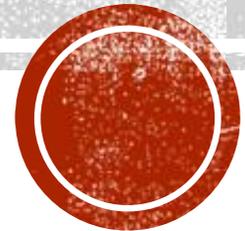


# **EPIC: THE PROBLEM LIST & PRINCIPLE PROBLEM**

Catholic Health System  
2021



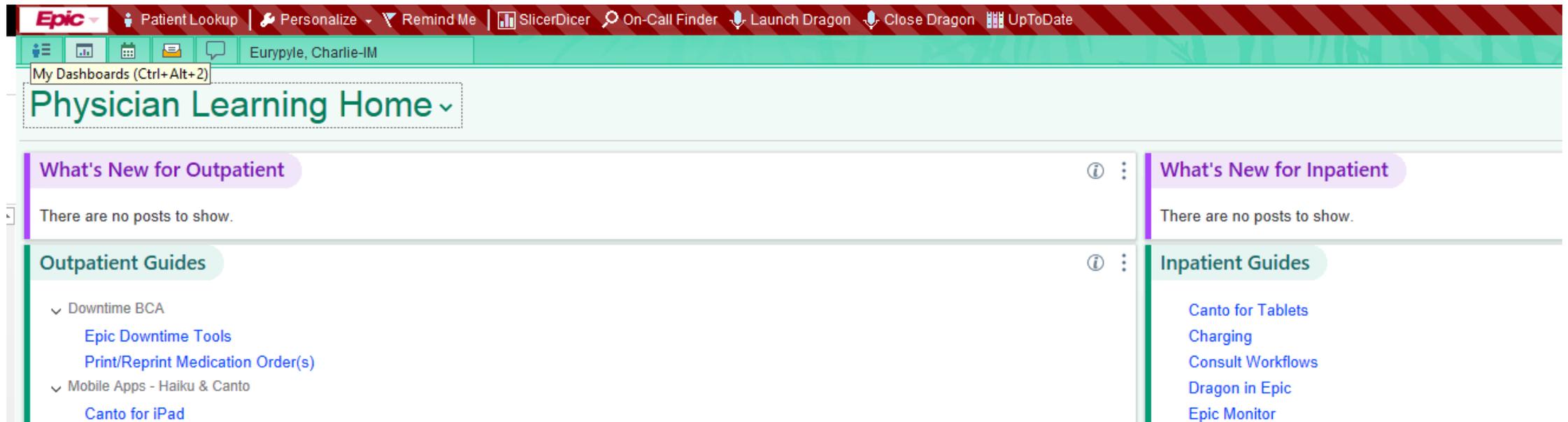
# HELPFUL HINT!

EPIC guides on numerous workflows can be found under

“My DashBoards” icon



and searching for “Physician Learning Home”



Any new guides can also be found here



# THE PROBLEM LIST

- Each patient has a single problem list that is shared by all ambulatory & inpatient care team members
- Use the Problem List activity or navigator section to review and update the problem list so you and other clinicians have the most accurate picture of the patient's condition
- The system provides decision support based on these problems, so it's important to ensure the problem list is up to date throughout the admission
- ◆ appears in reports and indicates the principal problem, the main reason for this admission.  
‡ indicates a chronic problem.



# THE PROBLEM LIST

**Epic** Patient Lookup Personalize Remind Me SlicerDicer On-Call Finder Launch Dragon Close Dragon UpToDate

Eurypyle, Charlie-IM PLAYGROUND FINN-IM E. EpicCare

CE

Chart Review Summary **Problem...** Notes Orders Charges Admission Transfer Discharge Search

**Problem List** Problem List - Update ProbList and History

Search for new problem **+ Add** DxReference View Drug-Disease Interactions Show:  Past Problems

**Problem List** + Care Coordination Note

Diagnosis	Hospital	Principal	Sort Priority	Updated
<b>Hospital (Problems being addressed during this admission)</b>				
Diabetes type 2, controlled (CMS/HCC) Present on Admission?: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unprioritized	Yesterday Eurypyle, Finn-Im, MD
Acute gastric ulcer with hemorrhage but without obstruction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unprioritized	Yesterday Gastroenterology, Physician, MD
<b>Non-Hospital (Problems not being addressed during this admission)</b>				
Hypertension	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unprioritized	Yesterday Eurypyle, Finn-Im, MD
<b>Multidisciplinary</b>				
PAIN - ADULT				
INFECTION - ADULT				
SAFETY ADULT - FALL				
DISCHARGE PLANNING				

Mark as Reviewed **Never Reviewed**

Close Previous Next

**History**

Medical History				Surgical History				
Diagnosis	Date	Comment	Source	Procedure	Laterality	Date	Comment	Source
Diabetes mellitus				HERNIA REPAIR				
Gout								

Charlie-IM Eurypyle  
Male, 60 y.o., 1/26/1961  
MRN: 285020769  
Bed: TRN IPORD Med Surg  
Cur Location: EMH MASTER PATIENTS  
Code: FULL (no ACP docs)

Physician Gastroenterology, MD  
Attending

Allergies: No Known Allergies  
Post Op Day: 1

Click here to launch HEALTHeLINK

Collection: Unit

ADMITTED: 1/26/2021 (1 D)  
Patient Class: Inpatient  
Acute gastric ulcer with hemorrhage but without obstruction

Height: 180.3 cm (5' 10.98")  
Last Wt: 86.2 kg (190 lb)  
BMI: 26.51 kg/m<sup>2</sup> !

LAB RESULTS (LAST 36H)  
Lab (3)  
Other (1)



# DOCUMENTING A NEW PROBLEM

- In the problem list, enter a few letters of the problem's name in the **Search for new problem** field and press **ENTER**
- Select the appropriate diagnosis & select any additional details in the bottom pane. Click **ACCEPT**
- Enter information about the problem, such as priority and whether it was present on admission
- Click to **Accept**.

The screenshot shows a medical software interface. On the left is a 'Problem List' window with a search bar containing 'stroke' and an '+ Add' button. Below the search bar are categories: 'Diagnosis', 'Hospital (Problems being addressed)', 'Non-Hospital (Problems not being addressed)', and 'Multidisciplinary'. The 'Diagnosis' section is expanded, showing 'Diabetes type 2, controlled' and 'Acute gastric ulcer with hemorrhage'. The 'Hospital' section shows 'Hypertension'. The 'Multidisciplinary' section shows 'PAIN - ADULT', 'INFECTION - ADULT', 'SAFETY ADULT - FALL', and 'DISCHARGE PLANNING'. There are buttons for 'Mark as Reviewed', 'Never Reviewed', and 'Close'. Below is a 'History' section with a 'Medical History' sub-section listing 'Diagnosis', 'Diabetes mellitus', and 'Gout'. On the right is a 'Database Search - Eurypyle, Charlie-IM' window. The search bar contains 'stroke'. Below is a table with columns 'ID', 'Name', and 'ICD-10 Codes'. The first row is selected: '298284 Stroke (CMS/HCC) 163.9'. Below the table are 'Select additional details:' sections for 'CVA mechanism', 'Precerebral and cerebral artery', and 'Laterality of affected vessel'. The 'CVA mechanism' section has buttons for 'embolism', 'nonpyogenic cerebral venous thrombosis', 'occlusion', 'stenosis', and 'thrombosis'. The 'Precerebral and cerebral artery' section has buttons for 'anterior cerebral artery', 'basilar artery', 'carotid artery', 'cerebellar artery', 'middle cerebral artery', 'posterior cerebral artery', 'vertebral artery', 'small artery', 'unspecified cerebral artery', and 'unspecified precerebral artery'. The 'Laterality of affected vessel' section has buttons for 'right', 'left', and 'bilateral'. Below these sections is a summary: 'Stroke (CMS/HCC) [163.9]'. There is a 'Clear' button and a '50 loaded. More to load.' message. At the bottom right are 'Accept' and 'Cancel' buttons. Green arrows point to the search bar in the 'Problem List', the selected row in the 'Database Search' table, the 'Accept' button, and the search bar in the 'Database Search' window.

ID	Name	ICD-10 Codes
298286	Stroke (cerebrum) (CMS/HCC)	163.9
298284	Stroke (CMS/HCC)	163.9
1754494	Stroke aborted by administration of thrombolytic agent (CMS/HCC)	163.9
1847490	Stroke associated with COVID-19 (CMS/HCC)	U07.1, 163.9
1520424	Stroke determined by clinical assessment (CMS/HCC)	163.9
1836871	Stroke due to aneurysm in child (CMS/HCC)	160.9
1567654	Stroke due to embolism (CMS/HCC)	163.9
1567526	Stroke due to embolism of anterior cerebral artery (CMS/HCC)	163.429
1567696	Stroke due to embolism of basilar artery (CMS/HCC)	163.12
1567542	Stroke due to embolism of carotid artery (CMS/HCC)	163.139
1567506	Stroke due to embolism of cerebellar artery (CMS/HCC)	163.449
1567517	Stroke due to embolism of cerebral artery (CMS/HCC)	163.40



# THE CLINICIANS RESPONSIBILITY

- Adding active problems missing from the problem list
- Changing or Modifying problems (refining from generic to more specific)
- Deleting duplicative or inaccurate problems
- Identifying the **PRINCIPLE PROBLEM**  
**The Principal Hospital Problem should be marked for EVERY admission indicated by the BLUE DIAMOND**
- Resolving active problems
- Moving resolved problem to patient history
- Mark Problem List as Reviewed

**Problem List**

Search for new problem

Diagnosis

Hospital (Problems being addressed during this admission)

- Diabetes type 2, controlled (CMS/HCC)
- Present on Admission?:  Yes  No  ?
- Acute gastric ulcer with hemorrhage but without obstruction

Non-Hospital (Problems not being addressed during this admission)

- Hypertension

Multidisciplinary

- PAIN - ADULT
- INFECTION - ADULT
- SAFETY ADULT FALL
- DISCHARGE PLANNING

Mark as Reviewed  Never Reviewed



# IMPORTANCE OF THE PRINCIPAL PROBLEM

**The Principal Problem is defined as: The main reason why the patient is here**

- Compliance with regulations such as Meaningful Use
- Drives Nursing Plan of Care
- Impacts treatment decisions
- Links to patients After Visit Summary Discharge instructions
- Suggests tools such as order sets

***\*\*There can only be ONE Principal Problem \*\****



# ADDING A PRINCIPLE PROBLEM

**Charlie-IM Euryppyle**  
Male, 60 y.o., 1/26/1961  
MRN: 285020769  
Bed: TRN IPORD Med Surg  
Cur Location: EMH MASTER PATIENTS  
Code: FULL (no ACP docs)

Physician  
**Gastroenterology, MD**  
Attending

Allergies: No Known Allergies  
Post Op Day: 1

Click here to launch HEALTHeLINK

Collection: Unit

ADMITTED: 1/26/2021 (1 D)  
Patient Class: Inpatient  
Acute gastric ulcer with hemorrhage but without obstruction

Height: 180.3 cm (5' 10.98")  
Last Wt: 86.2 kg (190 lb)  
BMI: 26.51 kg/m<sup>2</sup> !

### Problem List

Search for new problem **+ Add** [DxReference](#) [View Drug-Disease Interactions](#) Show:  Past F

Diagnosis Hospital Principal Sort Priority Updated

#### New Problem

Problem:  [DxRe](#)

Display:

Priority:  Noted:   Chronic  Hospital problem

Class:  Resolved:   Share with patient  Principal problem

Present on admission?  Yes  No  Clinically undetermined

Overview: [Insert SmartText](#)

When adding a New Problem you can select principle problem in this screen field, then click accept.



# ADDING A PRINCIPLE PROBLEM

The screenshot displays the EpicCare interface for patient Charlie-IM Euryple. The main content area is the 'Problem List' section, which is organized into 'Hospital' and 'Non-Hospital' categories. The 'Hospital' section lists three problems: 'Stroke (CMS/HCC)', 'Diabetes type 2, controlled (CMS/HCC)', and 'Acute gastric ulcer with hemorrhage but without obstruction'. The 'Non-Hospital' section lists 'Hypertension'. Each problem row includes a 'Hospital' checkbox, a 'Principal' diamond icon, a 'Sort Priority' dropdown, and an 'Updated' timestamp. A tooltip is visible over the diamond icon for 'Diabetes type 2, controlled (CMS/HCC)', stating 'Click to unmark the problem as the principal problem of this admission.' A green arrow points to the diamond icon for 'Stroke (CMS/HCC)', and another green arrow points to the checkbox for 'Hypertension'.

Diagnosis	Hospital	Principal	Sort Priority	Updated
<b>Hospital (Problems being addressed during this admission)</b>				
Stroke (CMS/HCC)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		High	Today Euryple, Finn-Im, MD
Diabetes type 2, controlled (CMS/HCC)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Unprioritized	Today Euryple, Finn-Im, MD
Acute gastric ulcer with hemorrhage but without obstruction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Unprioritized	Today Gastroenterology, Physician, MD
<b>Non-Hospital (Problems not being addressed during this admission)</b>				
Hypertension	<input type="checkbox"/>		Unprioritized	Yesterday Euryple, Finn-Im, MD

You can also identify the principle problem by clicking the diamond on the problem list screen

It is also important to point out that you can make “Non Hospital Problems” (Problems not being addressed during this admission) “Hospital Problems” (problems being addressed during this admission) by clicking the box next under HOSPITAL column



**A PRINCIPLE PROBLEM  
MUST  
BE SELECTED FOR  
EACH HOSPITAL VISIT !**



# UPDATING & RESOLVING A PROBLEM

- **To update a Problem:** Sometimes a diagnosis evolves over time as more information comes to light or the disease progresses. To edit or correct an existing problem, click the triangle symbol.

The screenshot displays a 'Problem List' interface. At the top, there is a search bar for new problems and a '+ Add' button. Below this, a table lists the patient's problems. The first problem is 'Acute gastric ulcer with hemorrhage but without obstruction', which is highlighted in green. To the right of the problem name, there is a triangle icon (used for updating) and an 'X' icon (used for resolving). A green arrow points to the triangle icon. Below the table, there are sections for 'Details', 'Overview', 'Related Goals', and 'Relevant Medications'. The 'Related Goals' section includes a search bar and a '+ Add' button. The 'Relevant Medications' section is currently empty.

Diagnosis	Hospital	Principal	Sort Priority	Updated
Acute gastric ulcer with hemorrhage but without obstruction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	^ Unprioritized	Yesterday Gastroenterology, Physician, MD

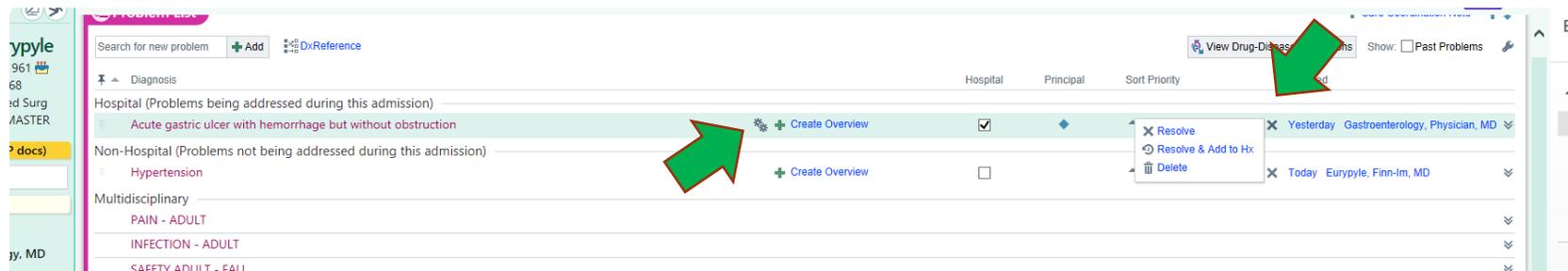


# TO RESOLVE A PROBLEM

- **To Resolve a Problem:** When a problem has ended, hover over dx and click the gear icon to **resolve**.



- You can also click the X icon on the problem line to resolve or delete a problem

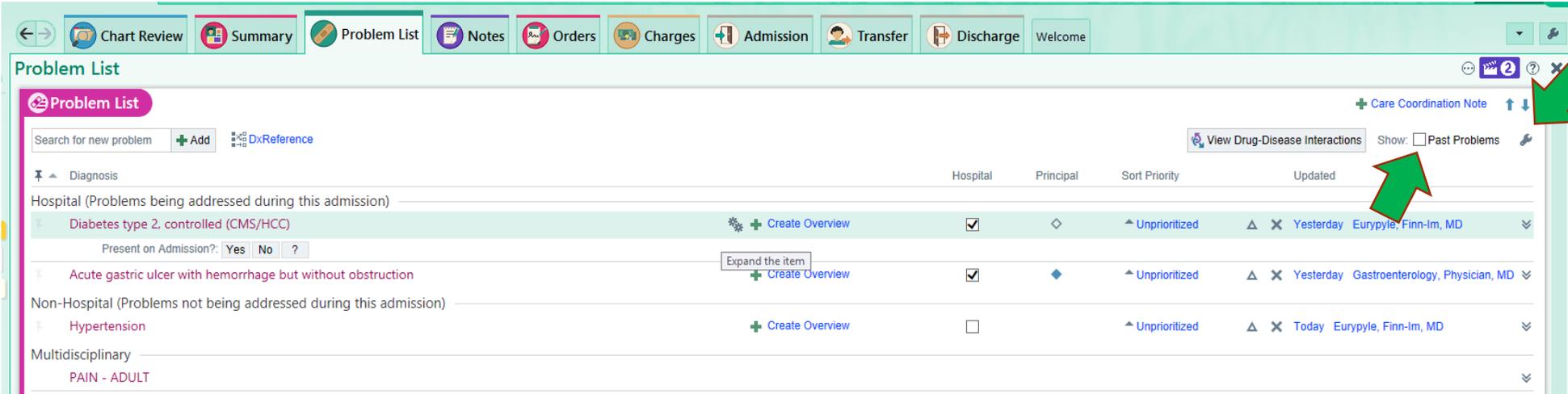


- The problem disappears from the problem list. The problem list is shared across all specialties, so any physician can resolve a given problem when it is no longer an issue



# VIEWING RESOLVED PROBLEMS

- To view resolved problems: Select the **Past Problems** check box. You can also click the “wrench” and select whether you want to see multidisciplinary, non-hospital, and deleted problems



The screenshot displays the 'Problem List' interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with icons for Chart Review, Summary, Problem List (active), Notes, Orders, Charges, Admission, Transfer, Discharge, and Welcome. Below the navigation bar, the 'Problem List' section is visible. It includes a search bar for new problems, an 'Add' button, and a 'DxReference' icon. A 'View Drug-Disease Interactions' button is also present. The main area shows a table of problems, categorized into Hospital, Non-Hospital, and Multidisciplinary. The 'Past Problems' checkbox is checked, and a green arrow points to it. Another green arrow points to the 'wrench' icon in the top right corner of the table.

Diagnosis	Hospital	Principal	Sort Priority	Updated
Hospital (Problems being addressed during this admission)				
Diabetes type 2, controlled (CMS/HCC)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unprioritized	Yesterday Eurypple, Finn-Im, MD
Present on Admission?: Yes No ?				
Acute gastric ulcer with hemorrhage but without obstruction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unprioritized	Yesterday Gastroenterology, Physician, MD
Non-Hospital (Problems not being addressed during this admission)				
Hypertension	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unprioritized	Today Eurypple, Finn-Im, MD
Multidisciplinary				
PAIN - ADULT				



# INSERTING PROBLEMS INTO A NOTE

Use the following EPIC SmartPhrases to document Problems within a note:

- Type **.HPROB** to list **Active Hospital** problems within a note
- Type **.PROBR** to list **Active and Resolved Hospital** problems within a note
- Type **.PROBL** to list **Hospital and Non-hospital** problems within a note



# OTHER RESOURCES

- Below is a [link](#) to Classroom Recordings, which can also be accessed through CHS intranet- BE EPIC page.

For Inpatient Classroom Recording: **Problem list**  
**START at 27 mins 07 seconds**

[EPIC Classroom Recordings- EPIC STS ORDERS Hospitalist LIVE](#)



# REFERENCES

Catholic Health. (2020). Problem List. Retrieved from EPIC Physician Learning Home Dashboard.

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. (n.d.) Problem List Job Aid. Retrieved from <https://www.choa.org/~media/files/Childrens/medical-professionals/physician-resources/problem-list-job-aide.pdf>.

