Week 3: Quality Improvement Model Application

Guidelines With Scoring Rubric

**Purpose**

The purpose of this assignment is to (a) provide examples of a quality improvement initiative or patient safety issue in any healthcare delivery setting, (b) explore the contributing factors for this adverse medical outcome, (c) apply quality improvement theories and philosophies to a healthcare management project, (d) demonstrate an understanding of quality improvement tools by correctly choosing and using them in specific cases, and (e) recognize the extent of problems of patient safety in medical care.

**Course Outcomes**

Through this assignment, the student will demonstrate the ability to do the following.

* Apply frameworks and theories for improving quality of care in various healthcare systems. (CO 1)
* Use critical inquiry to evaluate the design, implementation, and outcomes of quality and safety improvement strategies. (CO 3)
* Advance knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for the continuous improvement of quality and safety in healthcare. (CO 5)

**Due Date:** Submit by Sunday 11:59 p.m. MT at the end of Week 3.

**Total Points Possible: 230**

# Requirements

**Assignment Criteria for the Paper**

# Identify any existing quality concern or an existing patient safety issue and provide the rationale for choosing this issue.

# Explain the background and scope of the problem.

# Analyze the issue based on the appropriate quality philosophy.

1. Identify the regulatory guidelines, internal and/or external benchmarks, or evidence-based practice standards surrounding the issue—explain what that expectation is and why.

# Use the appropriate quality improvement tools to improve the quality outcome.

# Describe how you could or will get involved in this initiative to make a difference and move it forward to enactment.

# Summarize the content in concluding statements.

# The body of the scholarly paper is to be 3–5 pages in length excluding title and reference pages.

# Grammar, spelling, punctuation, references, and citations are consistent with formal academic writing and APA format as expressed in the current edition.

# Include a minimum of four references published within the past 5 years, not including your textbook. References may include scholarly websites of organizations or government agencies and must be presented using APA current edition format for electronic media.

# Preparing the paper

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| Category | Points | % | Description |
| Introduction and quality concern | 25 | 11% | Identify a quality issue/patient safety issue and provide a rationale. |
| Background and scope of the problem | 20 | 9% | Analyze the problem from a literature review and a practical point of view. |
| Goals of improvement | 20 | 9% | Identify three goals to improve the problem. |
| Quality philosophy application | 35 | 15% | Using a quality model, analyze the patient safety concern and the intervention to bridge the gaps. |
| Identification of the regulatory guidelines and internal/external benchmarks or EBP standards for this issue | 40 | 17% | Discuss all related factors to this problem and explain what the expectation is and why. |
| Quality process tool and improvement recommendation | 40 | 17% | Apply appropriate quality improvement tools to improve the quality outcome; provide illustrations for all tools used (flowchart, gap analysis, root cause analysis, etc.). Choose at least two tools for implementation. |
| Conclusion | 15 | 7% | Provide summary and concluding statements. |
| APA style | 10 | 4% | Text, title page, and reference page(s) are completely consistent with APA current edition format. |
| Scholarly references | 15 | 7% | Paper is 3–5 pages in length, excluding the cover and reference pages. References include a minimum of 4 scholarly references, excluding the course text. |
| Grammar and spelling | 10 | 4% | Rules of grammar, spelling, word usage, and punctuation are consistent with formal written work. |
| Total | 230 | 100% | A quality assignment will meet or exceed all of the above requirements. |

# Grading Rubric

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| **Assignment Criteria** | Exceptional  (100%)  Outstanding or highest level of performance | Exceeds  (88%)  Very good or high level of performance | Meets  (80%)  Competent or satisfactory level of performance | Needs Improvement  (38%)  Poor or failing level of performance | Developing  (0)  Unsatisfactory level of performance |
| **Content**  **Possible Points = 195 Points** | | | | | |
| Introduction and quality concern | **25 Points** | **20 Points** | **16 Points** | **10 Points** | **0 Points** |
| Introduction offers broad overview of topic narrowing to key concepts to be presented. Purpose statement is clear. All elements provided. | Introduction includes issue and purpose. Statement present but may lack a key component. | Introduction of topic issue lacks occasional important element or specificity. One element provided. | Introduction of topic issue has multiple instances of inaccuracies. None of the required elements present or no introduction. | Introduction is not present. |
| Background and scope of the problem | **20 Points** | **18 Points** | **16 Points** | **8 Points** | **0 Points** |
| Succinctly defines problem and population with significant demographics; describes depth of the problem and numbers affected. | Defines problem, some elements may not be fully developed; rare inaccuracy. | Identifies problem with lack of depth and occasional important elements or specificity. | Identifies problem with multiple instances of inaccuracies or one or more elements missing. | Overview of health problem is not present. |
| Goals of improvement | **20 Points** | **18 Points** | **16 Points** | **8 Points** | **0 Points** |
| Comprehensive and realistic benefits to nursing profession presented. | Benefits to nursing profession stated with adequate clarity or realism. | Benefits to nursing profession stated but lack clarity or realism. | Benefits to nursing profession stated but unrealistic. | Benefits to nursing profession absent. |
| Quality philosophy application | **35 Points** | **25 Points** | **20 Points** | **15 Points** | **0 Points** |
| Application to problem/concern is fully developed and comprehensive. | Application to problem/concern is adequately present or model mostly linked to project. | Application to problem/concern is minimally present or model not always linked to project. | Model is not linked to project. | Application to problem/concern is absent. |
| Identify regulatory guidelines, internal/external benchmarks and EBP standards | **40 Points** | **32 Points** | **25 Points** | **15 Points** | **0 Points** |
| Able to discuss all related factors. | Able to discuss all related factors but there are some missing details. | Discussed some related factors but there are some that are missing. | Discussion is minimal and most of the factors are missing. | No discussion of related factors. |
|  | **40 Points** | **32 Points** | **25 Points** | **15 Points** | **0 Points** |
| Improvement process and recommendations | Decision recommendation thoroughly discussed.  Discusses at least two tools. | Decision recommendation developed with rare inaccuracies;  Discusses at least one tool. | Discussion of the decision recommendation lacks occasional important elements or specificity but  one tool is discussed. | Discussion of the decision recommendation has multiple instances of inaccuracies and/or is vague.  One tool discussed. | Discussion of the decision recommendation is absent.  No tools discussed. |
| Conclusion | **15 Points** | **12 Points** | **8 Points** | **4 Points** | **0 Points** |
| Provides distinct summary with concluding statements regarding the future direction and focus of the project; reflects key elements of the paper. | Provides distinct summary with concluding statements regarding the future direction and focus of the project; does not summarize key elements of the paper. | Provides distinct summary with no concluding statements; no summarization of key elements of the paper. | No distinct summary; concluding statements found at the end in the general body of the paper. | No distinct summary or conclusion provided. |
| **Content Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_ of 195 Points** | | | | | |
| **Format**  **Possible Points = 35 Points** | | | | | |
| APA | **10 Points** | **8 Points** | **6 Points** | **4 Points** | **0 Points** |
| There are no APA format errors in the text, title page, and/or reference page(s). | There are 1–2 APA format errors in the text, title page, and/or reference page(s). | There are 3–4 APA format errors in the text, title page, and/or reference page(s). | There are 5 APA format errors in the text, title page, and/or reference page(s). | There are 6 or more APA format errors in the text, title page, and/or reference page(s). |
| Scholarly | **15 Points** | **12 Points** | **8 Points** | **4 Points** | **0 Points** |
| The table provided is utilized. References include 2 or more scholarly resources, excluding the course text, and may include scholarly websites. | The table provided is utilized. References include a minimum of 2 scholarly resources, excluding course text. One of the references utilized was not scholarly. | The table provided is not utilized and/or references contain a minimum of 2 resources, excluding course text. One or more references utilized is not a scholarly resource. | The table provided is not utilized and/or references utilized are not scholarly and/or fewer than 2 resources were utilized. | Only one resource was utilized. |
| Rules of grammar, spelling, word usage, and punctuation are consistent with formal written work. | **10 Points** | **8 Points** | **6 Points** | **4 Points** | **0 Points** |
| Rules of grammar, spelling, word usage, and punctuation are consistent with formal written work with no exceptions. | Rules of grammar, spelling, word usage, and punctuation are consistent with formal written work with 1–2 exceptions. | Rules of grammar, spelling, word usage, and punctuation are consistent with formal written work with 3–4 exceptions. | Rules of grammar, spelling, word usage, and punctuation are not followed with errors. | Rules of grammar, spelling, word usage, and punctuation are not followed with 6 or more errors. |

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| **Format Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_ of 35 Points** |
| **Total Points \_\_\_\_\_ of 230 Points** |