Introduction

Background & Significance
- Hospitals are increasingly adopting Electronic Health Records (EHRs) to improve quality of care and comply with federal “Meaningful Use” requirements.
- Electronic Health Record Systems have limitations in their usefulness for people with disabilities and medical complexity.

Objective
- To describe how La Rabida Children’s Hospital adapted its EHR to better meet the needs of children with disabilities and medical complexity.

About La Rabida Children’s Hospital
- Specialty children’s hospital serving 7500 patients annually:
  - Children with chronic illnesses like cerebral palsy, diabetes, seizure disorders, and sickle cell disease
  - Children who need rehabilitation after surgery, burns, brain injury, stroke, or trauma
  - Children who depend on technology like ventilators, G tubes, or tracheostomies
  - Children transitioning from a neonatal intensive care unit or pediatric intensive care unit at another hospital

About La Rabida’s Electronic Health Record
- Meditech®, version 6
- Integrated EHR used hospital-wide for clinical documentation, orders, billing, etc.
- Implemented 2011-2012
- Methods used to enhance ability to document care for children with medical complexity
  - Expanded Past Medical History Section: Users can click on options for “Technology History,” “Transition Planning,” “Therapy,” etc.
  - Long-term Plan: Section used once a week on progress notes to facilitate generation of discharge summaries on long-stay patients
  - Technology-specific Orders: Custom orders for technology such as ventilator use

Expanded Past Medical History Section

Long-term Plan Updated Weekly

Technology-specific Orders