Process Improvement Methods and Tools

HIV Health Improvement Affinity Group

November 18, 2016
• Please mute your line and do not put the line on hold.

• Comments are encouraged! To comment or ask a question, use the chat box on your screen.
  • Note: chat box will not be seen if you are in “full screen” mode. You will need to exit out of full screen mode if you want to use this feature.

• Moderated Q&A based on questions submitted through the chat box will be held after the formal presentation.
1. Review of your State Action Plan
2. Performance Improvement Methods and Tools
   • The Model for Improvement
   • Driver Diagrams
3. Examples
4. Questions
5. Upcoming Activities and Next Steps
Welcome HIV Affinity Group Teams!
Josh Hardy
Health Insurance Specialist at CMS
Dr. Kevin Larsen
Enterprise Lean and Performance Improvement Lead at CMS
Purpose of State Action Plan

The work plan incorporates your state’s project objectives as well as strategies, and the action items necessary to accomplish your objectives within the HIV Health Improvement Affinity Group timeframe. This State Work Plan can be used to:

- Structure your team’s Affinity Group project objectives.
- Provide a common roadmap for how to meet your project objectives and identify areas for technical assistance and program support.

A first draft of your state action plans will need to be completed on December 2nd.
Action Plan Components

1. Aim Statement
2. Project Objectives
3. Strategies for Tracking and Technical Assistance
4. Project/Driver Diagram
5. State Action Plan Template
6. Monitoring and Evaluation
The Science of Improvement

The foundation of the science of improvement is the Model for Improvement: a framework for learning and improvement. The Model combines three fundamental questions, that focus the improvement work, with Deming’s Plan, Do, Study, Act Cycle for learning, testing, and implementation.

From Associates in Process Improvement http://www.apiweb.org/
What are we trying to accomplish?

• Develop an aim statement

How will we know that a change is an improvement?

• Measure

What change can we make that will result in improvement?

• Develop a driver diagram
• Consider using the concept of PDSA cycles when developing the work plan (Plan; Do; Study; Act)
Developing an Aim Statement

What are we trying to accomplish?
Defining an Aim

- A clearly articulated goal or objective
- Describes the desired outcome in quantitative terms
- Specific, measurable, and time-bound
- It should answer the question:
  "How much improvement, to what, for whom, by when?"

“If you don’t know where you’re going, any road will get you there.”
SMART Objectives

- **Specific**
  - What exactly do you want to accomplish?

- **Measureable**
  - How will you know if and when the aim is achieved?

- **Actionable**
  - Does the aim indicate that change is needed?

- **Relevant/Realistic**
  - Is the aim relevant to priorities and possible to accomplish?

- **Time-bound**
  - When (exact date) do you want to achieve the aim?
Examples of Aim Statements

By January 1, 2018 our state will have 20% more people living with HIV in care

By 2020, 90% of people living with HIV our state will have a suppressed viral load
Developing a Driver Diagram

*What is our theory of change?*
Driver Diagrams

• Improvement initiatives start with a theory – ideas and hunches about how to achieve the aim

• Includes
  o known ideas from other sources that may need local adaptation
  o new ideas not yet tried

• Links the objective(s) to specific strategies and actions to achieve change in the system

• Strategies suggest which changes are needed for testing and possible measures
Defining Strategies and Action Items

Logically shows the causal relationships between objectives, strategies, and actions

Objective

- Strategy #1
  - Action #1
  - Action #2
  - Action #3

- Strategy #2
  - Action #4
  - Action #5
  - Action #6

- Strategy #3
  - Action #7
  - Action #8
  - Action #9
Seven Steps for Creating a Driver Diagram

1. Choose an aim that is **SMART**
2. Brainstorm all of the ideas needed to achieve the aim
3. Logically group ideas and define high-level “headers” summarizing the groups
4. Check for duplicates, clarity, missing elements, and team consensus (if applicable)
5. Draw connecting arrows showing the cause-and-effect relationships
6. Define the interventions or that you will use to have a desired impact on the various drivers

7. Define project measures:
   • for tracking progress
   • to test and modify your theories for improvement
   • to monitor for overall project effectiveness
Tips for Creating Driver Diagrams

Develop content first (not the visual)
- No determined number of drivers or strategies
- Does not matter which direction the diagram flows (right to left, left to right, up to down, etc.)

Align with measures
- Core processes should be measured (mostly process, some outcome) and should align with the drivers
- Aim defines primary outcome measures

“Walk through” predictions of impact
- Review completed diagram to ensure all drivers have some predicted impact on aim
### Common Pitfalls in Developing Driver Diagrams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pitfall</th>
<th>Countermeasure</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objective(s) is too vague</td>
<td>Objective should be specific, measurable, and should be tied to a timeframe (preferably an exact date).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Objective is too ambitious, or not ambitious enough</td>
<td>Objective should create a focus and sense of urgency, but should be attainable.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Key stakeholders were not involved in creating your objective(s) and driver diagram</td>
<td>Involving stakeholders can ensure you have their buy-in and support when you need it later! They may have valuable insights that improve your program effectiveness.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debating the difference between a strategy and an action</td>
<td>Team members often initially have differing mental models. Theories will be proven out (or not) as you implement your tests, and see the results. Driver diagrams are dynamic, and will evolve.</td>
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1. Trust
2. Leadership engagement
3. Leverage current collaborations
4. Reciprocity- “each group gets more value out of this than they put in”
Building Connections
Monitoring and Evaluation

*How will we know that a change is an improvement?*
Car with No Dashboard
Types of Measures

Outcome Measures
  • Results - system level performance

Process Measures
  • Inform changes to the system

Balancing Measures
  • Signal “robbing Peter to pay Paul”
Some Measurement Assumptions

• The purpose of measurement in improvement work is for *learning* not judgment

• All measures have limitations, but the limitations do not negate their value

• Measures are one voice of the system. Hearing the voice of the system gives us information on how to act within the system

• Measures tell a story; goals give a reference point.
Summary

The Model for Improvement consists of:

- 3 fundamental questions
  - Use of PDSA cycles to test changes

Driver Diagrams are visual models of a theory for change that evolve based on testing, results, data and learning.

Improvement initiatives should have:

- Clear, concise aim(s)
- Theory of change
- Plans for testing, measurement, implementation and spread
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration for In-Person Meeting</td>
<td>OVERDUE: November 16(^{th}), 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preliminary Draft of State Project Plan due to NASHP LC staff</td>
<td>December 2(^{nd}), 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-Person Meeting</td>
<td>December 6(^{th}) and 7(^{th}), 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Project Plan</td>
<td>Mid-January (exact date to follow)</td>
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Questions
Thank you for participating in today’s webinar.

You will now be directed to a short evaluation of today’s webinar. Please complete the evaluation. Your feedback guides our work!