

BACKGROUND

Research continuously shows that family engagement improves patient outcomes, satisfaction, and safety, making it an essential part of high-quality pediatric care. Open communication, collaborative decision-making, and caregiver education are methods to improve family engagement. Families are empowered to take an active role in their child's care through evidence-based practices like caregiver communication boards, family-center rounds, and the use of digital tools.

PURPOSE

To examine current research on family involvement in pediatric care, identify best practices, and offer practical recommendations for organized family involvement initiatives.

METHODS

A literature review was conducted focusing on studies related to family engagement in pediatric healthcare setting. There was focus was on evidence-based interventions that foster cooperation, health literacy, and cultural sensitivity when involving diverse family populations.



Survey: Families & Caregivers

Title: Family Engagement in Pediatric Care – Family/Caregiver Survey

Instructions: Your feedback will help us improve family engagement in pediatric care.

Please circle the response that best reflects your experience.

Questions:

1. I felt included in discussions about my child's care.
☐ Strongly Agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly Disagree
2. The medical team explained information in a way I could understand.
☐ Strongly Agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly Disagree
3. I was given opportunities to ask questions about my child's treatment.
☐ Strongly Agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly Disagree
4. I felt respected and listened to as part of my child's care team.
☐ Strongly Agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly Disagree
5. Written or digital resources provided were clear and useful.
☐ Strongly Agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly Disagree
6. Overall, how satisfied were you with the level of family engagement?
☐ Very Satisfied ☐ Satisfied ☐ Neutral ☐ Dissatisfied ☐ Very Dissatisfied



Survey: Medical Staff

Title: Family Engagement in Pediatric Care – Staff Survey

Instructions: Your input will help us understand and strengthen family engagement strategies.

Please circle the response that best reflects your experience.

Questions:

1. I feel confident engaging families in discussions about care.
☐ Strongly Agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly Disagree
2. Family-centered rounds improve communication with patients and caregivers.
☐ Strongly Agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly Disagree
3. I have adequate training/resources to support family engagement.
☐ Strongly Agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly Disagree
4. Family engagement helps improve patient safety and care outcomes.
☐ Strongly Agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly Disagree
5. Time constraints limit my ability to fully engage families.
☐ Strongly Agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly Disagree
6. Overall, how effective is your team at involving families in patient care?
☐ Very Effective ☐ Effective ☐ Neutral ☐ Ineffective ☐ Very Ineffective



RESULTS

Engaging families improved clinical outcomes (compliance with treatment & reduced readmissions).

- Facilitated emotional comfort and improves trust among caregivers and clinicians.
- Family-centered rounds improved communication and decision-making.
- Educational materials and digital supports for caregivers enhanced information accessibility.

CONCLUSIONS

Family engagement is essential in pediatric care, positively influencing both clinical and emotional outcomes. Implementing structured strategies, such as family-centered rounds, digital communication tools, and caregiver education, fosters collaboration and strengthens the healthcare team. To continue the evaluation of family-centered rounds at our hospital, the survey featured in the middle panel was created. Future work should continue to evaluate barriers to implementation of family-centered rounds and strategies for sustainability.

REFERENCES



For Access to References Please Scan QR

