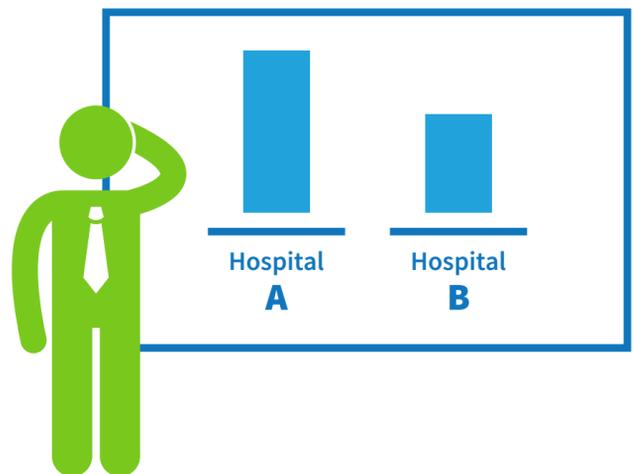


Quality Improvement (QI) initiatives are the means to implement evidence-based practice changes.

<p>✓</p> <p>Focuses on improving practice by identifying what is happening today and determining how to make it better.</p> 	<p>✓</p> <p>Initiatives designed to monitor changes made in a specific continuum of care and evolve with time.</p> 	<p>✓</p> <p>A unique process with its own language, tools and system and requires a team effort.</p> 
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QI projects start simple and expand over time.

Look for current practices that do not meet expectations and that align with the facility's goals and priorities. Consider benchmarking your current practices against other facility's practices to better understand how you might improve your practices.



QI is cross functional.

Practice improvement initiatives naturally involve a variety of disciplines. To optimize success, create a QI Change Team of individuals connected to your projects.



QI is **not** clinical research.

QI
Utilizes protocols, but DOES NOT control for extraneous variables
IRB process not usually required or may be expedited
DOES NOT establish cause-and-effect; results are subject to multiple variables

Clinical Research
Utilizes protocols and TIGHTLY controls extraneous variables
IRB approval required before implementation of research protocol
Cause-and-effect CAN BE established