ASSIGNMENT:TOOLS FORMEASURING QUALITY

How do we determine quality? Quality in other areas of our lives can be subjective, so as it relates to our nursing practice, how do we specifically ensure that quality is clearly defined and measurable?

Tools for measuring quality are used to assess the value measured, collected, or compared. These tools allow for subjectivity to be replaced with objectivity through data, formula, ranking, and analysis.

For this Assignment, you will explore at least three rate-based measures of quality. You will deconstruct each measure to explore your understanding of the it, including its importance and its impact on patient safety, the cost of healthcare, and the overall quality of healthcare.

RESOURCES

Be sure to review the Learning Resources before completing this activity.  
Click the weekly resources link to access the resources.

[**WEEKLY RESOURCES**](https://waldenu.instructure.com/courses/70041/modules/items/1887733)

### [Required Readings](https://waldenu.instructure.com/courses/70041/pages/week-3-learning-resources?module_item_id=1887733#kl_panel_0)

* Nash, D. B., Joshi, M. S., Ransom, E. R., & Ransom, S. B. (Eds.). (2019). The healthcare quality book: Vision, strategy, and tools (4th ed.). Health Administration Press.
  + Chapter 4, “Data Collection” (pp. 107–26)
  + Chapter 5, “Statistical Tools for Quality Improvement” (pp. 127–169)
* Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. (2018)). [*Key driver 2Links to an external site.*](https://www.ahrq.gov/evidencenow/tools/keydrivers/implement-qi.html): Implement a data-driven quality improvement process to integrate evidence into practice procedures. https://www.ahrq.gov/evidencenow/tools/keydrivers/implement-qi.html

TO PREPARE:

* Review the Learning Resources for this week, and reflect on tools for measuring quality in nursing practice.
* Select three rate-based measurements of quality that you would like to focus on for this Assignment.
  + **Note:** These measurements must relate to some aspect of clinical or service quality that directly relates to patient care or the patient’s experience of care, and for the purposes of this Assignment, an analysis of staffing levels is **not** permitted.
  + You can find useful information on quality indicators that are of interest to you on these websites and resources. You may choose only one of the three measures to be some form of patient satisfaction measure.
* Consider how the three rate-based measures (you will select) are defined, how the rates were determined or calculated, how the measures were collected, and how these measures are communicated to both internal and external stakeholders.
* Reflect on how the three rate-based measures (you will select) may relate to organizational goals for improved performance.
* Reflect on the three rate-based measures (you will select), and consider the importance of these measures on patient safety, cost of healthcare, and overall quality of healthcare.

THE ASSIGNMENT: (8–10 PAGES)

* Describe the three rate-based measures of quality you selected, and explain why.
* Deconstruct each measure to include the following:
  + Describe the definition of the measure.
  + Explain the numerical description of how the measure is constructed (the numerator/denominator measure counts, the formula used to construct the rate, etc.).
  + Explain how the data for this measure are collected.
  + Describe how the measurement is compared externally to other like settings, and differentiate between the actual rate and a percentile ranking. Be specific.
  + Explain whether the measure is risk adjusted or not. If so, explain briefly how this is accomplished.
  + Describe how goals might be set for each measure in an aggressive organization, which is seeking to excel in the marketplace. Be specific and provide examples.
* Describe the importance of each measure to a chosen clinical organization and setting.
  + Using the websites and resources you can choose a hospital, a nursing home, a home health agency, a dialysis center, a health plan, an outpatient clinic, or private office. A total population of patient types is also acceptable, but please be specific as to the setting. That is, if you are interested in patients with chronic illness across the continuum of care, you might home in a particular health plan, a multispecialty practice setting or a healthcare organization with both inpatient and outpatient/clinic settings.
  + **Note:** Faculty appointments and academic settings are **not** permitted for this exercise. For all other settings, consult the Instructor for guidance. You do not need actual data from a given organization to complete this Assignment.
* Explain how each measure you selected relates to patient safety, to the cost of poor quality, and to the overall cost of healthcare delivery. Be specific and provide examples.