With our HERO upgrade in the fall, providers gained the ability to mark IV inpatient medications for continuation after discharge. This option is valuable when the patient will be receiving home antibiotics or possibly going to a skilled nursing facility where IV therapy will continue.

We noticed recently that while the provider has the option to mark these for continuation, this information was not getting transmitted to the discharge med list for the patient. We will resolved this today by replacing the medication list contained in the patient discharge instructions with a new format provided by Cerner.

This new format will group medications into categories. These groupings are consistent with the National Quality Forum guideline for medication reconciliation endorsed by the ABIM, ACP, and AMA. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with the new format.

As always, please pay close attention to the med list when completing the discharge med rec process as your selections (or lack thereof) have a direct impact on the output for this list and therefore what the patient does or does not take at home.

Also, it is best to review the list as the patient will see it to resolve any potential inconsistencies before discharge. You may review the content of the patient discharge instructions by clicking on the “Review and Sign” button from the Discharge mPage.

Finally, when dictating your discharge summary, please reference the discharge med list provided to the patient, NOT THE MAR. We have identified significant discrepancies in the list provided to the patient versus the list on the Discharge Summary. These lists should be the same. Any inconsistencies can lead to medication errors and may also result in core measure fallouts.