



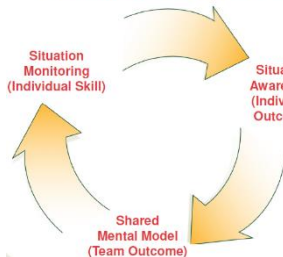
TeamSTEPPS® TIPS

Situation Monitoring and Awareness

What is situation monitoring and awareness?

Situation monitoring is an individual skill. It is the process of actively scanning and assessing situational elements to gain information and understanding, or maintain awareness to support functioning of the team. Situation monitoring is a skill that can be trained and developed among staff.

A Continuous Process



Often times the STEP (**S**tatus of patient, **T**eam members, **E**nvironment, **P**rogress toward goal) model is applied to monitor a situation.

Situation awareness is the state of knowing “what is going on around you,” or the conditions that affect one’s work. It is a detailed picture of the situation. Situation awareness is not a static “thing” or concept. Because the situation is dynamic and ever-changing, team members must continually assess relevant components of the situation and update their individual SA.

What is an example of situation monitoring?

A patient in the ICU has coded, and CPR is in progress. The Resuscitation Team is busy ensuring that intravenous access is available, and the ET tube is inserted correctly. Dr. Matthews, the Team Leader, is calling out orders for drugs, X-rays, and labs. Judy, a nurse at the bedside, is inserting an IV. Nancy, another nurse, is drawing up meds. Judy can tell by Nancy's expression that she didn't get the last order called out by Dr. Matthews. Judy calls out while continuing to place the IV, "Nancy, he wants the high-dose epinephrine from the vial in the top drawer."

How can I help maintain situational awareness?

- Share information with the team
- Request information from others
- Direct information to specific team members
- Include patient or family in communication
- Utilize resources fully (e.g., status board, automation)
- Document

Where can I get more information about situation monitoring and awareness?

Visit www.leadingagekansas.org/tsmaterials