Relational Model of Change (RMOC)

What is it?

The Relational Model of Change (RMOC) is a model showing three types of interventions - relational, structural and work process - that are needed for sustainable changes in relational coordination and desired performance outcomes.

What is it used for/ Purpose?

The RMOC is used to help people to identify interventions as leverage points to strengthen relational coordination and achieve their desired performance outcomes.

The RMOC can be used with the Six Stages of Change, a cycle of improvement for assessing the current state, identifying a desired state, and testing interventions to get from here to there.
Relational model of change

**Structural Interventions**
- Selection for Teamwork
- Training for Teamwork
- Relational Job Design
- Shared Accountability
- Shared Rewards
- Shared Conflict Resolution
- Boundary Spanner Role
- Shared Meetings/Huddles
- Shared Protocols
- Shared Information Systems

**Relational Coordination**
- Frequent
- Timely
- Accurate
- Problem Solving
- Communication
- Shared Goals
- Shared Knowledge
- Mutual Respect

**Performance Outcomes**
- Quality & Safety
- Efficiency & Finance
- Client Engagement
- Worker Well-Being
- Learning & Innovation

**Relational Interventions**
- Create Psychological Safety
- Engage in Humble Inquiry
- Map and Measure Relationships

**Work Process Interventions**
- Assess Current State
- Identify Desired State
- Experiment to Close the Gap
Six stages of change

- Stage 1: Explore the context
- Stage 2: Create change team
- Stage 3: Assess current state
- Stage 4: Reflect on findings
- Stage 5: Develop interventions
- Stage 6: Implement and assess

A cycle of continuous improvement

Developed with Dr. Tony Suchman, Relationship Centered Health Care
Stage 1: Explore the context

- Start with the context
- Identify the performance outcomes we are trying to change
- Who are the key stakeholders?
- What are the frameworks that might be helpful to address our challenges?
- RC might be helpful if there are challenges of coordination, interdependence, systemness
Stage 2: Create change team

- Who should lead the change process?
- Create a change team that represents key stakeholders – choosing individuals who are ready to *be the change*
- Motivate stakeholders from distinct perspectives/power to contribute effort to change process
- Facilitate sensitive discussions with a "safe space” to disagree respectfully
- Engage in relational mapping to visualize the work to be done
Stage 2: Create change team
Stage 2: Create change team
Stage 2: Create change team

- Where does relational coordination currently work well?
- Where does it work poorly?
- What are the underlying causes?
- How does this impact our performance outcomes?
- Where are our biggest opportunities for change?
Stage 3: Assess the current state

- Assess relationships, structures and outcomes
- Invite stakeholders to engage in RC survey to assess the current state of coordination accurately and inclusively
- Survey takes 10-20 minutes to complete and results remain anonymous
- Results are shared as a basis for designing interventions in an inclusive process
## Stage 3: Assess the current state

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Frequent Communication</th>
<th>How frequently do people in each of these groups communicate with you about post-operative care procedures for our surgical patients?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Timely Communication</td>
<td>Do they communicate with you in a timely way about post-operative care procedures for our surgical patients?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Accurate Communication</td>
<td>Do they communicate with you accurately about post-operative care procedures for our surgical patients?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Problem-Solving Communication</td>
<td>When there is a problem with post-operative care procedures for our surgical patients, do people in each of these groups blame others or work with you to solve the problem?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Shared Goals</td>
<td>Do people in each of these groups share your goals for post-operative care procedures for our surgical patients?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Shared Knowledge</td>
<td>Do people in each of these groups know about the work you do with post-operative care procedures for our surgical patients?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Mutual Respect</td>
<td>Do people in each of these groups respect the work you do with post-operative care procedures for our surgical patients?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Stage 4: Reflect on findings

- Change Team shares baseline measures with key stakeholders
- “Looking into the mirror”
- “Putting the elephant on the table”
- A starting point for new conversations
- A starting point for reflection and change
Stage 4: Reflect on findings

Between Workgroups
N=104

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimension</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Min</th>
<th>Max</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RC Index</td>
<td>3.66</td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>4.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequent Communication</td>
<td>4.22</td>
<td>3.84</td>
<td>4.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timely Communication</td>
<td>3.46</td>
<td>3.03</td>
<td>3.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accurate Communication</td>
<td>3.67</td>
<td>3.40</td>
<td>3.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem-Solving Communication</td>
<td>3.45</td>
<td>3.18</td>
<td>3.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shared Goals</td>
<td>3.86</td>
<td>3.56</td>
<td>4.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shared Knowledge</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>2.91</td>
<td>3.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutual Respect</td>
<td>3.66</td>
<td>3.36</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Weak
- Within Workgroups: <4.1
- Between Workgroups: <3.5

Moderate
- Within Workgroups: 4.1-4.6
- Between Workgroups: 3.5-4.0

Strong
- Within Workgroups: >4.6
- Between Workgroups: >4.0
Stage 4: Reflect on findings

**Diagram:**
- **Nodes:** ResTh, Admin, RNs, PA&NP, Phys, PCAs, CC
- **Edges:** Connections between nodes show interactions or relationships.

**Legend:**
- **Weak**
  - < 4.1
- **Moderate**
  - 4.1 - 4.6
- **Strong**
  - > 4.6

**Strength Categorization:**
- **Within Workgroups**
  - < 3.5
- **Between Workgroups**
  - < 4.0

**Source:** [Relational Coordination Collaborative](https://www.relationcoordination.org)
Stage 4: Reflect on findings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ratings by</th>
<th>Ratings of</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Support</td>
<td>Admin 1.79, CC 1.79, PCAs 1.79, Phys 1.79, PA&amp;NP 1.79, RNs 1.79, ResTh 1.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care Coordination</td>
<td>Admin 4.43, CC 4.86, PCAs 4.29, Phys 4.52, PA&amp;NP 4.71, RNs 4.67, ResTh 3.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Care Assistants (PCAs)</td>
<td>Admin 2.62, CC 2.40, PCAs 4.02, Phys 2.29, PA&amp;NP 2.29, RNs 3.50, ResTh 2.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physicians</td>
<td>Admin 3.58, CC 4.26, PCAs 3.47, Phys 4.25, PA&amp;NP 4.19, RNs 3.84, ResTh 3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physicians' Assistants and Nurse Practitioners (PAs &amp; NPs)</td>
<td>Admin 3.75, CC 4.29, PCAs 3.39, Phys 4.30, PA&amp;NP 4.55, RNs 3.96, ResTh 3.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Nurses</td>
<td>Admin 3.37, CC 4.08, PCAs 3.70, Phys 3.55, PA&amp;NP 3.98, RNs 4.22, ResTh 3.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory Therapy</td>
<td>Admin 2.57, CC 2.57, PCAs 2.57, Phys 3.14, PA&amp;NP 3.14, RNs 3.43, ResTh 4.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Weak: <4.1
Moderate: 4.1-4.6
Strong: >4.6

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<td>&lt;3.5</td>
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Stage 5: Design interventions

- Change team creates a plan of action for improving relational coordination and performance outcomes
- Change team designs interventions based on findings, in partnership with key stakeholders
Stage 5: Design interventions

**Structural Interventions**
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- Train for Teamwork
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**Work Process Interventions**
- Assess Current State
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Stage 6: Implement and assess

- Change team implements the interventions they have designed in partnership with key stakeholders
- Assesses progress with periodic assessments of RC, organizational structures and performance outcomes
Six stages of change

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A cycle of continuous improvement

Developed with Dr. Tony Suchman, Relationship Centered Health Care
Principles for leading RC change

- Be the change; you can’t use the old culture to create the new one
- Use data to open up conversations, not to close them down
- Engage people in doing the work for themselves rather than doing it for them