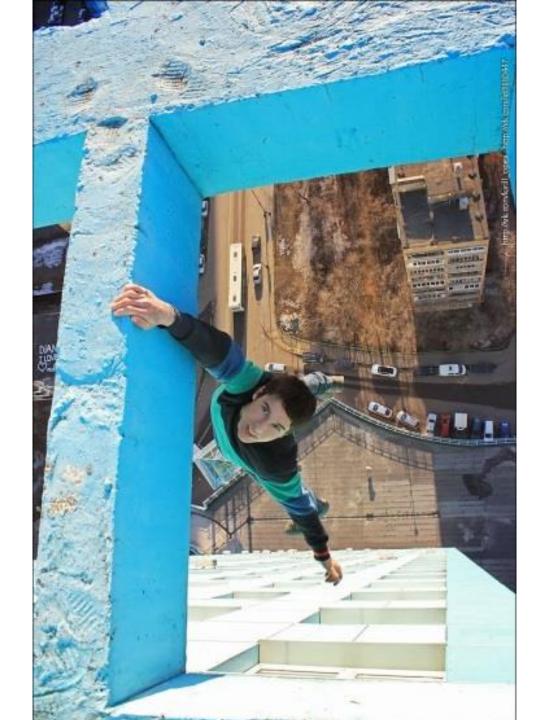
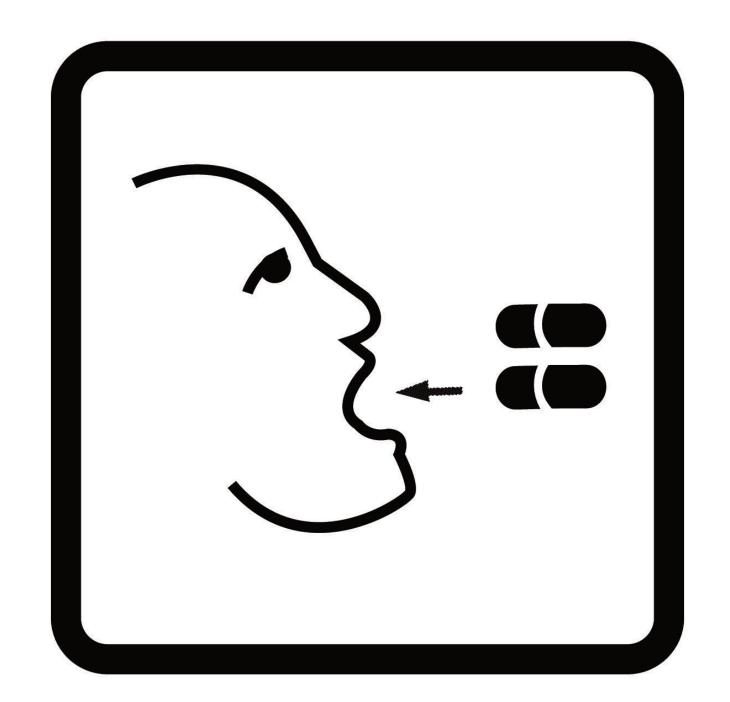
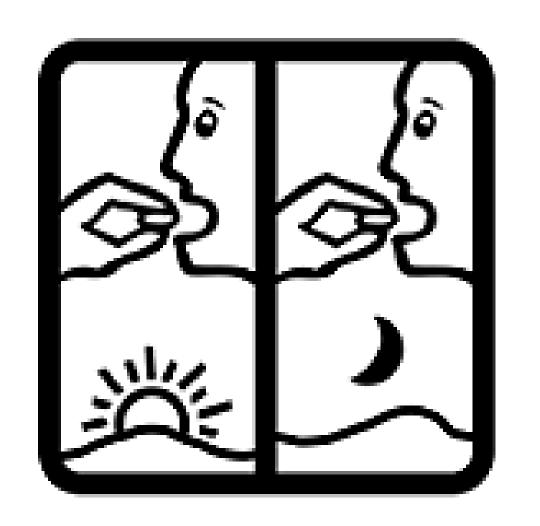
# Is a Picture Really Worth a Thousand Words? The Use of Pictograms for Health Literacy and Medication Compliance

Dan Rainkie, B.Sc.(Pharm), ACPR
Doctor of Pharmacy Student
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#### Health Literacy

"Ability to access, comprehend, evaluate and communicate information as a way to promote maintain and improve health in a variety of settings across the life-course"

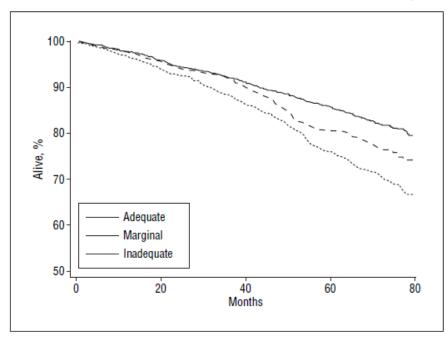
### Health Literacy

- Who isn't health literate?
  - ~60% of adults
  - 88% of seniors

- What does that mean?
  - Difficulty using routinely available everyday health information

#### Why do we care?

#### Increased mortality



Adjusted for Age, sex, race, socioeconomic status

- Adequate = Reference
- Marginal HR 1.28 (1.03-1.59)
- Inadequate HR 1.70 (1.46-1.99)
- After adjusting for IADLs, chronic conditions, self-reported physical and mental health
  - Marginal HR 1.13 (0.90-1.41)
  - Inadequate HR 1.52 (1.26-1.83)

#### Why do we care?

- Increased risk of hospitalization
  - Adjusted RR 1.29 (1.07-1.55)
- Health behaviours
  - Lower scores on proper MDI techniques

- Conflicting evidence for adherence
  - 1 study found OR 3.9 (1.1-13.4) for poor adherence
  - 1 negative

#### Risk Factors for Limited Literacy

- Elderly
- Low income
- Unemployed
- Did not finish high school
- Minority ethnic group
- Recent immigration
- English as a second language

#### Methods for Assessing Health Literacy

#### **Gold Standard**

- TOFHLA
  - 50 items
  - Score /100
  - Numeracy and reading comprehension
  - Requires 20-30 m

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Methods	Description		ated In Spanish	Length (minutes)
Single question screens <sup>28,37,28</sup>		English	Spanisn	(Illillutes)
"How often do you need to have instructions, pamphlets, or other pharmacy?" (positive answers are	Yes	No	≤1	
"How confident are you filling ou answers are "somewhat," "a little	t medical forms by yourself?" (positive bit," or "not at all")	Yes	No	≤1
Assessment instruments				
Newest Vital Sign <sup>39</sup> (www.NewestVitalSign.org)	Screening instrument for use in clinical settings. Patients review a nutrition label and answer 6 questions about the label.	Yes	Yes	3
Rapid Estimate of Adult Literacy in Medicine <sup>40</sup>	Used in both clinical and research settings. Word recognition list. Patients read list of 66 words and are scored on correct pronunciation.	Yes	No	2
Short Assessment of Health Literacy for Spanish-speaking Adults <sup>41</sup>	Patient is presented with 50 words, each with a correct and incorrect meaning, and patient must select correct meaning.	No	Yes	5
Short Test of Functional Health Literacy in Adults <sup>42</sup>	words from a list of militible.		Yes ealth Literacy nderstand. A	

#### Newest Vital Sign Example

Nutrition Serving Siz Servings po			½ cup 4
Amount pe	r serving		
Calories	250	Fat Cal	120
			%DV
Total Fat	13g		20%
Sat Fat		40%	
Cholester	ol 28mg		12%
Sodium 5	5mg		2%
<b>Total Carb</b>		12%	
Dietary F	iber 2g		
Sugars	23g		
Protein 4g	1		8%

\*Percentage Daily Values (DV) are based on a 2,000 calorie diet. Your daily values may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs.

Ingredients: Cream, Skim Milk, Liquid Sugar, Water, Egg Yolks, Brown Sugar, Milkfat, Peanut Oil, Sugar, Butter, Salt, Carrageenan, Vanilla Extract.

- 1) Total calories
- 2) 60g of carbohydrate snack, how much can you eat?
- 3) You eat 42g of saturated fat each day which includes 1 serving. If you stopped eating this, how much saturated fat will you eat each day?
- 4) If you eat 2,500 cal per day, if you eat one serving, what percentage of your daily calorie intake will you be eating?

You are allergic to peanuts and penicillin

- 5) Is it safe for you to eat this ice cream?
- 6) Why?

**Score 0-1** >50% likelihood of limited literacy

Score 2-3 = possibility of limited literacy
Score 4-6 indicates adequate literacy

Pfizer. The Newest Vital Sign. A Health Literacy Assessment Tool. 2011. http://www.pfizerhealthliteracy.com/asset/pdf/NVS\_Eng/files/nvs\_flipbook\_english\_final.pdf

## **Clinical Question**

Р	In any patient or care giver			
I	Pictogram	Pictogram assisted counselling		
С	Verbal or to	ext based counselling		
0	Efficacy	<ul> <li>Health literacy outcomes</li> <li>Knowledge</li> <li>Recall</li> <li>Medication adherence (refills rates)</li> <li>Medication compliance</li> </ul>		
	Safety	QoL ADEs		

# Search Strategy

Databases	EMBASE, Medline, Pubmed, Google Scholar, Cochrane library, international pharmaceutical abstracts, clinicaltrials.gov		
Search Terms	Pictogram, visual aid, picture, semiotic, medication illustration Health literacy, medication compliance		
Limits	-		
	Studies after exclusion	17	
Results	Meta-analysis/Systematic review		
	RCT	12	
	Observational	4	

#### To Be Covered

# **Systematic** Review The use of pictograms in health care: A literature

Res Social Adm Pharm 2013; e-pub ahead of print

review

Teach back and pictorial image educational strategies on knowledge about diabetes and medication/dietary adherence among low health literate patients with type 2 diabetes

Primary Care Diabetes 2013; 7: 111-118

#### **RCTs**

Effects of pictograms in education 3 distinct lowliteracy populations on the use of postoperative cataract medication

Can J Opthalmol 2011; 46(3): 276-281

Randomized controlled trial of a pictogrambased intervention to reduce liquid medication dosing errors and improve adherence among caregivers of young children

Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med 2008; 162(9): 814-822

# The use of pictograms in the health care: A literature review

Barros et al. | Research in Social and Administrative Pharmacy ■ (2013) 1–16

Design	Systematic review without meta-analysis		
P	Patients		
I	Use of pictograms for health professionals in patient education		
0	<ol> <li>Geographic location</li> <li>Study design</li> <li>Number of pictograms         used</li> <li>Education</li> </ol>	<ul><li>5) Sample size</li><li>6) Age of participants</li><li>7) Function of the pictograms</li><li>8) Limitations described in the literature evaluated</li></ul>	
Articles Included	24 articles		

#### Barros 2013

	Results
Design	<ul><li>6 RCTs</li><li>18 observational</li></ul>
Patients	<ul> <li>Education: 66.6% of subjects completed or were still in elementary school</li> <li>Literacy ranged from illiterate to high</li> <li>Age of participants = 6-96 years</li> </ul>
Geographic Location	• 50% based in Africa
Setting	<ul> <li>12 not reported</li> <li>6 hospital</li> <li>4 health units</li> <li>2 outpatient</li> </ul>

#### Barros 2013

Intervention	<ul> <li>13 (54.1%) used local pictograms</li> <li>5 (20.8%) used USP-DI</li> <li>4 (16.6%) used both</li> <li>Pictogram comprehensibility on average was 70.6%</li> </ul>
(increased understanding, adherence or recall of information)	<ul> <li>13 (54.1%) reported efficacy</li> <li>5 of 6 RCTs showed efficacy</li> <li>8 of 18 observational trials showed efficacy</li> <li>7 (29.1%) did not report on the effectiveness</li> <li>4 (17%) reported no efficacy</li> </ul>

## Critical Appraisal

Critical Appraisal	
Databases searched	EBSCO, Embase, LILACs, Pubmed, Scopus, SciELO, PsycINFO
Unpublished studies	
Additional published/unpublished data	
Trial Eligiblity	Pictograms for health professionals in patient education Flow chart provided
Risk of bias within trials	"Limitations" that were reported within the trial
Clinical and methodological heterogeneity	RCTs and observational or "not reported" trials
Clinical importance of results and completeness of results	Effective or not effective
Generalizability	50% of studies done in Africa Large variation in patients

Teach back and pictorial image educational strategies on knowledge about diabetes and medication/dietary adherence among low health literate patients with type 2 diabetes

	PRIMARY CARE DIABETES 7 (2013) III-II8
Design	Randomized, controlled, active comparison trial
P	Setting: Tehran Diabetic clinic Follow up: 6 weeks Low health literacy < 59/100 on full TOFHLA, type 2 diabetes ≥ 6 months no former education trial participation Average patient: 50 years old, 52% male, 80% had completed primary education, 15% completed secondary education, 5% completed college • Health literacy 39/100 (TOFHLA) • Knowledge 27/44 (self-structured, validated) • Medication adherence 4.5/8 (Morisky medication adherence scale) • Dietary adherence 4.6/9 (self-structured)
I	<ul> <li>Pictorial image educational strategy 3 x 20 min sessions per week</li> <li>Validated educational package using simple, realistic pictures with limited content</li> <li>Teach back education strategy 3 x 20 min sessions per week</li> <li>Goal of 1-3 key points per session</li> </ul>
С	Usual diabetes education by endocrinologist, educational brochure and health sessions as requested

### Negarandeh 2013

	Knowledge		Medication Adherence		Dietary adherence	
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After
Pictogram	27.3	34.7	4.3	6.7	4.6	5.9
Teach back	26.7	35.3	4.4	7.0	4.8	6.1
Control	27.6	29.4	4.5	4.3	4.7	3.6
	Out	of 44	Out	of 8	Out	of 9
MCID	Ĩ	?	2	2	Ĩ	?

- All groups were significantly improved from baseline in all categories
- Interventions were significant vs placebo

## **Critical Appraisal**

	Primary Care Diabetes 2013; 7(2): 111-118
Randomization	Computer generated
Allocation concealment	Identity numbers to enrolled patients
Baseline characteristics even?	Yes
Blinded?	Not blinded
Attrition bias present?	No (9% LTFU)
Statistical analysis	Tukey HSD, ANOVA between all groups,
	Paired t-test, Chi-square test, Fishers exact
	test
Intention-to-treat or per-protocol?	ITT
Power calculation?	No
All patients accounted for	Yes
Important outcomes considered?	Dietary adherence questionable, A1c, QoL,
	ADRs
Generalizable?	Tehran, "2° care level diabetes clinic"
Funding source?	Tehran University of Medical Sciences
Other	400 patients contacted, 262 did not meet
	criteria (not described)

#### Negarandeh 2013 Conclusions

- Teach-back = pictorial based education > control
  - − ↑ knowledge
  - ↑ medication adherence
  - — ↑ dietary adherence

- Remaining questions
  - No hard endpoints
  - Clinical importance of knowledge and dietary gains
  - No example of pictorial method (but said it fell within pictogram development recommendations)

# Effects of pictograms in educating 3 distinct low-literacy populations on the use of postoperative cataract medication

CAN J OPHTHALMOL-VOL. 46, NO. 3, JUNE 2011

<b>P</b> n=225	<ul> <li>Eye surgery candidates in India</li> <li>Average patient: Female, no other medications, no previous surgery, 0 years of education</li> </ul>
<b>I</b> n=75	EG 1 = Oral instruction (tape) + pictogram during clinic education
each	EG 2 = Oral instruction (tape)+ pictogram sheet to take home
<b>C</b> n=75	Oral instruction (tape)
0	10 point oral exam @ 15 min, POD 7, POD 28 Measurement of eye drop bottles @ POD 28

#### WEEK 1

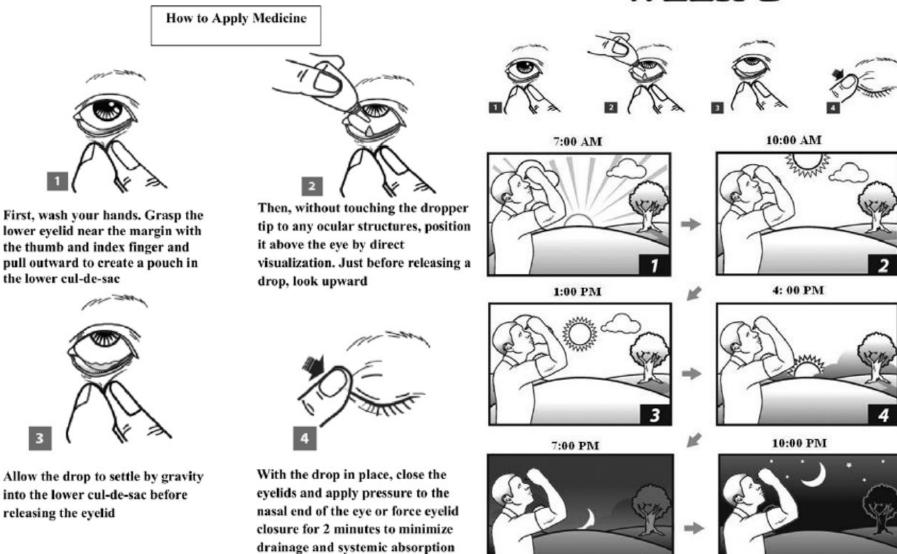


Fig. 3—Pictogram of medicine administration. Tape-recorded instructions were played in the patients' native language to maintain consistency of explanation for patients and aid patients who had difficulty reading. Minor written instructions were separate pictograms to illustrate the QID, TID, and BID used to complement the pictograms were in native languages. dosing for weeks 2, 3, and 4, respectively.

Fig. 2-Pictogram for dosing frequency. For the first postoperative week, the drops were to be applied 6 times per day. There

#### Braich 2011

#### Table 1—Questions posed to patients in each test

- How many times per day should the eyedrops be used during week 1? (1 point)
- How many times per day should the eyedrops be used during week 2? (1 point)
- How many times per day should the eyedrops be used during week 3? (1 point)
- How many times per day should the eyedrops be used during week 4? (1 point)
- 5. How do you administer the eyedrops? (Please demonstrate) (4 points)
- Why are the eyedrops necessary? (2 points)

#### Oral exam scores

	Control	EG 1	EG 2 (pic home)	P-value
15 min	8.7 (1.5)	8.9 (1.3)	8.9 (1.4)	• NS
POD 7	5.8 (2.7)	7.3 (2.0)	7.6 (1.9)	<ul><li>EG 1 and EG2 vs control p&lt;0.001</li><li>NS EG1 vs EG2</li></ul>
POD 28	4.4 (2.3)	5.4 (3.5)	7.2 (2.7)	<ul><li>EG2 vs EG1 p&lt;0.01</li><li>EG1 vs control p&lt;0.01</li></ul>

Mean (SD); scores out of 10

Oral exam scores were significantly related to higher medication consumption

# Critical Appraisal

	Can J Opthalmol 2011; 46(3): 276-81		
Randomization	"Randomly divided"		
Allocation concealment	Not reported		
Baseline characteristics even?	Patient characteristics not reported		
Blinded?	Single blinded (assessor)		
Attrition bias present?	No LTFU		
Statistical analysis	ANOVA, 2-way ANOVA, Tukey's HSD		
Intention-to-treat or per-protocol?	ITT		
Power calculation?	None done		
All patients accounted for			
Important outcomes considered?	Surgical outcomes and compliance		
	Bottle weight as measure of adherence not		
	an accurate method (141/225 assessed)		
Generalizable?	Africa, low literacy		
Funding source?	No support		
Other			

# Braich 2011 Conclusions

- ↑ oral exam scores
  - Composite of knowledge, skills
  - ?clinical meaning
- ↑ adherence
  - Bottle measurement

- Remaining questions
  - MCID of oral exam
  - Better surgical outcomes?

# Randomized Controlled Trial of a Pictogram-Based Intervention to Reduce Liquid Medication Dosing Errors and Improve Adherence Among Caregivers of Young Children Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med. 2008;162(9):814-822

01 100	Arch Fedicit Adolese Med. 2000,102(9):014-022
Design	Randomized, controlled trial
<b>P</b> n=245	<ul> <li>Setting: Urban, public, pediatric ED</li> <li>Caregiver of child 1 month to 8 years old, prescribed short course (&lt;14d of a liquid medication)</li> <li>Average patient: Child was 3.7 years old, caregiver (mom) 30 years old, 75% Latino, 65% non-US born, caregiver health literacy (TOFHLA) adequate 70%, marginal 18%, inadequate 12%</li> <li>Follow up: 3-5 days and within 1 day of Rx end</li> </ul>
<b>I</b> n=124	Pictogram: HELPix, 1.5 to 3 minute intervention and teach-back
<b>C</b> n=121	Control: Pediatric nursing staff in ED but filled by a pharmacist
0	<ul> <li>Medication knowledge</li> <li>Reported and observed dose (dosing accuracy within 20%)</li> <li>Adherence measured by total number of doses (within 20%)</li> </ul>

Name: Alexander

Information on your prescription for:

Amoxicillin 250MG/5ML

To treat an infection of the ear

2 capsules by mouth 2 times a day for 10 days Nombre: Alexander

Información sobre su receta para:

Amoxicillin

250MG/5ML

Para tratar una infección en el oído

2 cápsulas por la boca 2 veces al día por 10 días



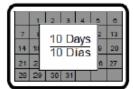
Take 2 times a day by mouth
Tome 2 veces al dia por la boca



Take by mouth with a glass of water Tome por la boca con un vaso de agua



Keep out of reach of children Keep at room temperature Mantenga fuera del alcance de los niños y a temperatura ambiente



Give this medicine for 10 days,

even if your child is feeling better

Dé esta medicina por 10 dias,

aunque su niño se sienta mejor



If you have questions call
(212) 562-5524 day or night
Si tiene preguntas llame
(212) 562-5524 dia o noche

#### Keeping track of Alexander's Amoxicillin

2 capsules by mouth 2 times a day for 10 days

#### Anotando las dosis de Alexander de Amoxicillin

2 cápsulas por la boca 2 veces al día por 10 días



Your child's dose is 2 capsules La dosis de su niño es 2 cápsulas

\* Date of first dose May 12, 2008

Parents: Please check (J) the correct box each time you give your child the medicine, 20 checks (J) total. Fecha de la primera dosis Mayo 12, 2008

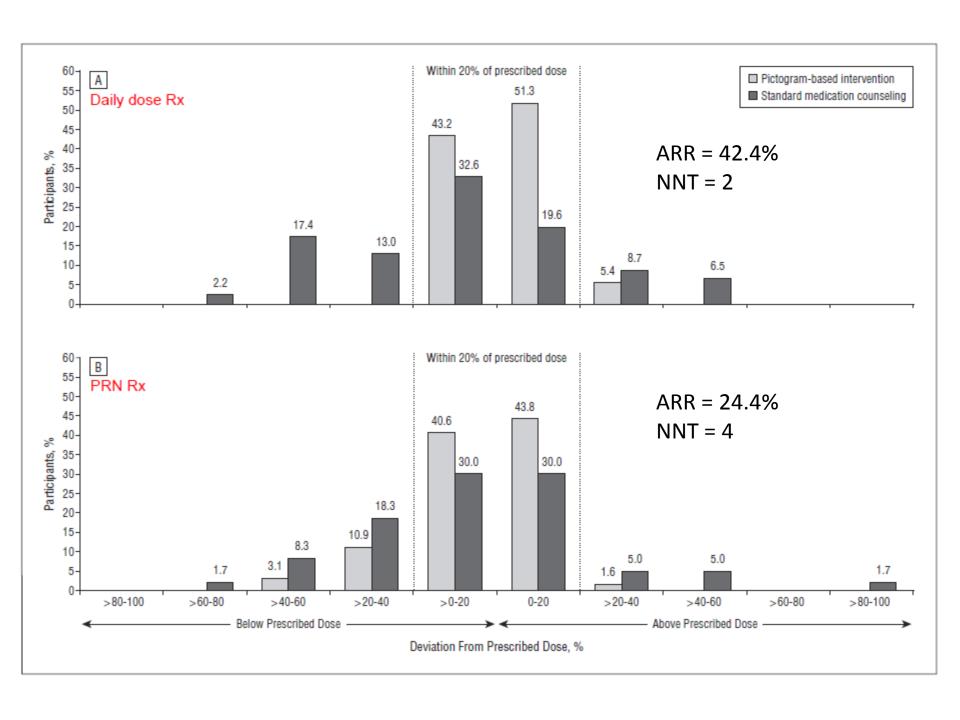
Padres: Por favor, marquen con ( \( \sqrt{j} \) la casilla correcta cada vez que den la medicina a su niño, total de 20 marcas ( \( \sqrt{j} \)).

DAY / DIA	00 XX	90
Time/Hora:		
Monday / Lunes		
Tuesday / Martes		
Wednesday / Miércoles		
Thursday / Jueves		
Friday / Viernes		
Saturday / Sábado		
Sunday / Domingo		
Monday / Lunes		
Tuesday / Martes		
Wednesday / Miércoles		
Thursday / Jueves		

\* Pediatrician: Please circle the starting dose and ending dose.

Table 3. Medication Knowledge and Related Practices: Error Rates<sup>a</sup>

	Pictogram-Based Intervention	Standard Medication Counseling	RR (95% CI)	RRR (95% CI), %	ARR (95% CI), %	NNT (95% CI)	<i>P</i> Value <sup>b</sup>
Daily dose medication, No.	46	53					
Name	3 (6.5)	7 (13.2)	0.5 (0.1 to 1.8)	50.6 (-46.6 to 144.5)	6.7 (-6.2 to 19.1)	C	.33
Indication	2 (4.2)	5 (0.4)	0.5 (0.1 to 2.2)	52.0 ( 68.0 to 172.4)	5.1 ( 6.4 to 16.4)	C	.45
Frequency	0 `	8 (15.1)	0.0 <sup>d</sup>	100.0 (29.9 to 179.2)	15.1 (4.5 to 27.1)	7 (4 to 22)	.007
Preparation	5 (10.9)	15 (28.3)	0.4 (0.2 to 1.0)	61.6 (5.2 to 113.3)	17.4 (1.5 to 32.1)	6 (3 to 68)	.04
Storage	5 (10.9)	10 (18.9)	0.6 (0.2 to 1.6)	42.4 (-35.6 to 116.2)	8.0 (-6.7 to 21.9)	<sup>C</sup>	.40
As-needed medication, No.	79	79					
Name	7 (8.9)	6 (7.6)	1.2 (0.4 to 3.3)	-16.7 (-138.6 to 104.2)	-1.3 (-10.5 to 7.9)	C	>.99
Indication	7 (8.9)	2 (2.5)	3.5 (0.8 to 16.3)	-250.0 (-586 to 53.8)	-6.3 (-14.9 to 1.4)	C	.17
Frequency <sup>e</sup>	21 (26.6)	20 (25.6)	1.0 (0.6 to 1.8)	-3.7 (-56.6 to 49.5)	-0.9 (-14.5 to 12.7)	C	>.99
Preparation	17 (21.5)	34 (43.0)	0.5 (0.3 to 0.8)	50.0 (16.1 to 81.1)	21.5 (6.9 to 34.9)	5 (3 to 14)	.006
Storage	22 (27.8)	23 (29.1)	1.0 (0.6 to 1.6)	4.4 (-43.5 to 51.9)	1.3 (-12.7 to 15.1)	c	>.99



#### Yin 2008

Table 5. Medication Nonadherence Rates <sup>a</sup>								
Category of Adherence	Pictogram-Based Intervention	Standard Medication Counseling	RR (95% CI)	RRR (95% CI), %	ARR (95% CI), %	NNT (95% CI)		
No. of subjects % Deviation above or below total doses prescribed	43	50						
>20 >40	4 (9.3) 0	19 (38.0) 10 (20.0)	0.2 (0.1-0.7) 0 <sup>c</sup>	75.5 (30.1-114.9) 100.0 (40.0-165.2)	28.7 (11.4-43.7) 20.0 (8.0-33.0)	3 (2-9) 5 (3-12)		
Incorrect last day  >1 d Before or after correct last day	12 (27.9) 2 (4.7)	29 (58.0) 15 (30.0)	0.5 (0.3-0.8) 0.2 (0.04-0.6)	51.9 (17.1-80.9) 84.5 (33.4-131.7)	30.1 (9.9-46.9) 25.4 (10.0-39.5)	3 (2-10) 4 (3-10)		

#### **Critical Appraisal**

Randomization	Randomized blocks of 25		
Allocation concealment	Sealed envelopes		
Baseline characteristics even?	Yes		
Blinded?	Could not maintain blinding		
Attrition bias present?	> 90% follow up		
Statistical analysis	T-test, chi-squared, Fisher exact		
Intention-to-treat or per-protocol?	PP		
Power calculation?	N=245 required and enrolled		
All patients accounted for			
Important outcomes considered?	No clinical outcomes		
Generalizable?	US ED		
Funding source?	CDC grant, NYU research fund, Pfizer		
	fellowship in health literacy		
Other	Enrollment incentive: \$5/intake;		
	\$20/follow up		

#### **RCT Conclusions**

		Negarandeh 2013	Braich 2011	Yin 2008
Efficacy	Health literacy outcomes  • Knowledge  • Recall	Self-structured questionnaire (validated)	"Oral exam"	Better frequency, and preparation knowledge
	Adherence or compliance	MMAS +2	Bottle measurement	Total doses  Dosing accuracy
Safety	QoL			
	ADEs			
Cost			Pictogram sheet home	1.5-3 min intervention

#### Pictogram Tools

- International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP)
  - Free
  - Culturally sensitive

- USP-DI
  - Free

HELPIx (upcoming)

#### 药历: 3

乡川 日期: Thu Mar

Thu Mar 13 00:02:43 PDT 2014 患者病案号: 号码 3		12:00		***)	可能的副作用	<b>公</b> . 幸富石
<b>Rampiril</b> 5 mg 适应症评论: For blood pressure. May also cause coughing.	早上	中午	晚上	夜里 1粒	体位性低 头晕	注意事项
Tylenol 500 mg  Muscle Pain 适应症 评论: For osteoarthritis pain. Take 2 tablets every 4-6 hours as needed for pain. Maximum 8 tablets per day.	2片	2片	2片			请勿与酒同服



## Upcoming Trials (clinicaltrials.gov)

 Improving parent understanding of instruction about asthma care

 PlainLanguageRx: Improving medication labels to reduce health disparities

Improving communication of medication instructions to parents (HELPix)

#### Pictogram Tool Links

- FIP
  - <a href="http://www.fip.org/pictograms">http://www.fip.org/pictograms</a>

- USP-DI
  - http://www.usp.org/usp-healthcareprofessionals/related-topics-resources/usppictograms