

The MOHLTC introduces QIP to the Primary Care Sector

In January 2013, Ontario's Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) introduced the Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) to the primary care sector.

3 Priority QIP Areas that are MANDATORY:

1. Access
2. Integration
3. Patient-Centred Approach

Practices may also choose to include other areas for improvement as part of their QIP plans.

What about including cancer screening to improve quality?

With a growing and aging population, Ontario faces an unprecedented increase in the number of people living with and dying from cancer. The best way to gain the lead over cancer is to prevent it in the first place.



Cancer Care Ontario (CCO) is committed to providing leadership in developing strategies and policies for cancer prevention and screening in Ontario.

Research shows that regularly screening for breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer saves lives.

Regular cancer screening can detect cancer in its early stages, which means:

- There is a better chance of treating the cancer successfully
- It is less likely to spread
- There may be more treatment options

CCO's Commitment to Prevention and Screening

The introduction of the QIP to the primary care sector offers an exciting opportunity to engage with primary care practices (PCPs) and encourage them to include cancer screening in their QIP plans.

CCO's easy to use toolkit, complete with step-by-step instructions, templates and examples, makes it easy for PCPs to implement robust quality improvement initiatives in order to increase their cancer screening rates.

Cancer Care Ontario Introduces the Cancer Screening Quality Improvement Toolkit

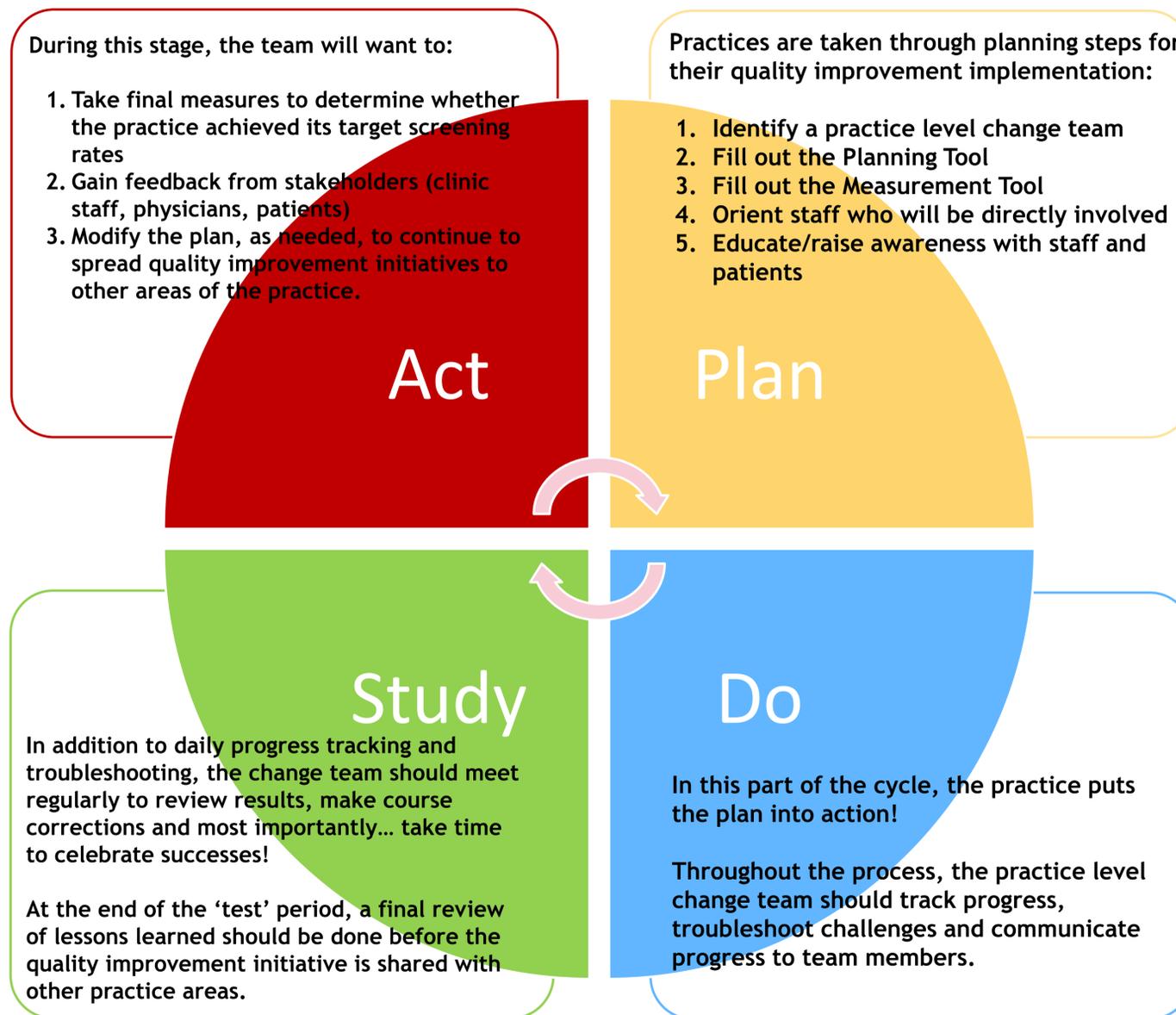
The toolkit is based on the Model for Improvement developed by the Associates in Process Improvement and recommends applying the Plan, Do, Study, Act (PDSA) cycle of continuous improvement for QIP development

During this stage, the team will want to:

1. Take final measures to determine whether the practice achieved its target screening rates
2. Gain feedback from stakeholders (clinic staff, physicians, patients)
3. Modify the plan, as needed, to continue to spread quality improvement initiatives to other areas of the practice.

Practices are taken through planning steps for their quality improvement implementation:

1. Identify a practice level change team
2. Fill out the Planning Tool
3. Fill out the Measurement Tool
4. Orient staff who will be directly involved
5. Educate/raise awareness with staff and patients



In addition to daily progress tracking and troubleshooting, the change team should meet regularly to review results, make course corrections and most importantly... take time to celebrate successes!

At the end of the 'test' period, a final review of lessons learned should be done before the quality improvement initiative is shared with other practice areas.

In this part of the cycle, the practice puts the plan into action!

Throughout the process, the practice level change team should track progress, troubleshoot challenges and communicate progress to team members.

Uptake

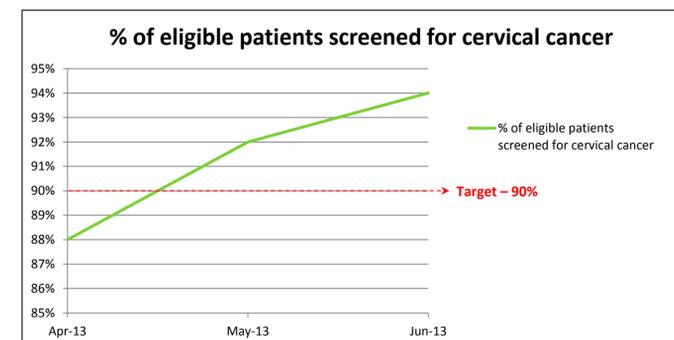
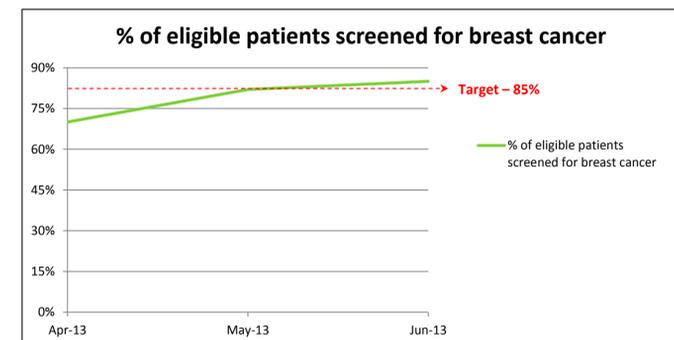


- Since its launch, the cancer screening quality improvement toolkit has been downloaded by over 750 unique users!
- The toolkit has received positive feedback from the Association of Family Health Teams of Ontario (AFHTO),

the Ontario Medical Association (OMA), the Ontario College of Family Physicians (OCFP), the Nurse Practitioners Association of Ontario (NPAO) and other key stakeholders

- The next toolkit to be introduced to primary care providers will be on Advance Care Planning

Using the toolkit = RESULTS!



The Glengarry Nurse-Practitioner Led Clinic used the cancer screening quality improvement toolkit to support their practice's 2013/2014 QIP plans. They were able to surpass their targeted improvement rates within the first three months of implementation!