Continuous Quality Improvement Toolkit

A Resource for Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program Awardees

Module 5: The PDSA Cycle—Step by Step

Estimate and commit the needed resources. Step 2: Assemble a team.	PLAN	DO
improvement. Estimate and commit the needed resources. Step 2: Assemble a team. Identify and assemble team members. Specify team member roles and responsibilities. Specify meeting frequency and structure. Develop a SMART aim. Step 3: Identify current process. Examine the current approach or process flow. Obtain existing baseline data or create a plan to obtain needed baseline data. Obtain input from stakeholders. Determine root causes of the problem. Step 4: Identify potential change strategies. Identify all potential change strategies based on root causes. Select change strategy (or strategies) most likely to achieve the SMART aim. Step 5: Identify improvement theory. Develop a theory of change for the change strategy. Develop a strategy to test the theory on a small scale (small number of participants).	Step 1: Identify area for improvement.	Step 6: Test the theory.
Specify meeting frequency and structure. Develop a SMART aim. Step 3: Identify current process. Examine the current approach or process flow. Obtain existing baseline data or create a plan to obtain needed baseline data. Obtain input from stakeholders. Determine root causes of the problem. Step 4: Identify potential change strategies. Identify all potential change strategies based on root causes. Select change strategy (or strategies) most likely to achieve the SMART aim. Step 5: Identify improvement theory. Develop a theory of change for the change strategy. Develop a strategy to test the theory on a small scale (small number of participants). Step 7: Study the results. Was the improvement successful on a small scale? Did the results match the theory/prediction? Were there any unintended consequences? Describe and report what you learned. ACT Step 8: Scale up implementation. Scale up successful change strategies and continue testing until improvement is achieve the SMART aim. Step 9: Establish future plans. Repeat the PDSA cycle, when needed. Take steps to preserve gains and sustain.	improvement. ☐ Estimate and commit the needed resources. Step 2: Assemble a team.	 Collect, chart, and display data to determine the effectiveness of the change strategy. Monitor fidelity of implementation of the change strategy; document problems, unexpected
 □ Develop a SMART aim. □ Step 3: Identify current process. □ Examine the current approach or process flow. □ Obtain existing baseline data or create a plan to obtain needed baseline data. □ Obtain input from stakeholders. □ Determine root causes of the problem. □ Step 4: Identify potential change strategies. □ Identify all potential change strategies based on root causes. □ Select change strategy (or strategies) most likely to achieve the SMART aim. □ Develop a theory of change for the change strategy. □ Develop a strategy to test the theory on a small scale (small number of participants). □ Step 7: Study the results. □ Was the improvement successful on a small scale? □ Did the results match the theory/prediction? □ Describe and report what you learned. □ ACT Step 8: Scale up implementation. □ Scale up successful change strategies and continue testing until improvement is achieve the small scale successful improvements. □ Step 9: Establish future plans. □ Repeat the PDSA cycle, when needed. □ Take steps to preserve gains and sustain 		STUDY
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Develop a strategy to test the theory on a small scale (small number of participants). Repeat the PDSA cycle, when needed.		·
What is the strategy? Who will apply it? How will successes. it be measured? What is success? Make long-terms plan for additional improvements. Celebrate your successes. Adapted from: Tews, D. S., Heany, J., Jones, J., VanDerMoere, R., & Madamala, K. (2012). Embracing quality in public health: A practitioner's	 Develop a strategy to test the theory on a small scale (small number of participants). What is the strategy? Who will apply it? How will it be measured? What is success? 	 Repeat the PDSA cycle, when needed. Take steps to preserve gains and sustain successes. Make long-terms plan for additional improvements. Celebrate your successes.

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improvement handbook. Michigan Public Health Institute