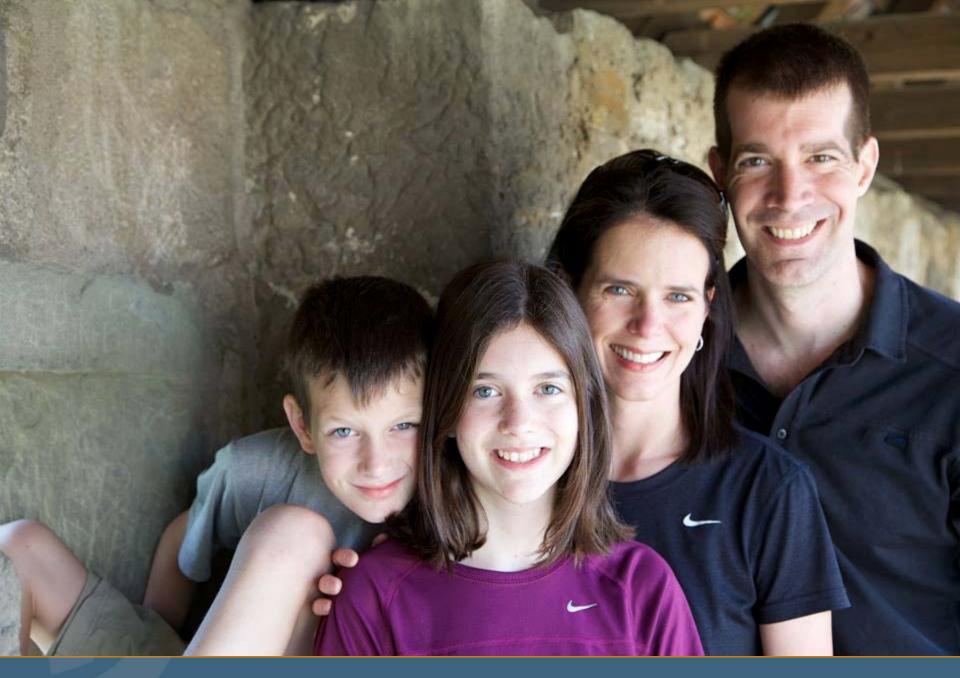
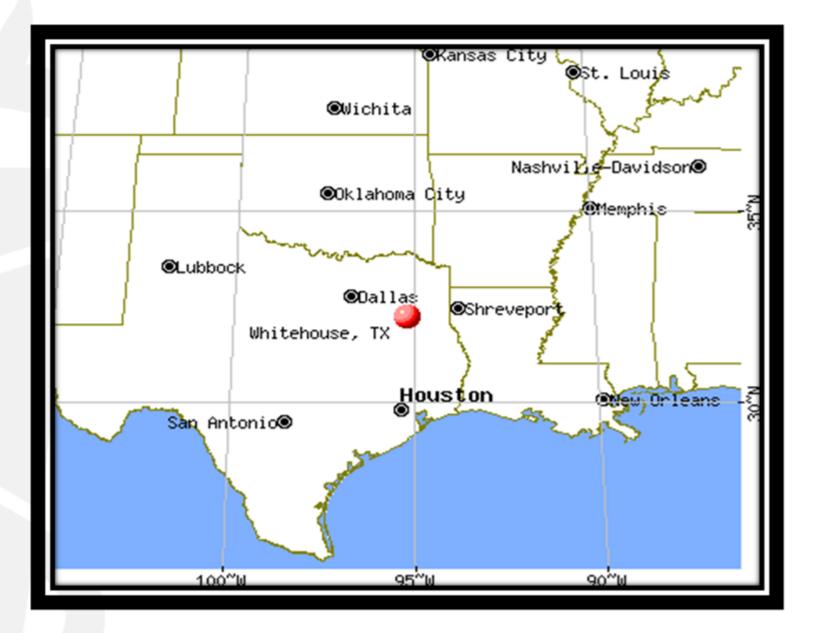
#### Medical Home: Lessons learned from the field

#### Amy Mullins, MD, FAAFP

**Continuing Medical Education** 







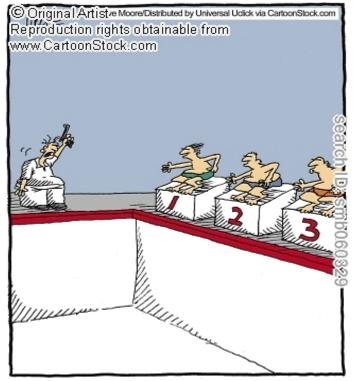
#### 2006-2008



# Lesson #1: What do we do now?

• We asked our staff

• We surveyed our patients



"... Get set ... Wait! We forgot the water!"

".....Get set......Wait! We forgot the water!"

# On the cheap...

- Clipboard survey
- Uncovered parking lots
- Lead to adjustment of schedule
- Lead to hiring of new staff

# Lesson #2: Leverage the Team



- Your best asset
- You might lose a few along the way

# Lesson #3: Turnover

- "We will start this project when we are fully staffed"
- The only guarantee is that you will never be fully staffed sick, vacations, etc.
- Cross training is essential

# Lesson #4: Daily Huddles



"Be sincere, be brief, be seated." Franklin D. Roosevelt

# Huddles - Two Minutes to Change your Day

- Evaluate the schedule
- Plan for unexpected problems
- Pre-plan for well child checks/immunizations
- Prep for procedures
- Assign tasks as needed
- Gets your entire team involved

# Lesson #5: Access



"Would you like to wait?"

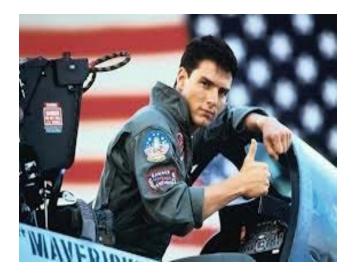
# Variation

- Prior to NDP our office visit types were called:
  - New
  - Acute, Same Day, Next Day
  - -WWE, WCC, WME
  - URI
  - 3MoF/U, 6MoF/U, 2WkF/U

## It's about time...

- After the NDP we had consensus on two types based on TIME
  - Follow Up
  - Acute

### Lesson #6: Staff Empowerment





# How?

- Front desk could make scheduling decisions
- Nurses could act on standing orders/pre-signed orders based on huddle
  - Strep Tests
  - UAs
  - Flu Shots
- Refill protocols were put in place

## **Results?**



#### Lesson #7: Try something new



## **E-Visits**

- Established patients only
- URI, HTN, Depression
- \$30 paid online, insurance not billed
- Who?
  - Uninsured
  - Shift workers
  - Those who can't afford to take off work
  - Those who can't get an appointment

#### What do patients think?

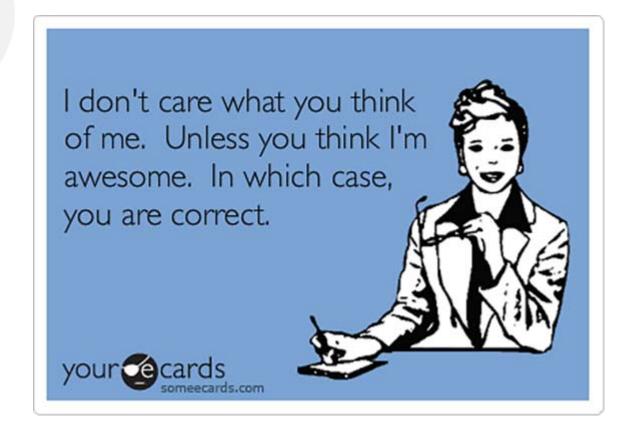
- Some loved it and used it all the time
- Others never used the system
- If we felt an E-visit was inappropriate for online care, we cancelled the visit and had the patient come to the office

# Lesson #8: Technology...good, bad, and ugly

- Emailing patients lab results
  - Patients love this!
  - It prevents "phone tag"
  - Your words go directly to the patient
  - Gives time back to your nurse



## Lesson #9: Quality



# Quality

- Quality had been a "focus" of our health system since 2004
- Metrics were reported to physicians quarterly based on regional HEDIS targets
- CAD, HTN, DM, Mammograms, Colonoscopies, ASA ....about 12 metrics total
- Part of our compensation was tied to quality
- Stages of grief...

#### In my experience....



Doctors are trained in the science of medicine but not in the skills needed to improve patient care and patient safety!

# Basically, we need help!



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

STRONG MEDICINE FOR AMERICA

## At the practice level

- Care Gap lists were provided to each site
- Patients contacted regarding missing services
  - Mail
  - Phone call
  - Email

Quality improved (almost) across the board!

#### Lesson #10: Care Coordination

- Two LVNs hired and embedded in a highly productive clinic
- Pre-visit Planning: Phone call about visit, labs ordered, reports gathered, etc.
- Care Gap Management
- Hospital Discharge F/U

### **Results?**

- No show rate decreased from 4.5% to 2.8%
- Absolute visits increased by 600
- Quality increased (examples)
  - Eye exam rates 34% to 72%
  - A1C <7% 49% to 55%

#### Cost?

- Cost of two CC for six months was \$50,000 (\$19/hr + benefits)
- Downstream revenue for six months was \$75,000

#### **Final Lesson**

- Transformation is HARD
- It is never over
- You might lose some along the way
- That is ok!

Questions? amullins@aafp.org