

Feedback of evidence into practice

Chris B Del Mar and Geoffrey K Mitchell

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Abstract

- Concern about risks associated with medical care has led to increasing interest in quality improvement processes.
 - Most quality initiatives derive from manufacturing, where they have worked well in improving quality by small, steady increments.
 - Adaptations of quality processes to the healthcare environment have included variations emphasising teamwork; large, ambitious increments in targets; and unorthodox approaches.
 - Feedback of clinical information to clinicians is a central process in many quality improvement activities.
 - It is important to choose feedback data that support the objectives for quality improvement — and not just what is expedient.
 - Clinicians need to be better educated about the quality improvement process to maintain the quality of their care.
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