

Audit

At least one full-cycle (initial audit, change implemented, re-audit to demonstrate improvement) clinical audit during the revalidation period.

# Key attributes

- The relevance of the topic chosen;
- The appropriateness of the standards of patient care set;
- The reflection on current care and the appropriateness of changes planned;
- The implementation of change for the GP's patients;
- And the demonstration of change by the GP.
- There is no expectation that you will actually undertake the data extraction and/or analysis.
- Several GPs who work together as a team may undertake a common audit. If this clinical audit is to be put into your revalidation portfolio, you must have contributed properly to the choice of topic and the standards set. You must be able to state that the care identified within the first audit and the reaudit reflects the care that they deliver. You must state what changes you instituted and be able to demonstrate the effects of those changes.

# Clinical Audit Cycle



# 1. Choose your topic

- **What makes a good topic?** · Agreed problem · Important · Good evidence · Measurable · Amenable to change · Achievable within your resources (IT, space, financial and human)
- **What is an important topic?** · High level of concern · High impact on health of patients or resources · Common procedures or conditions
- **What are your organisational priorities?** · National standards or guidelines · NHS Board priorities · local audit programme · Local problems and priorities · User views or complaints

# Be SMART!

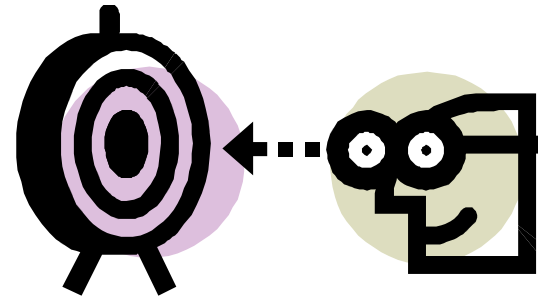
Specific

Measurable

Achievable

Realistic

Timely



## **2. Define your Aims and Objectives**

### **Aims**

- Why are you doing this project?
- What are you hoping to achieve?

### **Objectives**

- How specifically will you achieve your aims?
- What will you improve and assess?

# 3. Set your Standards

- If you are looking critically at clinical care you need to identify evidence of good practice as a basis for setting standards.
- National guidelines, standards & local priorities
- State your **Criteria** – elements of care or activity, which can be measured Set your desired **level of performance** or **target** (usually a percentage)
- Standard: Patients with a diagnosis of diabetes mellitus should be reviewed every 6 months (**British Hypertension Society guideline 2004**)



## 4. Collect your data. Agree your method

- Consider - · Retrospective or prospective · Who is your target population? · What data will you collect? (only what is absolutely necessary) · Who will collect the data? · Where will you get the data from? · What time period will you use? (i.e. start date and finish date) · How will you select your sample? (how many subjects do you need)
- Data collection – Key points · Develop a simple data collection form · Check it out with colleagues · Don't be side tracked into collecting information that is interesting rather than useful. · Remember to anonymise any personal data
- **Sources of data** · Clinical records · Disease or activity data sets · Survey/questionnaire · Interview.
- If you are undertaking a large audit or are using unfamiliar data collection tools, **PILOT** first.

# 5. Analyse your data

- Make sure you leave time to analysis your data
- Do you need statistical help?
- Use spread sheets if you can
- Present your data in a clear, understandable and visually appealing way

## **6. Interpret your data.**

- What does it mean?
- How does it compare with your target?
- Look carefully at those that didn't meet the target

## **7. What changes need to be made?**

- To help you implement changes, develop an action plan
- Do you need to look at something in more detail?
- Is it clear what changes need to be made? (If not, you may need to look in more detail)
- How are you going to implement changes?
- Who needs to be involved?
- What new resources do you need?

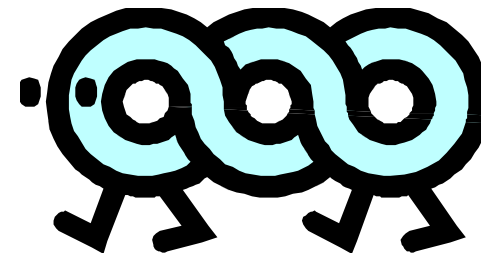
## 8. Make the changes

- Set new targets
- Tell people what you've done, your colleagues and manager
- Audit newsletter
- Poster display at local events
- Present or display findings at national events

# Completing the audit

Re-Audit – to ensure change in practice has been implemented

Close the Loop!



**Any questions?**

