Additional file 2: Managerial practices used at different management levels to implement patient partnership in quality improvement

Type of managerial	Key practices of managers at different levels
practices	
	Top-level managers:
Designing PP	Adopt and maintain an organizational vision of PP (case 1)
	Integrate PP in the code of ethics (case 1)
	Top-level and mid-level managers:
	Develop a reference framework of the PP model (principles and associated values) (case 1) Include PP in the code of ethics (cases 1&2)
	Promote PP among patients, providers and managers and raise awareness about the contribution of PA in QI (case 1)
	Ensure alignment between top-level, mid-level and front-line managers regarding the PP model (case 1)
	Mid-level managers:
	Transfer PP experience and knowledge among managers (case 1)
	Top-level managers:
Structuring PP	Include PP as part of the HCO's strategic goals (cases 1 & 2)
	Appoint a department and managers in charge of PP (cases 1 & 2) and ensure continuity among the
	mid-level managers in charge of PP (case 1)
	Mid-level managers:
	Provide sufficient funds to compensate PA involved in QI activities (case 1 & 2)
	Involve a PA to collaboratively structure the PP model (case 1)

	Develop a logic model of PP (goals, targets and strategies to deploy PP) and review it over time (case 1) Coordinate a structured PA integration process in QI (case 1) Create and manage a list of potential PAs (cases 1&2)
Operationalizing PP - Managing PA integration in QI teams	 Front-line managers: Identify potential PAs with support from providers (cases 1&2) Stimulate and support the partnership among PAs, providers and managers (cases 1&2) Facilitate compromise when setting QI objectives (cases 1&2) Mid-level managers: Recruit and prepare PA before their integration in QI activities (cases 1&2) Provide individual training to QI teams and explanatory documents on PP methods (case 1)
	 Create a community of practice and a chart for good PP practices (case 2) Set rules to facilitate PAs participation and integration in QI teams (cases 1&2) Mid-level managers and front-line managers: Create an informal committee to foster the harmonization of PP practices in the context of a merger (case 2)
Evaluating PA integration in QI teams	Front-line managers: Ensure feedback from PAs and QI teams regarding their partnership experience (cases 1&2) Mid-level managers:
	Formally evaluate the PA integration process (case 1) Collect structural indicators on PP activities (case 1)