High-functioning teams are needed now more than ever. AHA Team Training, along with its faculty partners, has produced a limited video series “TeamSTEPPS for the COVID-19 Crisis.” This free video series on the AHA YouTube channel features TeamSTEPPS tools designed to optimize teamwork and communication, two skill sets that are especially needed during the pandemic. Each bite-sized video focuses on one TeamSTEPPS tool and how it can be used in real-life COVID-19 scenarios.

**Task Assistance for the COVID-19 Crisis**

Offering and seeking assistance can play a major role in team performance during this critical time in health care. This TeamSTEPPS video, presented by Ross Ehrmantraut, R.N., defines task assistance and provides practical ways to implement it into existing workflows to optimize patient safety during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**CUS for the COVID-19 Crisis**

CUS (I’m Concerned; I’m Uncomfortable; this is a Safety issue) is a TeamSTEPPS advocacy tool to help health care professionals speak up in a standardized and constructive way. As many members of the health care team work together during this pandemic, speaking up is integral to team performance and patient safety. In this TeamSTEPPS video, Kevin Krane, M.D., professor of medicine and vice dean for academic affairs at Tulane University, discusses CUS and practical ways to implement it in everyday situations.

**Closed Loop Communication for the COVID-19 Crisis**

Effective communication is vital for patient safety — especially during this critical time in health care. Closed-loop communication helps team members verify and validate the information exchanged. Information provided in a closed-loop format not only is received more quickly and accurately, but implementation and follow-up actions are more efficient as well. This TeamSTEPPS video presented by Laura Goliat, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, associate professor at Ursuline College, explains closed-loop communication and practical ways to implement or incorporate call-outs and check-backs into things you’re already doing.
SBAR for the COVID-19 Crisis

SBAR (Situation-Background-Assessment-Recommendation or Request) is a TeamSTEPPS tool that can be utilized in a variety of verbal, visual, clinical, and nonclinical ways to enhance communication during the COVID-19 pandemic. Yue Ming Huang, EdD, MHS, associate adjunct professor at the UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine and education director at the UCLA Simulation Center, reviews how to use SBAR to improve communication.

Briefs, Huddles and Debriefs for the COVID-19 Crisis

Briefs, huddles and debriefs can be used throughout an event, procedure or shift and can be vital to team performance during the COVID-19 pandemic. This suite of tools from TeamSTEPPS — presented by David L. Feldman, M.D., MBA, CPE, FAAPL, FACS, chief medical officer of The Doctors Company Group — is a great way for the team to come together to plan, reassess (if necessary) and share lessons learned.

STEP for the COVID-19 Crisis

Situation monitoring ensures that new or changing information can be identified and communicated for decision-making. Utilizing a TeamSTEPPS tool such as STEP (Status of the patient, Team members, Environment and Progress toward goal) can help teams provide effective support of fellow team members and lead to better outcomes. David L. Feldman, M.D., MBA, CPE, FAAPL, FACS, chief medical officer of The Doctors Company Group, leads this presentation.