

# Hunger Vital Signs™ Screening Implementation Examples

## Who

Non Clinical Staff  
(Enrollment Specialists,  
Community Health  
Workers)

Clinical Staff

Care Coordinators

Non Clinical Staff (Patient  
Advocates, Patient  
Navigators)

## Where

In Waiting Room

In Exam Room

In Care Coordinator's  
Office

In Patient Advocate's  
Office

## When

Before Provider Visit

Before Provider Enters  
Exam Room

When Completing Health  
Risk Assessments

After Clinical Visit

## How

Administer HVS with  
patients that would  
be waiting over 30  
minutes for provider

Administer HVS after  
vitals and reason for visit.  
Provider reviews data and  
refers to case manager

Administer HVS in  
conjunction with Health  
Risks Assessments

Administer HVS and  
respond as appropriate  
with community resources  
guide and CHHP bag

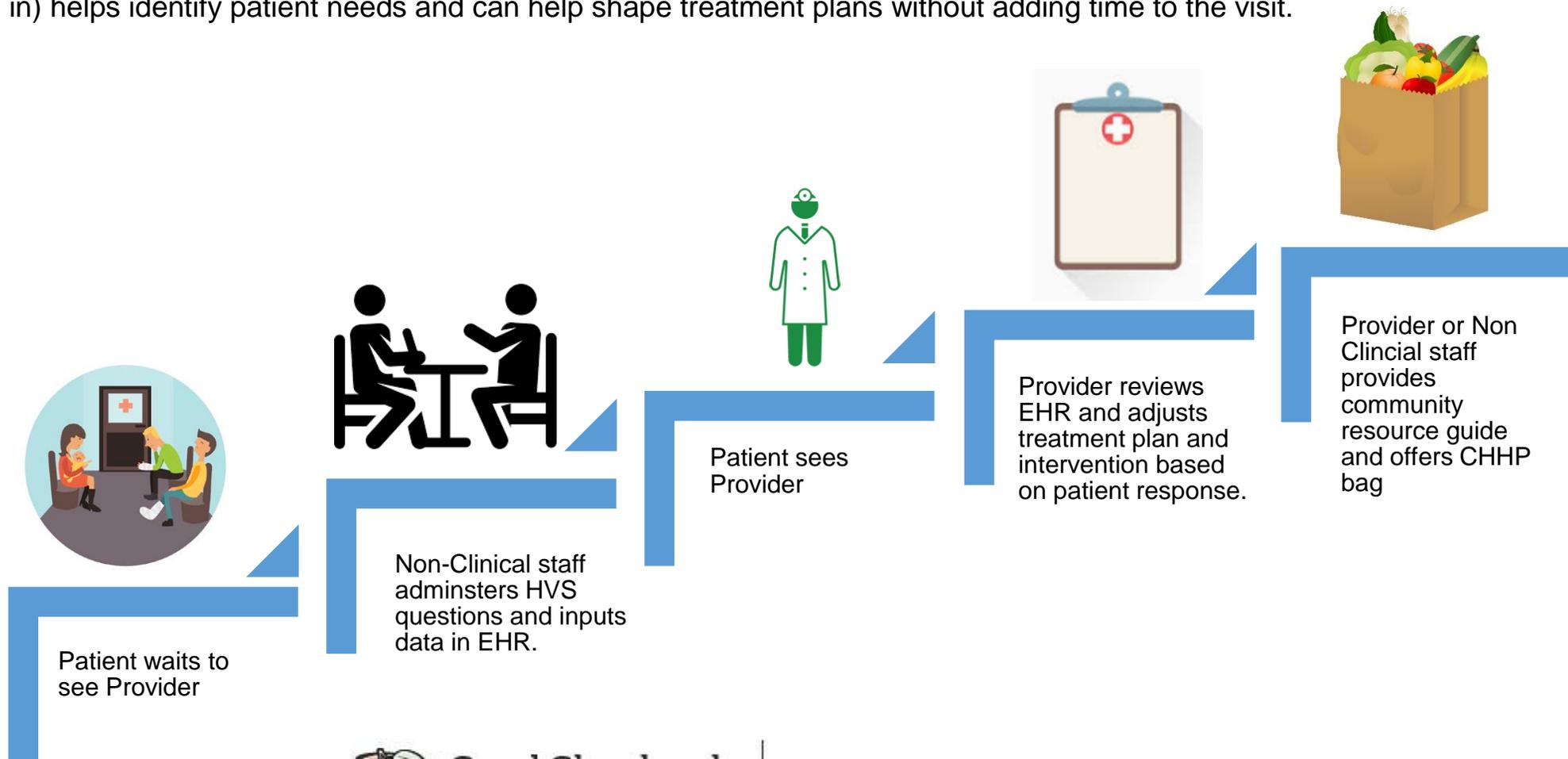


Good Shepherd  
FOOD BANK OF MAINE

*partnering to end hunger*

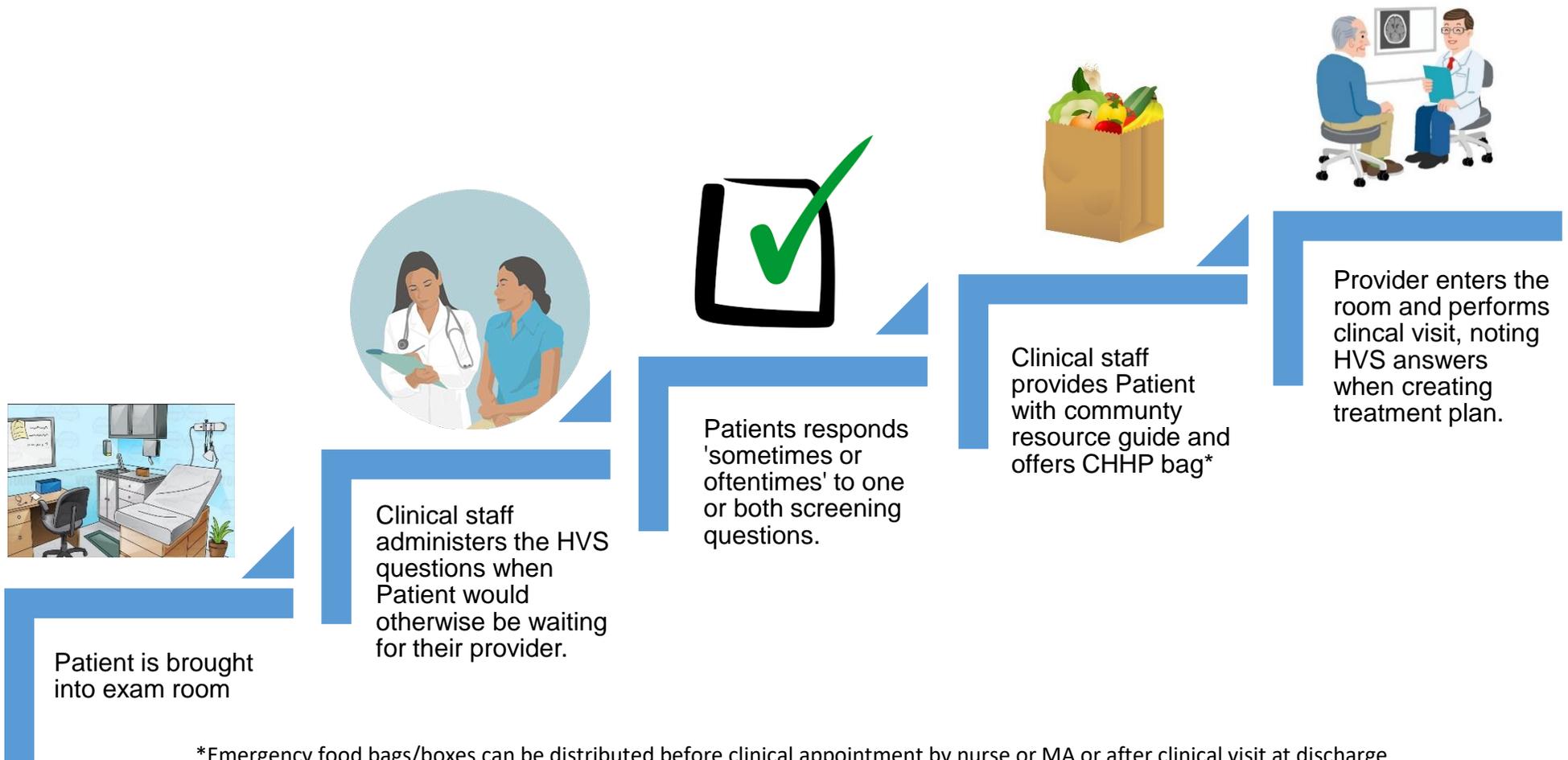
# Utilizing Non-Clinical Staff before Clinic Visits to Screen for Food Insecurity

Non-Clinical staff such as Enrollment Coordinators and Community Health Workers are a valuable resource in a health care setting and provide important insights into when and where patients will feel most comfortable responding to questions about food insecurity and other social determinants of health. They are also often employed from the surrounding community and may better understand patient needs and the environmental barriers patients may face in addressing health concerns. Screening for food insecurity before a clinic visit (during registration or sign in) helps identify patient needs and can help shape treatment plans without adding time to the visit.



# Utilizing Clinical Staff during Clinic Visits to Screen for Food Insecurity

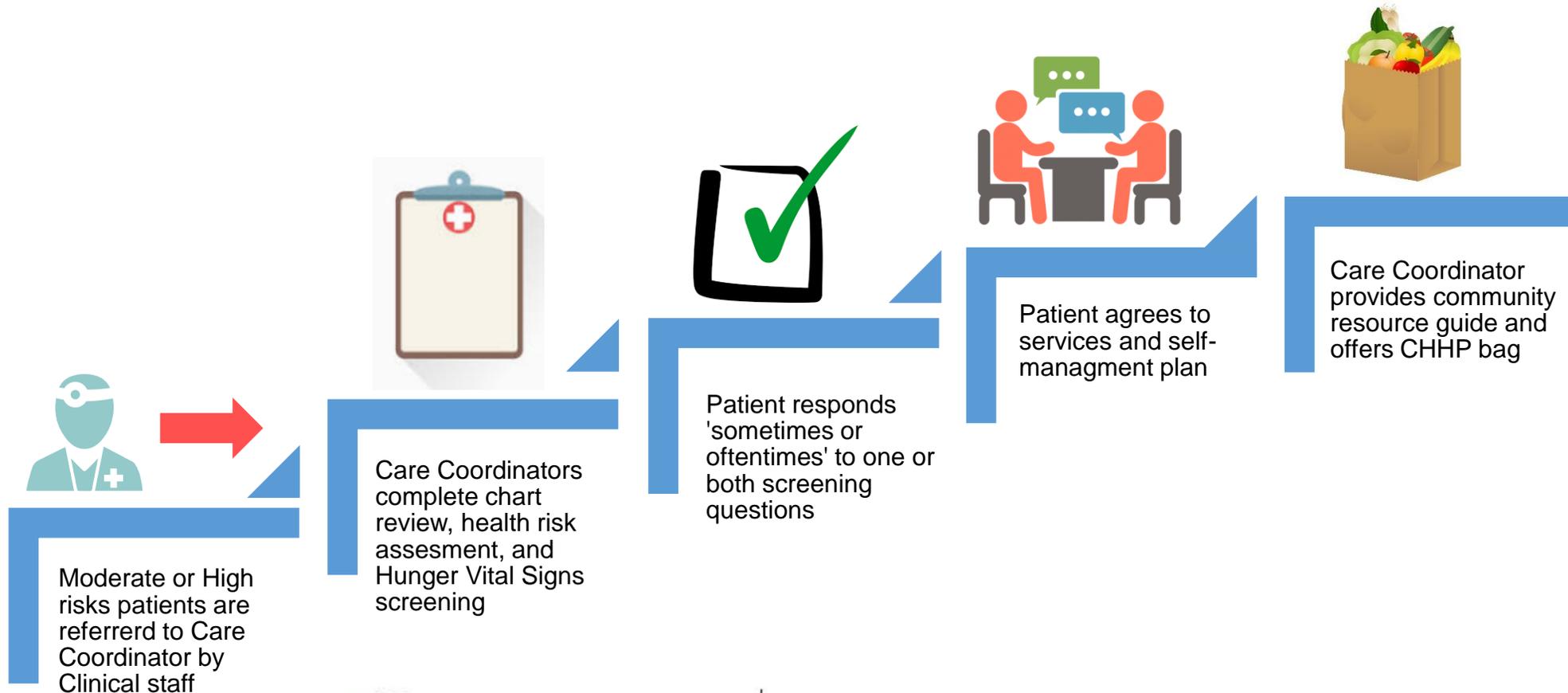
Clinical staff including nurses, medical assistants, and behavioral health specialists are trained to collect sensitive patient information in a discreet and professional way. Administering the Hunger Vital Signs questions in an exam room ensures that the information is collected in a private setting and patients may feel more comfortable speaking with clinical staff about sensitive topics.



\*Emergency food bags/boxes can be distributed before clinical appointment by nurse or MA or after clinical visit at discharge

# Utilizing Care Coordinators during Clinic Visits to Screen for Food Insecurity

Care Coordinators are a natural fit to screen patients using the Hunger Vital Signs questions because their professional duties include connecting patients to services that meet their specialized needs as identified at their clinical visit. In a Care Coordinator's office the Hunger Vital Signs questions can be administered in conjunction with other patient assessments where similar needs can be addressed simultaneously.



# Utilizing Non-Clinical Staff after Clinic Visits to Screen for Food Insecurity

Non-Clinical staff such as Patient Advocates and Patient Navigators are important connection points between patients and community organizations that can offer non-medical support for patients outside of the clinical setting. Patient Advocates and Patient Navigators have the advantage of being able to connect patients that identify as food insecure directly with the resources they need within their community. In addition to being directly connected to community resources, non-clinical staff typically do not have care-coordination responsibilities and may have more time to administer and respond to the Hunger Vital Signs questions.

