

Emergency Department Patient-Activated Transition from Care to Home (ED-PATCH)



What is ED-PATCH?

ED-PATCH is a discharge communication tool that is activated and managed by patients or their caregivers to record important information shared during the ED visit.

Patients receive ED-PATCH in the waiting room or immediately upon placement in the assessment room and use it to track important information throughout their visit.

It is designed to capture important information including 1. Information about diagnosis; 2. Details about treatments, tests and procedures; 3. Reconciled and new medications; 4. Treatment plans including expected course of illness, signs and symptoms to watch for and when to return to the ED.

Prior to discharge, the patient or caregiver shares the summary of their notes with an ED provider who confirms or clarifies the information captured. The patient-generated discharge summary is then available to be printed in the ED or sent electronically to the patient or caregiver to be added to their own personal health record.

The ED-PATCH Trial

Using CIHR Project Grant funding, our team will trial ED-PATCH over the next five years. The goal is to evaluate the **effectiveness** of ED-PATCH using an interrupted time series and to better understand the context for **implementation** of ED-PATCH in Canadian emergency practice settings. We will use a concurrent embedded mixed methods hybrid type 1 design with an integrated knowledge translation approach where we will work with patient and public partners, health care providers, and health system administrators.

Objectives

1. Evaluate the effectiveness of ED-PATCH on patient recall and comprehension of information during an emergency department visit.
2. Evaluate the effectiveness of ED-PATCH on patient experience with emergency care.
3. Evaluate the impact of ED-PATCH on health care providers and the health system.
4. Explore the determinants (patient, provider, and system factors) of ED-PATCH adoption in emergency practice settings.
5. Describe the implementation strategies employed to promote uptake of ED-PATCH.

Timeline

