Engage to Elevate: Designing Research with Patients & Care Partners to Elevate Our Understanding of Safety

B6: Co-production to build resilient communities

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Introduction

Laura Pozzobon, RN, MSc(HQ), CHE, PhD(HQ) (Student)

Research Consultant, ISMP Canada

Honorary Research Fellow, Cardiff University

Manager, Quality, Safety & Clinical Adoption, University Health Network

Adjunct Lecturer, L.S. Bloomberg School of Nursing, University of Toronto

Melissa Sheldrick, M Sc(Ed), SQIL Harvard Medical School

Patient and Family Advisor, ISMP Canada

Active Member, Patients for Patient Safety Canada

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Objectives

01

Explain current literature about patient and care partner engagement in patient safety

02

Describe strategies to engage patients and care partners when designing improvements and/or research

03

Apply the lessons from the methods of the two presented studies to one's own context

A Global Call To Action

WHO'S 2021-2030 Global Safety Action Plan: Towards Eliminating Avoidable Harm in Health Care

Strategic Objective Four: Patient & Family Engagement

Engage and empower patients and families to help and support the journey to safer health care

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Canadian Example:

WHO, 2020

Patient Safety Paradigm Shift

A call to shift the patient safety paradigm to incorporate the patient experience

- Call for a broader understanding of harm, incorporating the patient perspective (O'Hara & Isden, 2013)
- Greatest patient safety concern: Risks of dismissing patient concerns (ECRI, 2025)

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How do we Engage Patients?

Patient Engagement Framework by Healthcare Excellence Canada adapted from iAP2 (2018) Spectrum of Public Participation

(Healthcare Excellence Canada, n.d)

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Patient Engagement in Patient Safety

- Primary focus on engagement in patient safety has been on "speaking-up" in the moment (Vincent & Amalberti, 2016)
- Patients/caregivers can safeguard care at direct care level (Perfetto et al., 2024)
- Another opportunity: reporting avoidable harm to support a comprehensive understanding of safety (Kendir et al., 2019, 2023)
  - Example: (OECD) countries (Kendir et al., 2019, 2023)
  - Example: ISMP Canada

Potential Benefits of Patient Reporting

- Measurement source
- Broadening harm definition
- Provide a view of safety across the health system
- Inform identification of contributing factors

(Pozzobon et al., 2023)

Measuring Medication Safety with Patients

Research Aims

1

Describe and evaluate methods to measure avoidable medication-related harms.

2

Explore the **classes of patient safety information patients identify**

3

Develop **recommendations on collecting pt reported avoidable medication-related harm**.

(Pozzobon et al., 2024)

Measuring Medication Safety with Patients

Two-Phase Thesis

Phase 1:
Scoping Review

Phase 2:
Convergent Mixed-Methods

Patient Reported Medication Errors
Mederror.ca

Interviews

(Pozzobon et al., 2024)

Measuring Medication Safety with Patients

Patient Partnership in This Thesis Work

The Canadian Institute for Health Information's (CIHI) SPOR (n.d.) Patient Engagement Framework

01 Inclusiveness	02 Support
03 Mutual Respect	04 Co-Build

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Measuring Medication Safety with Patients

Patient Partnership in This Thesis Work

Equal opportunity to participate in research process as a committee member. For example:

- *writing/reviewing funding applications*
- *research question development*
- *recruitment strategy*
- *proposal examiner*
- *dissemination*

Modified from Healthcare Excellence Canada, n.d.

Other Examples of Engagement Strategies:

- Funding: Partnership Capacity Building Fund (PCBF), Ontario SPOR SUPPORT Unit (OSSU)
- Value of lived experience
- Support to participation: scheduling meetings considering schedule; virtual option
- Thesis student participating in education opportunities

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Measuring Medication Safety with Patients

Patient Partnership in This Thesis Work

Evaluation of Patient Partner Participation in Thesis Committee

Patients Canada
Make your experience count

Patients as Partners in Research

Researcher Surveys

Evaluating the Patient partnership in Research

Initial Survey
Mid Project Survey
End Project Survey

Authors and Patient Advisors:
Alies Maybee
SPOR Team Lead
amaybee@sideren.com

Brian Clark
Annette McKinnon
Emily Nicholas Angl

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(Maybee et al., 2016a, 2016b)

Aim: understand the actual experience of researchers and patients/caregivers

Three surveys:
- ✓ Initial (proposal examination)
- ❑ Mid (data collection/analysis)
- ❑ End (after final thesis examination)

Examples of Domains:
- Recruitment strategy
- Meeting the team
- Defining/understanding roles
- Participating on project
- Contribution to research phases

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Consider where you work.

What do you need/want to better engage patients/caregivers in your work?

Join the conversation on Mentimeter!

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Connect with Us

Laura Pozzobon

Email: Laura.Pozzobon@queensu.ca
LinkedIn: Laura Pozzobon

Melissa Sheldrick

Email: Melissa.Sheldrick@ismpcanada.ca

LinkedIn: Melissa Sheldrick

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Thank You!
What are your questions?

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