Medication Reconciliation Best Practices:

- Ask open-ended questions
- Don’t forget about OTCs and Herbals
- Clues to medication tolerance
- Important drug-drug interactions
- Assess Adherence
- Consistent data collection form and process
- Access to pharmacist advice and drug information resources

1. Document Current Rx Meds and allergies
   - Dose, strength, directions (and how patient actually taking), indication
   - Which medications are you currently taking?
   - Are you still taking the metoprolol? How are you taking that medication?
   - Are you allergic or have had a bad reaction to any medication? What happened?

2. Assess for OTC or Herbals
   - Are you taking any over the counter medications? What are you taking that medication for?
   - Symptom prompts – medications for pain? Stomach upset? Diarrhea? vitamins or supplements? Herbals?

3. Adherence Assessment
   - People may miss taking their medicines for many reasons. In the last month, for which medicines have you missed doses?
   - What causes you to miss doses?

4. Compare patient-reported list to list in EMR
   - New medications
   - Discontinued medications
   - Patient taking differently than prescribed or listed in EMR
   - Prescribed by outside physician
   - Herbal/OTC products

5. Communicate discrepancies to HCP
   - Resolve discrepancies
   - Patient education as necessary for adherence or improper medication use
   - Consultation with pharmacist and drug information resources as necessary
   - Drug-Drug interaction check with new medications or changes to medication list
   - Check for Drug Therapy Problems

6. Update medication list in EMR
   - Include new medications from visit
   - List should reflect how the patient is actually taking the medications
   - Communicate list to next healthcare provider as necessary (key for transitions of care)