

Evaluating the role, process and impact of self assessment in continuing professional development

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#2278



Presenter Disclosure Information

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No conflict of interest to disclose

Guideline Implementability

- Research → guidelines not used
- Evidence → develop a framework

Implementability: A differing format of a guideline or non-clinical information which help users better adopt the clinical recommendations in a guideline

ex: Self assessment tools

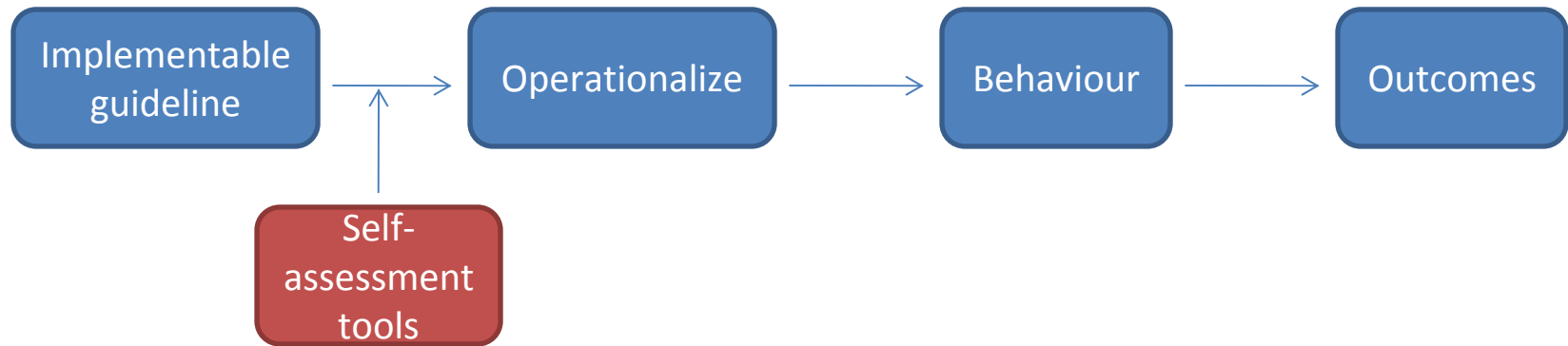
- 20 guidelines reviewed

Self Assessment

- **What is self-assessment?**
 - Reflection on practice
 - Life long learning
 - Self directed learning
- **Evidence of impact**
 - Identification of learning needs, modify practice, improve care delivery
 - Mandatory in the UK and USA, optional in Canada
 - Less than 10% of time spent on self-assessment
 - Only 3.8% credits submitted based on self-assessment

***Need to offer training, tools and guidance**

Objectives



- 1) Examine availability of self-assessment tools
- 2) Explore physician views about self-assessment
- 3) Pilot test a self-assessment kit

#1 - Systematic review identifying self- assessment tools

Methods

- **Scoping systematic review** (MEDLINE, EMBASE, University of Toronto Research and Development Resource Base, and Internet)
- Two reviewers independently selected eligible articles

Results: Systematic Review

2 Resources:

1) National Health Service manual

- 100 page
- Method, techniques, tools and activities at each stage of clinical audit
- Tools and templates of self assessment

2) Article from the *Canadian Journal of Surgery*

- 6 page
- Brief description of the process and approach

#2- Focus groups with urologists to explore views on self-assessment

Methods

- **Focus groups** with community and academic urologists
- Frequency of survey responses were summarized

Results: Focus groups

Issue	Considered a barrier (n,%)		
	Community	Academic	Total
Limited time to do it	11 64.7	11 84.6	22 73.3
Lack of knowledge about how to do it	11 64.7	8 61.5	19 63.3
Lack of training programs on self audit	14 82.4	10 76.9	24 80.0
Lack of tools or instructions to help me do it	13 76.5	11 84.6	24 80.0
No facilitators/mentors to offer guidance	15 88.2	11 84.6	26 86.7
Lack of readily available data	12 70.6	10 76.9	22 73.3

#3- Interviews with General surgeons, Internal medicine, Family medicine physicians to explore views on self-assessment

Methods

- **Telephone interviews** (via teleconferencing service)
- Standard qualitative analysis of verbatim transcripts

Results: Interviews

- **Experience with self-assessment**
 - More than 50% with no prior experience with self-assessment
 - Perceived to have no benefit
 - Time consuming
- **Views**
 - “It will help them by providing the best evidence-based treatment and best surgical approach for my case ”
 - “make conscious changes in how you are practicing”
- **Suggested support for promoting self-assessment**
 - “a checklist of things that you do on every patient with the same problem”
 - “being paid would help”
 - “biggest incentive would be credits that could be gained from it”

#4- Pilot study with urologists to explore preferences and needs of self-assessment

Methods

- Development and pilot test of a **self audit kit** for pelvic lymph node dissection (PLND) for bladder cancer among 13 Ontario Urologists, followed by **telephone interview**
- Standard qualitative analysis of verbatim transcripts

Self-assessment kit

- Three up to date articles
- One page instruction with one page data extraction form
- USB key

Results: Pilot study

- **Practice insight**

- “I made a couple of practice changes...send [nodes] as multiple individual packets...which has more than doubled my yield”

- **Self assessment process**

- “it wasn’t as difficult as I thought it would be”
- “it didn’t take as long as I thought it would”

- **Format**

- “It was self-explanatory, quick and simple – that’s what made this really painless”

- **Peer guidance/mentorship**

- “it’s pretty self explanatory and you probably wouldn’t need [mentor]”
- ” Yea, that might be choosing a topic where it might be one “
- “maybe for analyzing data if it happened to be a little bit more complex “

Discussion

Summary

- Interest expressed in self audit with greater support
- Self-assessment kit thought to be sufficient to prompt participation, satisfaction, learning and behaviour change, while the role of peer mentors remains unclear

Implications

- Further research is needed to generate more definitive evidence of self-assessment tools
- Better understand potential role of peer mentors
- Ultimately evaluate the impact of implementing a guideline with and without a self assessment kit

Thank- you