



Improving Quality of Care for Patients Undergoing Colorectal Surgery

The Problem

- Colorectal surgical procedures are commonly performed, resource intensive, and have postoperative complication rates as high as 26%
- Enhanced recovery protocols are proven to reduce postoperative length of stay (LOS) by up to 2-3 days, decrease complications such as SSI, UTI and VTE, improve patient satisfaction, and decrease costs
- Enhanced recovery protocols span the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative periods and can be tailored to individual hospital needs. Specific elements include:
 - Preoperative patient teaching and setting expectations
 - Multimodal analgesia to decrease opioid use
 - Carbohydrate loading, decreased fasting, and minimized IVF
 - Avoidance of NG tubes and drains
 - Early ambulation
 - SSI, UTI, and VTE prevention
- Successful implementation of enhanced recovery protocols requires multidisciplinary teamwork and an initial investment of time and resources
- Current implementation efforts require significant primary data collection, which is an insurmountable burden for many hospitals

How can SCW help increase adoption of enhanced recovery protocols?

- Provide benchmarked reports of hospital performance for LOS, readmission, SSI, and use of opioids using existing administrative data (no data collection required)
- Provide toolkit to guide implementation of enhanced recovery protocols:
 - Sample protocols and order sets
 - Sample patient education materials
 - Clinical practice guidelines and evidence supporting enhanced recovery
- Provide platform for collaborative learning through monthly webinar sessions
 - Overview of specific topics, prioritized by participating hospitals
 - Case studies of solutions from hospitals within SCW
 - Platform for interactive problem solving and brainstorming between interested surgeons from across Wisconsin
- Provide interested hospitals with guidance on limited, tailored primary data collection

How will we measure success?

- Distribute survey to participating surgeons to determine current practices regarding enhanced recovery, and areas of interest/priority for improvement (quantify variation)
- Attendance and feedback on webinar sessions, developed based on survey results
- Track improvement through qualitative feedback gathered through surveys and interviews, participation, and performance rate improvement for targeted outcomes

What is required for participation?

- Sign Participating Hospital/Facility Agreement ([download](#))
- Receive and review benchmarked performance reports
- Participate in webinar sessions
- Agree to complete surveys and interviews to track progress