

Developing a strong clinical quality improvement idea: A four-step checklist



Step 1: Identify the problem you want to solve

- Look at your practice or your clinic. Consider where there may be gaps in quality that are affecting your patients' care.
- Focus on the areas of your work that cause the most frustration, are prone to mistakes, or increase your workload.



Step 2: Dive deeper into your problem

- Understand your problem fully:
 - Talk to colleagues
 - Dig into the data
 - Review current evidence



Step 3: Keep the scope small to start

- Focus on one unit, one clinic, or a select patient population.
- Be intentional in defining the start and end point for the problem or process you want to work on.
- Remember that you don't need to tackle every problem all at once.



Step 4: Engage a team

- Prioritize communication, engagement, and participation with all of the stakeholders affected by the problem you are trying to solve.
- Identify a potential sponsor (or sponsors) who can help you champion your project.
- Consider the different roles or areas of expertise you will need on your team.

For more information read, *From "good" to "great": Four tips to strengthen your next clinical quality improvement idea* at: www.saskhealthquality.ca/blog/tips-to-strengthen-clinical-quality-improvement-project-idea/

To learn more about Saskatchewan's Clinical Quality Improvement program, visit: www.saskhealthquality.ca/training-webinars/cqip/