

Quality Improvement (QI) Expectations for Residents & Fellows Policy

Goal

NCH trainees (residents and fellows) will demonstrate knowledge, skills, and commitment to improving their practice. They will collect and analyze practice data and make improvements based on those data using the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) quality improvement (QI) process. Trainees will work in multi-disciplinary teams to achieve healthcare quality goals.

Requirements

All NCH trainees (residents and fellows) must:

- Attend the NCH QI Education Overview session once during their GME program.
- Actively engage in an approved QI project.
 - QI projects may be approved by NCH Quality Leadership, the NCH-designated QI resource and/or QI-trained physician, and/or a national organization that has Part 4 MOC approval. Trainees may select from projects (1) within their specialty, (2) hospital-wide initiatives, or (3) national projects.
 - Trainees may meet these requirements by joining an existing NCH-approved active QI project with a QI-trained project leader.
 - Fellows who previously completed a NCH fellowship in which their QI project met the [Quality Improvement \(QI\) Engagement Guidelines for NCH Trainees](#) are not required to participate in another QI project.
 - One-year training programs may offer an alternative to active QI project participation that still promotes understanding of QI within their specialty (e.g., required attendance at two or more divisional QI meetings or report-outs).

GME programs may set additional requirements, or trainees may seek additional QI experience. Participation at an enhanced level may involve initiating and co-leading a new QI project, with the approval and guidance of a QI-trained Co-leader, the Program Director, and a QI Project Coach/Mentor.

Each GME program must have program-specific goals and objectives for trainees' QI learning experience. The program should identify a QI-trained Resource(s) to support trainee QI engagement. The program may set additional expectations for trainees to document their QI engagement as a complement to GME attestation.

Expectations for trainee QI project involvement are described in the [QI Project Portfolio for Residents & Fellows](#) and [Quality Improvement \(QI\) Engagement Guidelines for NCH Trainees](#). These can be found on the GME-Quality Improvement webpage ([GME – Quality Improvement](#)).

Trainees are encouraged to consider how health disparities/health equity can be addressed through their QI project.

Resources

1. NCH QI Education Overview (held approximately quarterly)
2. GME-Quality Improvement webpage ([GME – Quality Improvement](#))
3. Institute for Healthcare Improvement on-line Open School courses
4. On-line education resources approved by ABMS Board, professional society, and/or NCH
5. NCH Health Equity Collaborative team members and resources, available at <http://anchor.columbuschildrens.net/health-equity>

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