Annotated Six-Step QUERI Process Model

Step 1: Select Diseases/Conditions/Patient Populations
1A. Identify and prioritize (via a formal ranking procedure) high risk/high burden clinical conditions
1B. Identify high priority clinical practices/outcomes within a selected condition

Step 2: Identify Evidence-Based Guidelines/Recommendations
2A. Identify evidence-based clinical practice guidelines
2B. Identify evidence-based clinical recommendations

Step 3: Measure and Diagnose Quality/Performance Gaps
3A. Measure existing practice patterns and outcomes across VHA and identify variations from evidence-based practices (quality, outcome and performance gaps)
3B. Identify determinants of current practices
3C. Diagnose quality gaps and identify barriers and facilitators to improvement

Step 4: Implement Improvement Programs
4A. Identify quality improvement strategies, programs and program components or tools to address quality gaps (e.g., via literature reviews)
4B. Develop or adapt quality improvement strategies, programs, program components or tools (e.g., educational resources, decision support tools) to address quality gaps
4C. Implement quality improvement strategies and programs to address quality gaps

Step 5/6: Evaluate Improvement Programs
5. Assess improvement program feasibility, implementation and impacts on patient, family and system outcomes
6. Assess improvement program impacts on health related quality of life (HRQOL)

Step M: Develop Measures, Methods and Data Resources
M1. Develop and/or evaluate patient registries, cohort databases, data warehouses
M2. Develop and/or evaluate case-finding or screening tools
M3. Develop and/or evaluate structure, process or outcome measures
M4. Develop and/or evaluate organizational structure/system, clinical practice, utilization or outcome databases

Step C: Develop Clinical Evidence
C1. Develop evidence-based clinical interventions, recommendations (clinical research)
C2. Develop evidence-based health services interventions (health services research)

Note: Step M and C projects are considered to be outside the core QUERI process, although they support this process. Step C projects are generally funded through the ORD clinical science (CSR&D) and health services (HSR&D) research and development programs, rather than through QUERI. Certain Step M projects may be conducted through QUERI if viewed as critical for subsequent QUERI steps.