



Funding quality improvement implementation research/evaluation at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

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*IOM Forum on the Science of Healthcare Quality Improvement and
Implementation*

Workshop on Research/Evaluation Methods and Spread

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AHRQ's Investments in QII and Their Evaluations, 1993-2000

Year	Funding Initiative(s)	Approach
1993	Quality Improvement/Quality Assurance	PA
1998	Quality Improvement/Quality Assurance	RFA
1999	Quality Improvement Translating Research Into Practice	RFA
2000	Translating Research Into Practice II Patient Safety Eliminating Disparities	RFA RFA RFA

ADA = American Diabetes Association; CDC = Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; CMS = Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; FDA = Food and Drug Administration; HRSA = Health Resources and Services Administration; NIH = National Institutes of Health; PA = Program Announcement; PAR = Program Announcement with special review; RFA = Request for Applications; RWJF = Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; VA = Department of Veterans Affairs



AHRQ's Investments in QII and Their Evaluations, 2001-2002

Year	Funding Initiative(s)	Funding Approach
2001	Patient Safety - various	RFAs
2002	Partnerships for Quality Translating Research Into Practice (joint with VA) Evaluating "Rewarding Results" (RWJF) Evaluating HRSA Health Disparities Collaborative Translational Research for the Prevention and Control of Diabetes (with NIH components, CDC, and ADA)	RFA PA RFA RFA

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AHRQ's Investments in QII and Their Evaluations, 2003-2006

Year(s)	Funding Initiative(s)	Approach
2003	Safe Practices Implementation Challenge Grants (with CDC, CMS, FDA)	RFA
2004	Practice-based Research Networks and Translating Research Into Practice Health Information Technology (HIT) grants Health Information Technology (HIT) Regional Healthcare Improvement Organization contracts	PAR RFA RFA RFP
2005	Partnerships in Implementing Patient Safety THQIT Implementation	RFA RFA
2006	Patient Safety Simulation Research Accelerating Change and Transformation in Organizations and Networks (ACTION)	RFA Task Order Contracts

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AHRQ's Investments in QII and Their Evaluations, 2007

Funding Initiative(s)	Approach/\$
Ambulatory Safety and Quality	RFA \$22 million
Special Emphasis Notices:	SEN – no \$
--Policy/system and organizational QII for underresourced settings	
--Research Implementation Small Research (R03) Grants	
ACTION Requests for Task Orders	Task Order Contracts
PBRN Requests for Task Orders	Task Order Contracts
Health Services Research Demonstration and Dissemination Grants (R18)	PA
Other PAs for research, training, conference support	PA

ACTION: Accelerating Change and Transformation in Organizations and Networks;
 PA = Program Announcement; PBRN = Practice-based Research Networks; RFA = Request for Applications; SEN = Special Emphasis Notice;



AHRQ's Investments in QII and Their Evaluations, 2008 (President's Budget Request)

Funding Initiative(s)	Estimated \$
New grants building on Ambulatory Safety and Quality	\$5.9 million
New research grants in patient safety	\$1.7 million
Non-patient safety research	\$3.7 million
Contracts related to the Value-Driven Healthcare Initiative	\$3.7 million
Patient Safety Organizations	\$6.5 million

Other: Research training, Effective Healthcare/Personalized Health Care



Synthesis

- n Findings from Closing the Quality Gap and related reports
 - Redesign of primary care office practice (nurse educator/case manager plus enhance physician leadership) reduced symptom days (**asthma**)
 - Provider education and DM approached significance (**diabetes**)
 - QI strategies in general, but no specific strategy emerged (**hypertension identification and control**)
 - QI strategies in general, but no specific strategy (**inappropriate treatment with antibiotics and inappropriate selection of antibiotics**)
 - Unable to reach conclusions due to study quality (**healthcare-associated infections**)
 - Some evidence that some interventions are effective (**minority health improvement**)
 - **CME** – in some circumstances, may affect process and outcomes, but specifics needed



Conferences/Forums

- n** Expanding Research and Evaluation Designs to Improve the Science Base in Healthcare and Public Health Quality Improvement (9/2005;
<http://www.hsrd.research.va.gov/quality2005/>)
- n** North Carolina editors' meeting on external validity (April 2006)
- n** IOM Forum on the Science of Healthcare Quality Improvement and Implementation



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To improve the quality and safety,
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Guidance from AHRQ's Director

n Money follows good ideas