## Development and Implementation of an Outpatient Atrial Fibrillation Pathway

Example Timeline for Developing a Protocol

Phase 1: SECURE LEADERSHIP & AQUIRE DATA	<b>MONTHS: (</b> 1-3)	(4)	(5-6)	(7-8)	(9+)
<ul> <li>Identify quality &amp; operational metrics</li> <li>Gather baseline data</li> <li>Make a clinical &amp; bus. case to key leaders (e.g., Cardiology Leads, Nurse I Develop a project plan (include: deliverables, roles, clinical charter plans)</li> <li>Identify executive sponsors (assist with: funding, escalations &amp; problem so</li> <li>Create timeline</li> <li>Obtain access to resources, (e.g., data analysts, admin. &amp; IT support, educed Assess the feasibility a follow-up clinic</li> </ul>	lving)				<b>-</b>
Phase 2: PLAN FOR PROTOCOL DEVELOPMENT	<b>MONTHS: (</b> 1-3)	(4)	(5-6)	(7-8)	(9+)
<ul> <li>Perform literature search (start with ACEP-provided references)</li> <li>Review protocols from peer institutions</li> <li>Establish a interdisciplinary workgroup and assign roles</li> <li>Identify &amp; engage supportive key opinion leaders</li> <li>Identify &amp; engage staff likely to oppose pathway</li> </ul>					<b>-</b>
Phase 3: DEVELOP PROTOCOL & KEY COMPONENTS	<b>MONTHS: (</b> 1-3)	(4)	(5-6)	(7-8)	(9+)
<ul> <li>Identify inclusion &amp; exclusion criteria</li> <li>Identify expected interventions</li> </ul>			•		
Phase 4: VERIFY & LAUNCH PROTOCOL	<b>MONTHS: (</b> 1-3)	(4)	(5-6)	(7-8)	(9+)
<ul> <li>Revise based on feedback</li> <li>Obtain baseline data</li> <li>Pilot the protocol (if multiple sites available, select the most challenging)</li> <li>Revise for gaps &amp; barriers</li> <li>Rollout protocol; publicize "go-live" event</li> </ul>					<b>-</b>
Phase 5: MAINTAIN PROTOCOL	<b>MONTHS: (</b> 1-3)	(4)	(5-6)	(7-8)	(9+)
<ul> <li>Monitor data to ensure appropriate adherence</li> <li>Report metrics to frontline staff &amp; leadership</li> <li>Integrate protocol maintenance activities into standing meeting</li> <li>Revisit literature to ensure alignment with most recent scientific evidence</li> <li>Perform annual revisions</li> </ul>					•