



Warm Handoffs

What is a warm handoff?

A warm handoff is a handoff that is conducted in person, between two members of the health care team in front of the patient (and family if present).

Why is it important?

How do I conduct a warm handoff?

Whenever you need to share information about patient care, do it in person and in front of the patient.

You can both give and receive warm handoffs. For example:

After your staff has roomed the patient, the staff member can use a warm handoff to present the patient to you. A checklist is available to help with this.

After you complete the clinical exam, you can use a warm handoff if additional patient services such as labs or immunizations are needed.

You can use a warm handoff with extended care team members such as a diabetes educator or pharmacist and with specialists.

