

Improving communication of diagnostic uncertainty to families of hospitalized children.

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<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/improving-communication-diagnostic-uncertainty-families-hospitalized-children>

[Diagnostic uncertainty](#) can be difficult to communicate without harming patient trust. This qualitative study examined deterrents to effective sharing of [clinician uncertainty](#) with caregivers of children whose diagnosis has yet to be determined. Challenges to these conversations include lack of time, language discordance, and lack of clarity around the uncertainty concept. The [diagnostic pause](#) and visual patient education tools were suggested as strategies for improvement.