Increasing Breast Cancer Screening Rates through an Alert System in the Electronic Medical Record

Elizabeth Kelsey, MSN, APRN, FNP-C and Catherine O'Keefe, DNP, APRN – NP (Advisor)
Creighton University College of Nursing
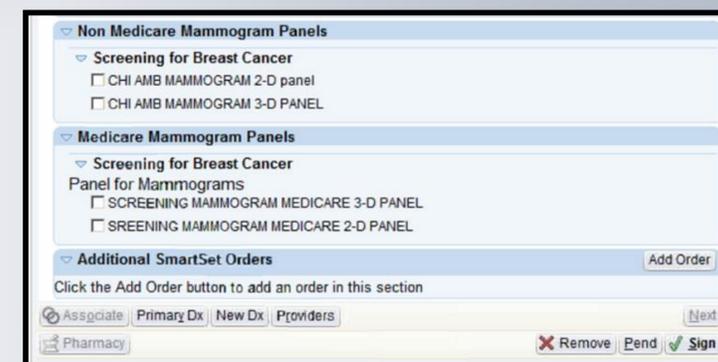
SIGNIFICANCE

- Breast cancer is the second leading cause of female death in the United States, with nearly 40,000 deaths annually

- Mammography has been shown to reduce breast cancer mortality

- Routine screening recommended by primary care providers (PCPs) could decrease late stage diagnosis of breast cancer

- Lowest screening rates are among those uninsured and non-whites

- A system strategy through the EMR can identify all women due for mammography

PURPOSE

- To implement a Best Practice Advisory (BPA) alert into a system-wide electronic medial record (EMR) in order to increase breast cancer screening

- To make health care providers aware of the process necessary to make such a practice change

BEST PRACTICE ADVISORY ALERT

METHODS

- Proposed practice change

- Eligible women were those aged 39-75 years who had no recorded screening mammogram in the EMR within the last two years to date.

- Women with a personal history of breast cancer were not eligible

- Implementation occurred at CHI Health Clinics including Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, and Women's Health.

- Performance reports track provider utilization of the BPA as well as completed mammogram reports

- Reports track disparity between insured and uninsured patients, in collaboration with the Population Health Team's efforts of Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH)
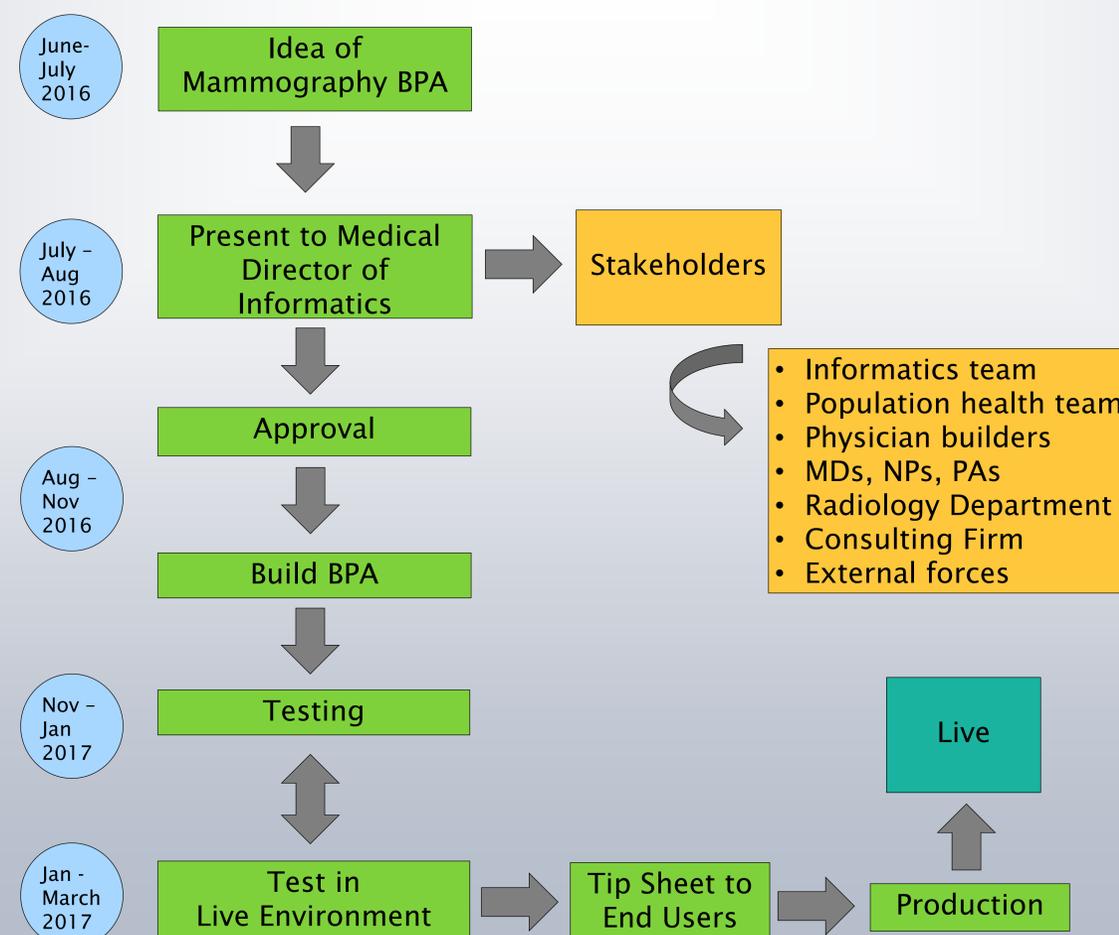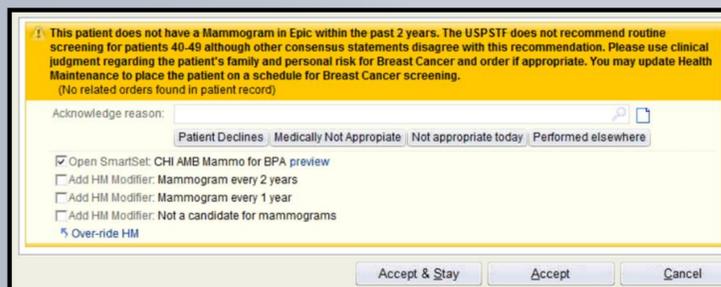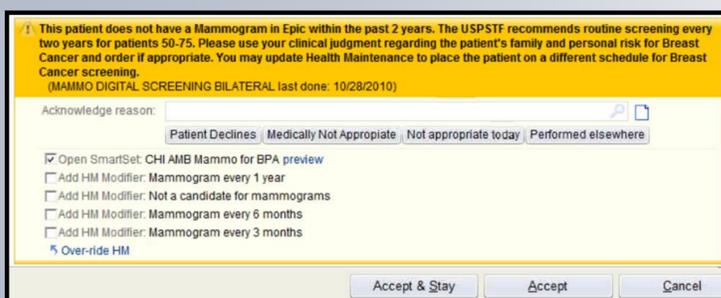
PROCESS LEADING TO CHANGE

SMARTSET

- Use the CHI AMB MAMMO for BPA SmartSet to place applicable orders

DISCUSSION

- An alert system can increase mammography uptake

- Providers are encouraged to discuss individualized education and recommendations with the patient

- Cost effective and replicable

- Additional research is needed to assist PCPs to identify a woman's personal risk and eliminate barriers to breast cancer screening

- Advanced practice implications include:
  - Foster communication and leadership skills
  - Utilize features of the EMR and support informatics
  - Awareness of federal and state assistance programs
  - Provide patient education and awareness
  - Provider and staff resources
  - Establish patient-provider relationship

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS