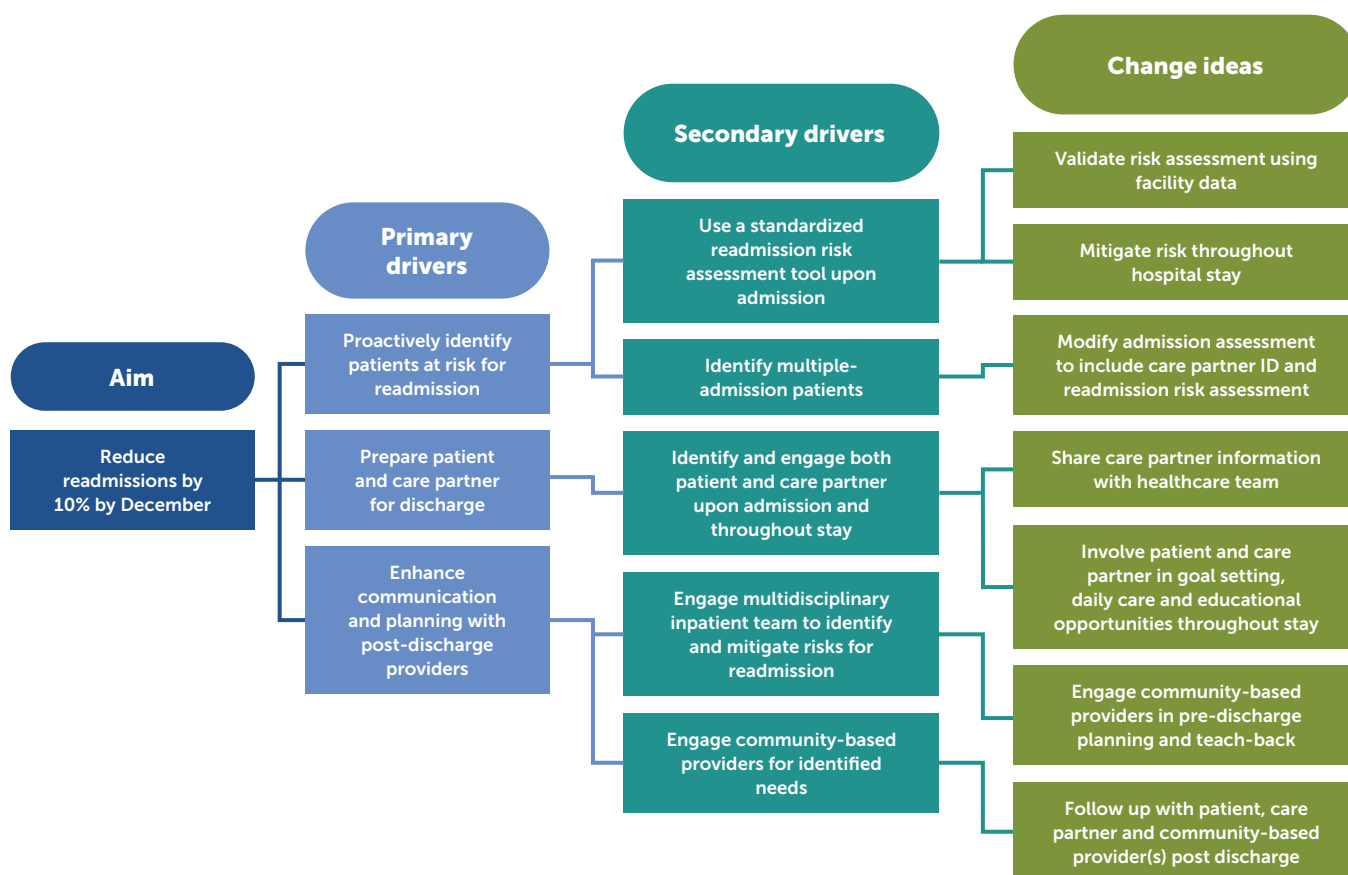# TOOL: Driver Diagram

What is the tool?

Driver Diagrams are visual displays of what "drives" or contributes to the achievement of a project aim. The diagram breaks down "drivers" of the aim into smaller, secondary drivers and then identifies ideas or solutions to address each smaller driver.

When should the tool be used?

The Driver Diagram can be used to help a team identify priority actions to be taken to achieve a specific aim.

Example: A hospital aims to reduce its readmissions by 10% by December.

Aim
Reduce readmissions by 10% by December

Primary drivers
- Proactively identify patients at risk for readmission
- Prepare patient and care partner for discharge
- Enhance communication and planning with post-discharge providers

Secondary drivers
- Use a standardized readmission risk assessment tool upon admission
- Identify multiple-admission patients
- Identify and engage both patient and care partner upon admission and throughout stay
- Engage multidisciplinary inpatient team to identify and mitigate risks for readmission
- Engage community-based providers for identified needs

Change ideas
- Validate risk assessment using facility data
- Mitigate risk throughout hospital stay
- Modify admission assessment to include care partner ID and readmission risk assessment
- Share care partner information with healthcare team
- Involve patient and care partner in goal setting, daily care and educational opportunities throughout stay
- Engage community-based providers in pre-discharge planning and teach-back
- Follow up with patient, care partner and community-based provider(s) post discharge

REFERENCE:

Institute for Healthcare Improvement. "Driver Diagram."