Below is the content that will appear in the VITAL2015 poster compendium and on your VITAL2015 poster. Please review and **use track changes** to make any edits or comments, as well as to address any questions or comments from America’s Essential Hospitals staff.   
  
America’s Essential Hospitals staff will create and print your poster for you. You will receive a pdf of your poster by April 1 for final approval.

**Return your review and any accompanying materials to** [**Kristin Sinko**](mailto:ksinko@essentialhospitals.org) **no later than 5 pm ET, Friday, March 20.**Compendium abstract: **Hennepin County Medical Center (HCMC)**

**Documentation of Hierarchical Condition Categories Using Scribes**

HCMC sought to assess the impact of medical scribes on documentation of chronic medical condition surveillance in an urban, inner-city, primary care clinic setting. The hospital started a full-time medical scribe program, with the goal of tracking the proportion of encounters captured in the electronic medical record using problem-oriented charting (POC).

In the month before the program’s start, POC was used in 35 of 259 patient encounters, or 13.5 percent, compared with 234 of 242 encounters, or nearly 97 percent, in the first month of medical scribe use.

On average, the total number of discharge diagnoses documented increased from 4.2 diagnoses to 4.9 diagnoses after the introduction of scribes. The hospital concluded that employing medical scribes improved the use of POC and increased the total number of recorded discharge diagnoses for patients seen in its outpatient, primary care clinic setting.  
  
Poster content:

**Hennepin County Medical Center**

**Documentation of Hierarchical Condition Categories Using Scribes**

**Overview**

To meet annual documentation requirements for chronic medical conditions and risk adjustment, Minneapolis-based Hennepin County Medical Center implemented a full-time medical scribe program to document patient cases in electronic health records using problem-oriented charting (POC).

**Premise/Problem**

Before the medical scribes program was introduced, POC was used in only 13.5 percent of patient encounters.

Methodology

**Intervention/Innovation**

The hospital introduced medical scribes to document patient cases in the electronic health record.

**Success/Outcomes**

After starting the scribe program, POC was used in nearly 97 percent of patient encounters. The hospital also saw increased diagnoses assigned on discharge.