

## Selecting a QI Project for MOC Designation (ABMS Part IV, NCCPA PI-CME)

*What should you consider in deciding whether to apply for Maintenance of Certification (MOC) to be designated for a quality improvement (QI) project? How do you select among projects recently completed, under way, or ready to start? Consider the following factors. For further information, contact:*

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### 1. Participating providers – physicians and physician assistants

- Which providers will be involved? (For physicians, requirements for Part IV vary by specialty.)
- Do they need MOC credit for QI? (Easy alternative available? Already met their current requirement?)

### 2. Institute of Medicine Quality dimensions

- Does the project address one or more of the following dimensions of patient care: safety, effectiveness, efficiency, equity, timeliness, patient-centeredness?

### 3. Substantive yet clear

- Can you describe a discrete project? (Within a program of linked efforts, what is a specific project?)
- Are formal pre-post cycles (PDCA) of study and checking appropriate?
- Can the project be described clearly in an application for Part IV designation and in reports?
- Can participants easily understand it so they can reflect on their participation and future plans?

### 4. Importance of the project

- Do participants view the project as an important priority in improving patient care?
- Do health care leaders view the project as an important priority in improving patient care?

### 5. Meaningful participation

- Is the QI project to benefit the provider's patients and related to the provider's clinical practice?
- Are providers actively involved in the QI effort, including:
  - a. Review of baseline data, identifying underlying causes, and planning intervention.
  - b. Implementing intervention.
  - c. Review of post-intervention data, considering underlying causes, and planning changes.
  - d. Implementing further intervention/adjustments.
  - e. Review of post-adjustment data, considering underlying causes, and planning changes.
- Are they able to reflect on the activity, describing the change that was performed in their practice and how it affected the way care is delivered?
- Can meaningful participation be ensured for those who request MOC?

### 6. Project lead(s)

- Will the project lead perform the additional requirements associated with Part IV credit (project application, participation confirmation, report submission)?
- Will this effort help the project lead prepare presentations and publications about the project?