

RAPID CRITICAL APPRAISAL OF A QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

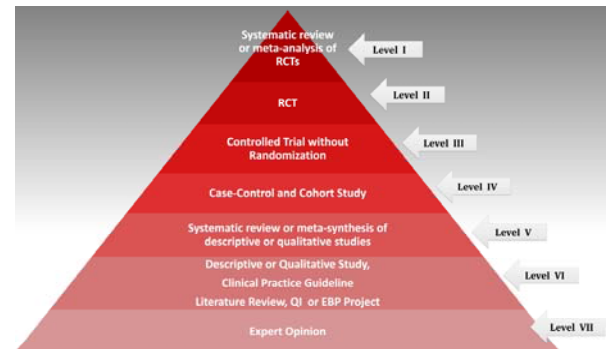
PROJECT DESCRIPTION/LEVEL OF STUDY

Project title:

Date:

Reviewer(s) name(s):

PICOT Question:



Article citation (APA):

Indicate the level of the study you are appraising:

Recommendation for article inclusion in the body of evidence to answer your question:

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF STUDY

OVERVIEW

1. Purpose of study/article/project:

1. Design/Method:

2. Sample:

3. Setting:

4. Data Collection:

QUALITY OF STUDY

VALIDITY: Are the results of this study valid?

1. Was an improvement method clearly identified?

Yes No Unknown

- What was the improvement method?

PDSA

Lean Process

CQI

TQM

Six Sigma

Other: _____

2. Was the need for improvement clearly described?

Yes No Unknown

Unknown

- Was the current state of the process discussed? Yes No
- Was the intended impact of improvement predicted and outlined? Yes No

3. Were the stakeholders and organizational culture clearly described?

Yes No Unknown

- Were the stakeholders involved in decisions to make changes? Yes No
(e.g. champions, supporters, early adapters, clinicians, care givers, patients, process owners)

4. Were the project methods clearly described and appropriate for the aim?

Yes No Unknown

- Was the setting clearly described and appropriate (e.g. unit, clinic)? Yes No
- Were the participants (e.g. clinicians, patients, groups) clearly described and appropriate? Yes No
- Was the aim of the improvement project specific, measurable, actionable, relevant, time bound (e.g. SMART)? Yes No

5. Was the planned improvement intervention (e.g. action plans) described in enough detail to be replicated?

Yes No Unknown

6. Were the planned improvement interventions based on evidence?

Yes No Unknown

External Evidence:

- Published Research
- Published QI Reports
- Benchmarks
- QI data (Local Data)

Internal Evidence:

- Failure Mode and Effects Analysis (analysis of causes of dysfunction)
- Key Driver Analysis (Local Data)
- Pareto Analysis (Local Data)

7. Were appropriate baseline data collected and reported for the outcome of interest?

Yes No Unknown

- Did the baseline data indicate the need for improvement? Yes No
- Were valid and reliable tools used for measurement of the outcome to be improved? Yes No

8. Was outcome data collection planned and appropriate to evaluate whether the QI project resulted in an improvement?

Yes No Unknown

9. If adaptations/modifications were made to the planned improvement intervention, were they based on outcome data from small tests of change or pilot studied?

Yes No Unknown

10. Were the modified improvement interventions (i.e. the future state of the process) described in enough detail to be replicated by others?

Yes No Unknown

11. Was all outcome data for the improvement intervention(s) collected in the same way as the baseline data?

Yes No Unknown

12. Was there freedom from conflict of interest?

Yes No Unknown

- Sponsor/funding agency
- Investigators

13. Was the date range of the cited literature current?

Yes No Unknown

- What date ranges were included? ? _____ to _____
 - If older literature was included, why was it included?

RELIABILITY: Are these valid study reports important?

14. Were the statistical analysis methods appropriate?

Yes No Unknown

- What was the unit of analysis (e.g. clinician, clinician group, care area, process, etc.)?

- What was measured?

- Were the statistical analysis methods clearly described? Yes No
- If multiple improvement interventions were used, was statistical analysis Yes No conducted on each intervention?

15. What were the main results of the study?

- Were results of the small tests of change or pilot studies reported? Yes No

- How large was the main improvement intervention effect?

- Statistical Significance (*p* value) _____
- Confidence Interval and/or Standard Deviations _____
- How precise was the intervention/treatment?
 - Narrow? Wide? _____
- Effect size _____

16. Were the results clinically significant?

Yes No Unknown

- Were the following reported: NNT, NNH, OR, RR? Yes No

17. Were the lessons learned discussed?

Yes No Unknown

- Were benefits/harms, costs, unexpected results, problems, or failures reported or discussed? Yes No

18. Were the successful improvement interventions implemented with other clinicians or care groups (i.e. spread)?

Yes No Unknown

19. Were the improvement interventions studied over a period of time long enough to determine sustainability (e.g. long term effects, attrition, institutionalization)?

Yes No Unknown

APPLICABILITY/TRANSFERABILITY: Can I apply these valid, important study results?

20. Can the results be applied to my improvement issue of interest?

Yes No Unknown

- Is the treatment feasible in my care setting? Yes No
- Do the outcomes apply to my population of interest? Yes No
- Are the likely benefits worth the potential harm and costs? Yes No
- Were the subjects/participants in this study similar to my population of interest? Yes No
- Were all clinically important outcomes considered? Yes No

21. Will you include the article/study in your practice decision to make a difference in outcomes?

Yes No Unknown

- If yes, why would you do this & how would you do this?
- If no, why would you not include the results to make a difference?

STRENGTH OF STUDY

Level of evidence: I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII (Circle one)

Quality of evidence: High | Medium | Low (Circle one)

STRENGTH = LEVEL + QUALITY

What is the strength of the study/article?

What is your recommendation for article inclusion in the body of evidence to answer your question?

- Include this article in the body of evidence (place article on evaluation & synthesis tables)
- Do NOT include this article in the body of evidence

Additional Comments: