

FAMILY MEDICINE SCHOLARLY WORK

Types of Study	Primary Goal	Methods	Requirements/ prerequisites	Important Considerations	Where to Submit at STFM
Research Focus a. Clinical/Healthcare b. Educational	-Produce and disseminate new knowledge -Promote best practices by disseminating scientifically based evidence into practice -Hypothesis testing	Observational - Cross Sectional Study - Case-Control Study - Cohort Study - Experimental -Randomized Control Study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Randomized Clinical Study • Randomized Community Study Quantitative and Qualitative Methods 	-Usually associated with IRB-approved protocol and HIPPA approval -May need to submit to ClinicalTrials.gov	-Need IRB approval before starting study -Develop research questions/hypotheses -More likely to be generalizable and/or novel to be considered for publication	Research Committee
Program Evaluation (e.g., educational) “Teaching/Program Development”	-Assess the design, implementation, improvement or outcomes of a program -Facilitate practice transformation	-Pre/post intervention/program data collection including surveys, interviews, participant observation, focus groups, clinical outcomes -Can utilize plan-do-study-act (PDSA) cycles or other evaluation methods	-Similar to QI but typically with more staff to support fidelity of intervention and adequate collection of data that indicate change	More likely to be generalizable and robust therefore more likely to be accepted for publication	Program Committee
Quality Improvement (QI)	A systematic, formal approach to the analysis of practice performance and efforts to improve performance	-Can use PDSA cycles or other models (e.g. Lean, Six Sigma) -Similar to program evaluation but with less evaluation burden in terms of time, money, and number of data points	-No HIPPA waiver, consent, or IRB required if part of usual care or anonymous -Pre and post measurement of relevant data -Can use existing data collected (e.g., patient records, patient satisfaction surveys)	-Cannot use interviews or survey data not part of usual care activities with HIPPA waiver -Cannot use posthoc IRB approval with no informed consent	Research Committee

Source. Excerpts taken from RE Goldman, CB Eaton, JM Borkan. Examples using the Brown Primary Care Transformation Initiative: PCMH Transformation in 8 Rhode Island Practices Facilitation and Evaluation.

Projects Not Appropriate for Submission to STFM

- Case Studies
- Literature Reviews
- Program Implementation Projects without Outcome Data

STFM RESEARCH RESOURCES

Research, Quality Improvement, Evaluation	https://irb.research.chop.edu/quality-improvement-vs-research https://www.aafp.org/practice-management/improvement/basics.html https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3880655/ http://www.ihl.org/resources/Pages/Tools/PlanDoStudyActWorksheet.aspx http://aea365.org/blog/john-lavelle-on-describing-evaluation/
Designing Research/Study Design and Statistics	http://research.library.gsu.edu/c.php?g=115595&p=755213 https://www.napcrg.org/resources/research-modules/research-modules/ http://www.statisticshowto.com/research-methods-qualitative-research-and-quantitative-research/ https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23859093
Funding and Publishing in Family Medicine	http://www.stfm.org/Portals/49/Documents/FMPDF/FamilyMedicineVol49Issue4Bowman289.pdf https://www.mdlinx.com/family-medicine/journals.cfm http://www.stfm.org/fmhub/fm2010/April/Sarina268.pdf
Writing Abstracts and Manuscripts	http://www.stfm.org/Research/TipsforNewResearchers