Clinical audit and QI tools:
A guide to HQIP resources

Fundamentals of clinical audit and QI
Successful patient and public involvement
Audience-specific resources
Topic-specific resources

November 2016
www.hqip.org.uk
Introduction

HQIP, in partnership with our Service User Network and other stakeholders, has undergone a full review process of its resources, guidance and tools – adding new ones and completely updating existing ones, to ensure we offer those involved or interested in clinical audit or quality improvement a suite of best-practice educational tools. While some have specific audiences, each is designed to be useful to – and accessible by – all.

Each of our resources are available free via www.hqip.org.uk/resources/ and here we summarise them, bringing them together in four areas we hope complement the flow of the improvement process: Fundamentals of CA and QI; Successful patient and public involvement; Audience-specific resources and finally, Topic-specific resources.

Contents

- Fundamentals of clinical audit and QI: 3
- Successful patient and public involvement: 6
- Audience-specific resources: 8
- Topic-specific resources: 9
Fundamentals of clinical audit and QI

Best practice in clinical audit

This document set out best practice criteria which:

- Provides guidance for clinicians and audit staff on how to plan, design and carry out audit to deliver improvements in the quality of services
- Allows provider Boards and management to evaluate and improve the quality of clinical audit activities in their organisations
- Allows those who commission or monitor healthcare services to assess the quality of clinical audit evidence provided to them
- Provides service users with information on clinical audit participation and understanding the process to help assess and improve quality of the projects they are involved in


As well as the guide, checklists are available which can be used to assess healthcare organisations, clinical audit programmes and clinical audits against the criteria. These check lists are designed to be downloaded and adapted for local use.

Fundamentals of clinical audit and QI

Statutory and mandatory requirements in clinical audit

A foundation stone in planning any clinical audit programme, this concise tool summarises the current statutory and mandatory requirements to be followed by NHS healthcare providers in England. The aim of the guidance is to ensure:

- Assurance of compliance with clinical standards
- Identification of risk, waste and inefficiencies
- Improvement in the quality of care and patient outcomes

www.hqip.org.uk/resources/hqip-statutory-and-mandatory-requirements-in-clinical-audit-guidance/
Developing clinical audit policy and strategy

This two-part guide is geared toward supporting healthcare providers in developing their organisational policy and strategy for clinical audit.

A policy on the use and conduct of clinical audit: This first part sets out the principles, roles, responsibilities and practices a healthcare provider should follow in auditing clinical practice. It also examines how to improve the quality of services to meet the needs of patients, healthcare commissioners, healthcare regulators, and others.

A strategy on the development of clinical audit: The second part of these ‘pillar’ guides, describes how a healthcare provider should implement policy and increase the impact of audit on clinical services – as with all HQIP guidances, this is designed to be useful for all interested in clinical audit.

www.hqip.org.uk/resources/clinical-audit-policy-and-clinical-audit-strategy/

Developing a clinical audit programme

This publication supports providers in developing their clinical audit programmes, with tools for ongoing management and annual review. A clinical audit programme should present a prioritised summary of planned clinical audit activity and outcomes, which is regularly updated and scrutinised in accordance with the provider’s clinical audit policy and strategy.

www.hqip.org.uk/resources/developing-a-clinical-audit-programme/
A guide to quality improvement methods

This hugely-popular summary guide brings together 12 quality improvement (QI) methods. It provides an overview of each, plus practical advice on how and when to implement them, with illustrative case examples.

QI methods covered in this resource include:

- Clinical audit
- Plan, Do, Study, Act
- Model for improvement
- LEAN/Six Sigma
- Performance benchmarking
- Process mapping
- Statistical process control

This resource is aimed at all professionals with an interest in QI and is an excellent ‘go to’ guide in assessing which QI methods might be suitable for you.


Documenting local clinical audit: A guide to reporting and recording

This resource describes how clinical audits undertaken at a local level should be documented. It includes a template for a clinical audit report that is intended to be adaptable for local use. While the focus of the guide is on clinical audit, a similar approach can be used in documenting any quality improvement project undertaken by clinicians and clinical teams working at a local level.

Patient and public involvement in QI

This comprehensive and updated guide establishes the benefits of PPI in quality improvement projects and how to implement PPI effectively. Readers will learn about the following:

- Benefits of PPI in quality improvement projects
- Legal requirements for PPI in quality improvement projects
- Examples of PPI in quality improvement projects

A number of quality improvement projects are included as case studies illustrating PPI through the application of various quality improvement methods.


Developing a patient and public involvement panel for QI

A step-by-step guide to developing an effective patient led panel suitable for patients, the public, and staff working in quality improvement in NHS healthcare.

Although the guide has been written for use in healthcare, many of its recommendations can be adapted for use in social care settings.

www.hqip.org.uk/resources/developing-a-patient-and-public-involvement-panel-for-quality-improvement/
Successful patient and public involvement

Introduction to QI for patients and public

This attractive and easy to use e-learning package provides excellent support for patients and service users who wish to become involved in quality improvement work in healthcare.

Also, on completion, a short, certificated self-assessment is available to test users’ understanding of quality improvement.

By the end of this e-learning package, users will be familiar with:

- Their vital role in improving healthcare quality
- Quality improvement principles
- Quality improvement data considerations

www.hqip.org.uk/resources/introduction-to-quality-improvement-for-patients-and-public/

Successful patient and public involvement

How to develop a patient-friendly clinical audit report

This resource aims to provide a definitive guide to developing clinical audit reports and tools suitable for patients, carers and other lay readers – feedback tell us these summary versions are also often the first stop for clinicians, management and commissioners. This resource includes guidance, tips, examples and case studies, and the principles are naturally transferable to other, non-audit reporting too.

www.hqip.org.uk/resources/how-to-develop-patient-friendly-clinical-audit-reports/
Guide for clinical audit leads

This updated guide is intended to support clinicians who are responsible for leading clinical audit in clinical services and at senior levels in healthcare organisations. Clinical leads have a fundamental role to play in ensuring that clinical audit delivers improvements in the quality of care, and this guide sets out the requirements of the role. It is also very useful for medical directors, clinical directors and clinical audit managers.

www.hqip.org.uk/resources/guide-for-clinical-audit-leads/

Guide to involving junior doctors in clinical audit and QI

All junior doctors are expected to carry out clinical audits or quality improvement projects in order to meet their training requirements. This updated guide is designed to help NHS Trusts gain maximum benefit from the clinical audits and QI projects carried out by doctors in training.

www.hqip.org.uk/resources/involving-junior-doctors-in-clinical-audit/
Clinical audit: A guide for NHS Boards and partners

Clinical audit is a powerful barometer for standards of care being provided locally and nationally. This provides a clear and simple guide to audit, its role in healthcare quality improvement and its context for good governance for Boards, managers and all with an interest in QI.

This updated version is designed to reflect the recent major changes in the NHS, including the impacts of the Health and Social Care Act, lessons from Mid-Staffordshire and Keogh Reviews and the enhanced focus on well-led organisations.

See also, the partner resource Good governance handbook below


Good governance handbook

This handbook is a partner resource to Clinical audit: A guide for NHS Boards and partners (see above) and is designed as a QI-based governance guide for NHS Boards, managers, commissioners and regulators.

www.hqip.org.uk/resources/good-governance-handbook/
An introduction to statistics for local clinical audit and improvement

Setting out the basics of statistical data analysis and presentation for those involved in local clinical audit and QI projects, this guide uses illustrative case examples to:

- Explain how to use descriptive statistical methods to analyse and present quality improvement data
- Provide general principles on how to choose the most appropriate statistical methods
- Demonstrate how to present local statistical data clearly and concisely

This guide lays out different tools and techniques for root cause analysis, primarily aimed at clinical audit professionals and healthcare staff who participate in clinical audit initiatives at both local and national level – but is very useful for all in healthcare concerned with this type of analysis.

As well as guidance, this resource includes useful templates, which can also be downloaded as separate documents and adapted for personal use.

www.hqip.org.uk/resources/introduction-to-statistics-for-clinical-audit-and-qi/

Guide to managing ethical issues in QI or clinical audit projects

This guide provides support for those reviewing and developing arrangements for effective ethics oversight of QI and clinical audit activities. The content is derived from an extensive ‘search and review’ of published literature on ethics and QI or clinical audit.

www.hqip.org.uk/resources/ethics-for-clinical-audit-and-q/i/