DOCUMENTING FAMILY HISTORY INFORMATION

Record the collected family history in a way that is easy to read and update by anyone on the team.

In addition to the family structure and details about cancer history in the family, include documentation about when the information was collected or updated and who provided it. See the sidebar link for guidance on standardizing where to document family history in the medical record.

PARTICIPANTS
Provider, patient

WHAT YOU’LL NEED
Family history collection tool, EHR

BARRIERS
EHR limitations, time

PRACTICE THIS SKILL
Web based module on Collecting Family History

LEARN MORE
Where to Document

STEPS
1. Include date of collection (or date of update), and the name of collector (or updater).
2. Identify the patient, the historian (person providing the information). The historian may be the patient or someone else, such as a parent.
3. Include the detailed information you collected about family and cancer history.
4. Include a legend or key, if symbols are used to designate disease.