

Resource July 13, 2017

## Tips and Tools for Learning Improvement

[tips\\_and\\_tools.png](#) [1]



The *Tips and Tools for Learning Improvement* is a set of competency-based materials developed by the USAID ASSIST Project to support targeted skill-building in key improvement competencies among health care providers, health care managers, Ministry of Health counterparts, and public health professionals who are new to improvement.

The materials can be used by an individual interested in improvement or can be used by improvement professionals as teaching tools during trainings or coaching visits to target and develop a specific skill. They are designed to complement improvement online courses and in-person trainings.

Each handout in the series is a self-contained, self-directed lesson with numerous competency-based exercises so that learners can practice the basic steps of improvement. An answer key is provided for each section, with additional information and commentary where appropriate.

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The topics in this series include:

- [Aims for Improvement](#) [3] - Learn to identify a good improvement aim and practice developing an aim.
- [Improvement Teams](#) [4] - Learn to choose members of an improvement team and practice creating a team.
- [Flowcharts](#) [5] - Learn to use flowchart symbols and create and analyze a flowchart.
- [Developing Changes](#) [6] - Learn to develop changes that address the root problems identified by improvement teams during the process of improving health care.
- [Plan-Do-Study-Act \(PDSA\) Cycles](#) [7] - Learn to conduct a PDSA cycle and practice each part of the cycle.
- [Measures for Improvement](#) [8] - Learn to develop and define measures for improvement.
- [Measurement - Time Series Charts](#) [9] - Learn to create and plot data on a time series

chart.


- [Measurement - Variation vs. Improvement](#) [10] - Learn to calculate the median and analyze a time series chart.

Each handout and answer key was drafted in consultation with an instructional design consultant and then reviewed by other improvement experts. The materials were then tested by both ASSIST headquarters and field staff who were relatively new to improvement.

Each topic above has one handout and one answer key file below. There is also a [consolidated booklet](#) [11] that includes all the exercises and answer keys.

[Disponible en español.](#) [12]

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