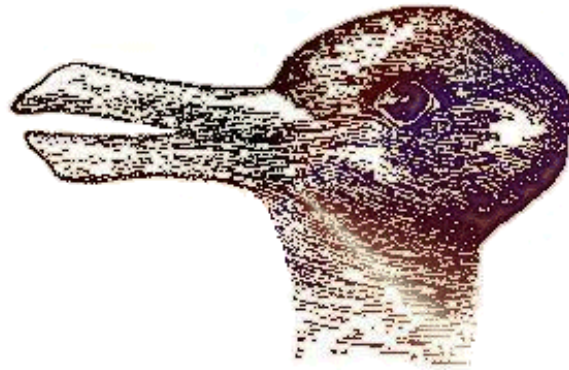
## A Shared Mental Model is...

The perception of, understanding of, or knowledge about a situation or process that is shared among team members through communication



# Communication

## What Do You See?

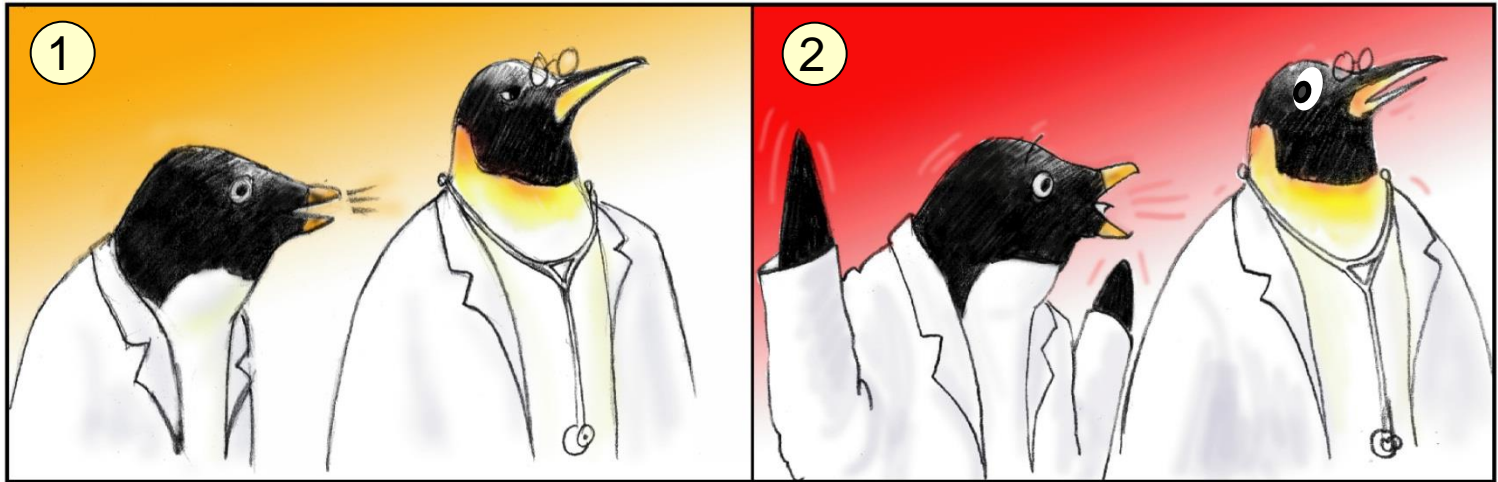


# Communication

## Shared Mental Model?



## Two-Challenge Rule



## Two-Challenge Rule

Invoked when an initial assertion is ignored...

- It is your *responsibility* to assertively voice your concern at least *two times* to ensure that it has been heard
- The member being challenged must acknowledge
- If the outcome is still not acceptable
  - Take a stronger course of action
  - Use supervisor or chain of command

## Two-Challenge Rule cont.

- Empower any team member to “**stop the line**” if he or she senses or discovers a breach of safety.
- This is an action never to be taken lightly, but it requires immediate cessation of the process and resolution of the safety issue.

## Please Use CUS Words

but *only* when appropriate!



# Communication



## ARROWHEAD REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER Administrative Operations Manual

POLICY NO.  
Page 1 of 1

SECTION: III. PATIENT CARE

SUBJECT: 2-Challenge Rule

APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Executive Officer

### POLICY

Multidisciplinary team members are encouraged to advocate for their patients and to voice concerns to each other should a problem arise. Effective communication is complete, clear, brief, and timely. ISBARQ (Identity, Situation, Background, Assessment, Recommendation, and Questions) is the standard format used at ARMC to convey pertinent information between team members. The 2-Challenge Rule empowers all team members to stop and rethink a situation or decision if they sense or discover an essential safety breach.

### PROCEDURE

#### I. WHEN AN INITIAL ASSERTION IS IGNORED:

A. It is the team member's responsibility to assertively voice concern at least two times to ensure he/she has been heard. "CUS" may be utilized to reinforce the 2-challenge rule:

1. Example:

- a. "I'm CONCERNED that you want \_\_\_\_\_ for Patient X?"
- b. "Yes, that is my order."
- c. "I'm UNCOMFORTABLE that you want \_\_\_\_\_ for Patient X?"
- d. "My order is final. Please carry out my order."
- e. "This is a SAFETY issue. We need another consult."

B. The team member being challenged must acknowledge the concern.

C. If the outcome is still not acceptable:

1. Take a stronger course of action
2. Utilize the supervisor chain of command until the safety issue is solved and optimal outcome is achieved.

### REFERENCES:

[TeamSTEPPS \(2015\).  
https://www.med.unc.edu/ihqi/files/teamsteps/implementation-  
package/TeamSTEPPS%20QuickFacts%20%284%29.pdf](https://www.med.unc.edu/ihqi/files/teamsteps/implementation-package/TeamSTEPPS%20QuickFacts%20%284%29.pdf)

[SimulHealthc, 2009 Summer,4\(2\):84-91.doi:  
10.1097/SIH.0b013e31818cfd3.  
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19444045](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19444045)

### DEFINITIONS:

ATTACHMENTS:  
APPROVED:  
EFFECTIVE:  
REVISED:  
REVIEWED:



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[www.arrowheadmedcenter.org](http://www.arrowheadmedcenter.org)



## Mutual Support



## Mutual Support

### **Mutual support involves members:**

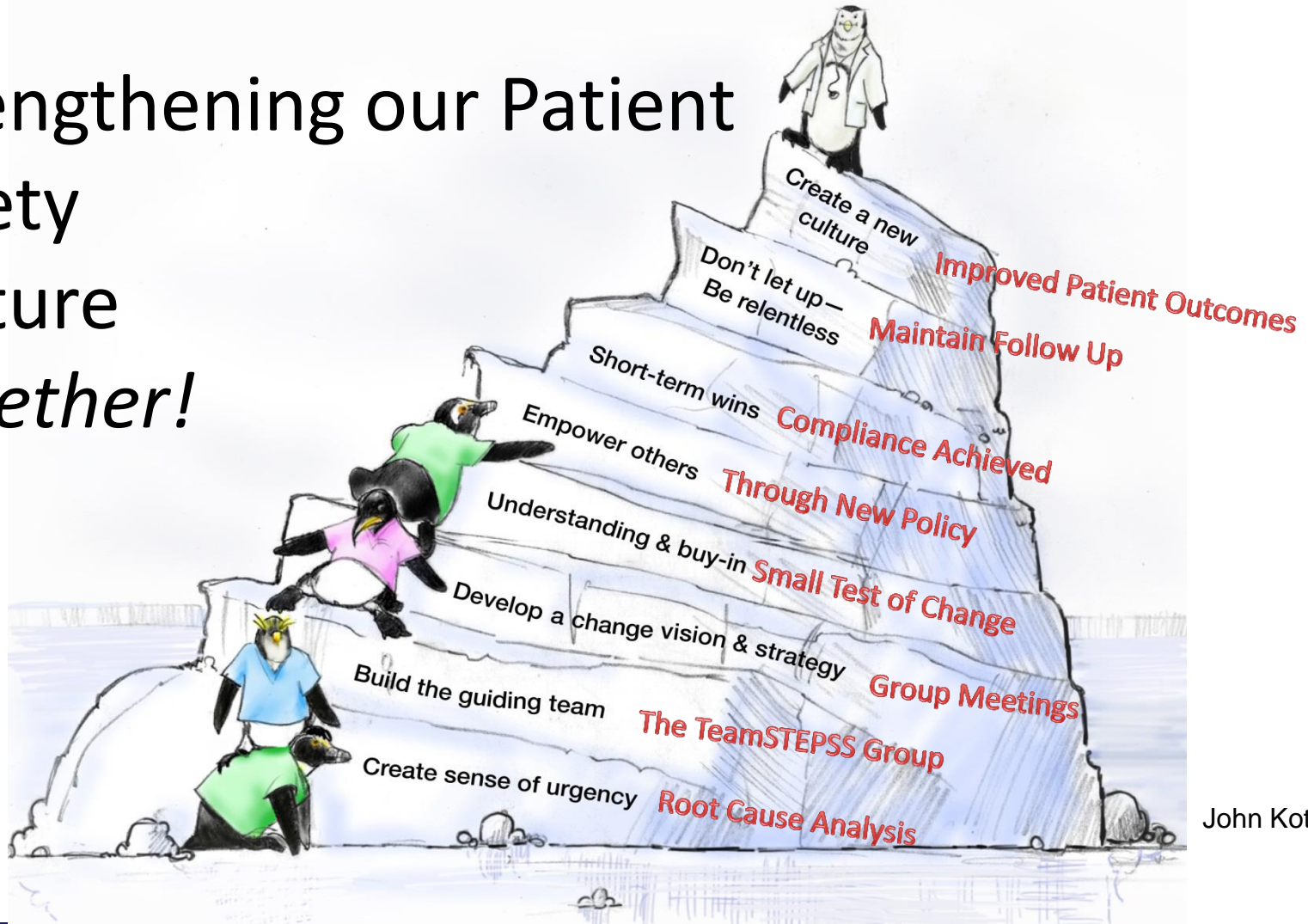
1. Assisting each other
2. Providing and receiving feedback
3. Exerting assertive and advocacy behaviors when patient safety is threatened

## 360° Peer Evaluation



# Communication

Strengthening our Patient  
Safety  
Culture  
*Together!*



John Kotter