



Toward
Optimized
Practice

Evidence Summary – the benefits of improvement facilitation in primary care

Question: What are the benefits of practice facilitation in primary care?

Summary

- Primary care practices are 2.76 times more likely to adopt evidence-based guidelines through practice facilitation.
- Practice facilitators increase preventive service delivery rates
- Facilitation has been shown to improve delivery of chronic disease care
- Facilitation leads to improved practice processes and patient care outcomes
- Increases practices' capacity for change

Key Resources

Baskerville NB, Liddy C, Hogg W. Systematic review and meta-analysis of practice facilitation within primary care settings. *Ann Fam Med*. 2012 Feb;10(1):63–74.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3262473/>

Nutting PA, Crabtree BF, Stewart EE, Miller WL, Palmer RF, Stange KC, et al. Effect of facilitation on practice outcomes in the National Demonstration Project model of the patient-centered medical home. *Ann Fam Med*. 2010;8 Suppl 1:S33–44; S92.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2885723/>

BEST PRACTICES IN IMPROVEMENT FACILITATION

Question: What are the best practices for improvement facilitation for primary care?

Summary

- Incorporate audit and feedback
- Employ established quality improvement tools, such as PDSA
- Tailor techniques and tools to specific practice needs
- The greater the intensity of the intervention, the greater the impact
- Facilitators require extensive training and support

Key resources

Knox L, Brach C. Practice facilitation handbook: training modules for new facilitators and their trainers. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; 2013.

<http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/prevention-chronic-care/improve/system/pfhandbook/index.html>

Geonnotti K, Taylor E, Peikes D, Schottenfeld L, Burak H, McNellis R, et al. Engaging Primary Care Practices in Quality Improvement: Strategies for Practice Facilitators. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; 2015 Mar. Report No.: AHRQ Publication No. 15-0015-EF.

<http://pcmh.ahrq.gov/page/engaging-primary-care-practices-quality-improvement-strategies-practice-facilitators>

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Lessons learned from leading models of practice facilitation. Rockville, MD: AHRQ; 2013 Jan.

http://pcmh.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/attachments/LessonsLearned_022813comp_0.pdf

Complete reference list

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/myncbi/1XMOxQclwSoAt/collections/48170011/public/>

MORE INFORMATION

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