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## Quality Improvement Fundamentals from IHI

Rapid cycle learning is a quality improvement approach that supports quick decision-making through the collection and review of data. Through small tests of change, your institution can identify meaningful and effective improvements to scale across an organization.

The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), an internationally recognized leader in quality assurance and improvement initiatives, lays out six key steps to advance rapid cycle learning:



### 1. SET AIMS

Ask yourself, **“What are we trying to accomplish?”** The answer should be time-specific, measurable and define a specific patient population.



### 2. ESTABLISH MEASURES

Now consider, **“How will we know that a change is an improvement?”** Identify quantitative or qualitative measures to track change.



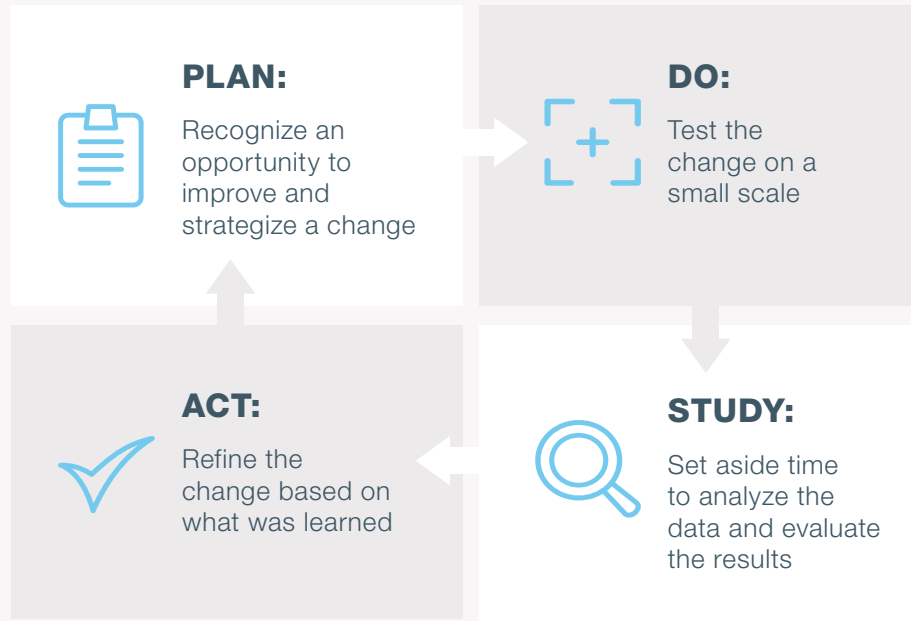
### 3. SELECT CHANGES

Determine, **“What change can we make that will result in improvement?”** Ideas for change may come from those who work in the system — or draw from the experiences of others.



## 4. TEST CHANGES

Implement your change using a scientific method for action-oriented learning, such as Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) cycles.



## 5. IMPLEMENT CHANGES

After refining the change through several cycles, implement on a broader scale to expand the solution from a pilot population to an entire unit.



## 6. SPREAD CHANGES

Scale the solution to other parts of the organization or to other organizations.