

SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL DATA 1a: Focus Group Guide (initial groups)

“Thank you very much for agreeing to help us with our study. As you know, transition of care for patients with IBD is difficult. While there are many important aspects of the transition pathway that require consideration, the provision of information between existing and future care provider is important for efficient transition and appropriate medical management.”

“While recent recommendations from the of the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition propose a letter summarizing the medical history of the patient be sent to the receiving physician, the appropriate content of the transition letter has not been the object of study, and may depend on local circumstance and practice.”

“What I’d like to do today is to talk to you about your experiences of the transition process, and touch on some of the issues that transition raises and get your thoughts on these in the context of developing a standardized letter for transition of care. Our hope is that we can draw on the experiences of healthcare professionals like you to inform the development of the letter.”

Introduction/icebreaker

1. Can you tell me a little about how the transition process generally proceeds and how information is currently passed between the current and receiving physician?

Content areas

2. Can you describe the areas of content that you would want included in a letter? For example, diagnosis; complications; current medications...
 - a. Probe: How important are these different content areas?
 - b. Probe: Would any of these vary between patients? What might be ‘core’ information and what might be supplemental information?
3. Given these content areas – what specific information would you want recorded in each of these areas?

[HAND OUT COPY OF North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition recommended letter]

4. Please have a look at this letter. How would you rate the letter in terms of:
 1. Content areas
 2. Level of detail requested
 3. Any other comments?

Thank you. I would now like to talk about the implementation of the proposed letter.

5. Who should receive a copy of this letter?
 1. Probe: Why would it be important that they receive a copy

6. How should the letter be provided to the receiving physician?
 1. Probe: e.g. by post, electronic. What are the advantages or disadvantages of these approaches?

7. Would you want any information appended to the letter?

Thank You. Is there anything else you would like to add with respect to the content or use of a transition of care letter?

FINISH

SUPPLEMENTAL DIGITAL DATA 1b: Focus Group Guide (Final Overall Focus Group)

“Thank you very much for agreeing to give us your additional input on the proposed transition letter. As you know, transition of care for patients with IBD is difficult. While there are many important aspects of the transition pathway that require consideration, the provision of information between existing and future care provider is important for efficient transition and appropriate medical management.”

“Based on the findings of the initial groups we have developed a proposed letter, and today we would like you to give us feedback on what you think in terms of the content.”

1. The first thing I would like to ask is about the content areas and information that the letter includes in those content areas. Do you feel the content is relevant?

- a. Probe: Is there anything that you feel is not relevant? Why is this not relevant?
- b. Probe: Is the information or option for the content areas appropriate?

2. To adult GIs: You may have noticed that the pediatric GIs felt some areas were missing from your suggestions. They included:

- i. TPMT
- ii. Initial presentation
- iii. Growth
- iv. Family history

These have now been included in the letter. How do you feel about that? Is this too much information?

- a. Probe to pediatric GIs: How do you feel about these comments? Are you happy with where these items were included in the final template?

3. Next, I want to go through each are in the template.

(review each section in detail)

4. Thank you. Is there anything that you think is missing?

- a. Probe: why would that be important?
- b. Any other comments?

Thank you. I would now like to talk about the implementation of the proposed letter.

5. Who should receive a copy of this letter?

- a. Probe: Why would it be important that they receive a copy

6. How should the letter be provided to the receiving physician?

- a. Probe: e.g. by post, electronic. What are the advantages or disadvantages of these approaches?

7. Would you want any information appended to the letter?