

DEBRIEF POCKET GUIDE

DEBRIEF STRUCTURE

- 1. Ask: What happened during the task/procedure/event?
 - ✓ What was different this time?
 - ✓ Ask why regarding unexpected outcomes of steps in task/procedure/event.
- 2. Ask: What happened related to teamwork and communication?
 - ✓ Goal(s) clear?
 - ✓ Roles clear?
 - ✓ Communication closed-loop?
 - ✓ Shared mental model of situation (e.g., urgency)?
 - ✓ Assistance sought & offered?
- 3. Ask: How could we have prevented negative outcomes? How do we duplicate positive outcomes?
- 4. Ask: What will we do differently going forward?
 - ✓ For this patient?
 - ✓ For the system as a whole?
- 5. Ask: What do we need to communicate to others?
- 6. Give constructive feedback.
- 7. Document outcomes in debrief log.

NCPS Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety

DEBRIEF FACILITATOR OBJECTIVES

- 1. Create a **psychologically safe** environment focused on learning and mutual support ("We are here to better understand what happened, why it happened, and how we can improve our clinical skills and teamwork.")
 - ✓ Call on team member with least status to share first.
 - ✓ Listen for what is/is not said.
 - ✓ Elicit facts, do not judge.
 - ✓ Ask additional team members to share in turn.
 - ✓ Thank/praise each team members' contribution ("Thank you," "good point").
- Avoid immediately accepting the simplest explanation by asking "why?" multiple times to ensure a shared mental model of clinical and teamwork.
- Summarize errors in terms of individual errors (task & judgement), coordination errors, and system errors.
- 4. Summarize next steps.
- 5. **Thank** all team members.