The problem is:

Research has shown that 40-80% of medical information patients receive is forgotten immediately and nearly half of the information retained is incorrect.

Source: Health Services Advisory Group

You need to know:

Teach-back enhances healthcare communication, especially for patient education like discharge instructions. It uncovers misunderstandings for immediate correction, improving healthcare safety and quality.

Teach-back benefits:

Patients

Understand the next steps, their concerns are answered, and they are more likely to be compliant

Caregivers

Reduce calls and portal messages, provide patients peace of mind because they understand, there's no extra work- it's just a different way, and it reduces no-shows

Organizations

Implement a standard, reliable approach that ensures follow-through and consistency

Source: PubMed

Track your progress

Each day track how many teach-backs you requested against the total number of patients seen.

Maximize improvements

Action items and tactics are intended to improve patient experience, safety, preventive screening, quality indicators and health outcomes.

Talking about Medications



Here's what you need to do...

End each visit with teach-back and provide an after-visit summary (AVS). Then prioritize crucial actions like new or changed medications and repeated labs.

Sample teach-back questions:

- We've covered many topics, including medication instructions. Can you repeat them to be sure I was clear?
- When you talk to your husband later, what will you tell him about our conversation today?
- Could you demonstrate how you'll use your inhaler to confirm my instructions were clear?
- Summarize what you heard in your own words so I can fill in any gaps.

