

## Quality improvement (QI) resources

[Online materials](#)   [Courses](#)   [Books](#)

### Online materials

Resource	Descriptor	Accessibility and cost
<a href="#">Health Foundation</a>	The Health Foundation is an independent charity working to improve quality in healthcare. Their site contains publications, evidence scans and learning materials on QI.	Free access.
<a href="#">Quality improvement resources map</a> from the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (AoMRC)	This interactive map is a tool to explore and learn about areas of good practice, connect people to people, explore informal learning and innovative learning practices and maximise use of resources available.	Free access.
<a href="#">Quality Improvement Hub</a>	A selection of online modules on QI from NHS Scotland.	Free access.
<a href="#">1000 lives plus</a>	A Welsh national improvement programme. This site contains the 'Quality improvement guide' and other information on QI.	Free access.
<a href="#">AQuA Advancing Quality Alliance</a>	AQuA is dedicated to improving healthcare across the NHS in the North West. It was formed in recognition that improvement has to be led from the frontline rather than be centrally imposed. It aims to accelerate the pace of improvement and to help good practice to spread rapidly.  The website contains information about courses to improve QI skills; tools for undertaking QI and links to data for benchmarking.	Free access provided that your CCG is a 'member' and following registration.
<a href="#">Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI)</a>	A US-based organisation which has worked with UK health services in QI. On the site there is a useful tool to create a run chart.	The website is free to access but some of the resources require a payment.
<a href="#">BMJ Quality</a>	BMJ Quality supports individuals and teams through healthcare improvement projects and onto publication.	Costs £79 as at 5/5/16.
<a href="#">BMJ Learning</a>	Learning modules which will provide a good foundation in some of the theory behind patient safety as well as structured information about how to carry out a successful QI project.	£90 annual subscription for a doctor to access all BMJ learning modules. Free to BMA members.

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<a href="#">NHS Improvement</a>	Is responsible for overseeing foundation trusts, NHS trusts and independent providers that provide NHS care. They do not cover primary care.	Free access.
<a href="#">NHS IQ</a> NHS QI is now transferred to NHS England as the Sustainable Improvement Team	This has a list of improvement tools, many taken from the NHS Institute website.	Free access.

## Courses

Resource	Descriptor	Accessibility and cost
<a href="#">Health Foundation GenerationQ</a>	<p>Part-time leadership programme for senior leaders from healthcare policy and practice, and the charity sector, fully-funded by The Health Foundation.</p> <p>Aims to create a network of people who are able to have an impact on improving quality beyond their immediate sphere of influence.</p> <p>Delivered in partnership with Ashridge Business School and Unipart Expert Practices.</p>	<p>Fully-funded applications usually open in May each year for programme starting in December. Covers the four nations of the UK.</p> <p>Selection by application form and attendance at Assessment Centre.</p> <p>Requires a senior member of the organisation you work for to sponsor your application so it is easier to apply if you also have a CCG, federation or University role.</p> <p>10-25 hours study per month for 18-24 months.</p> <p>Participants gain a PG Cert in Leadership (Quality Improvement) with the option to extend this to an MSc.</p>
<a href="#">Health Foundation Improvement Science Fellowship</a>	This senior post-doctoral fellowship offers three years' funding to lead original, applied research dedicated to improving healthcare in the UK, and a unique leadership development programme.	Fellows receive funding for salary and research costs.
<a href="#">Patient Safety Fellowship</a>	The fellowship is a ten-month programme of distance learning, coaching and focused residential seminars. It covers QI as well as patient safety.	It is available in Scotland and Northern Ireland. Participants will need the full support of their employing organisation and explicit sponsorship from their line manager, patient safety/quality manager, executive clinical lead and chief executive.

Courses continued ...

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<a href="#">Leading Healthcare Improvements</a> , Open University module	Investigates change in your local practice setting and develops leadership skills in relation to policy, innovation and service improvement.	Cost £1596 at 24/5/16.
<a href="#">Quality Improvement</a> , Dundee University	A part-time programme delivered online which focuses on the delivery of sustainable, measurable improvements in quality. It will enable participants to develop an understanding of the science and art of improvement and its application in their organisation.	Costs vary from £885 for stand alone module to £4925 for three year MSc for EU at 24/5/16.
<a href="#">Quality Improvement in Health Care</a> , University College London (UCL)	This distance-learning module on QI is relevant to development and improvement in all healthcare systems	£553.80 for stand alone module, £300 when not assessed at 24/5/16.
<a href="#">Leadership for Health Services Improvement MSc/PGDip</a> , University of Birmingham	This two-year part-time course explores the theory, principles and practice of leadership and service improvement in health-related organisations with exploration of key issues relating to the individual, the organisation and the context. The PG Cert is part-time for nine months.	Fees for 2016: Masters: £5535. PG Cert: £4710.
<a href="#">Health Care Quality</a> , Newcastle University	A Masters-level module of independent study and lecture covering the theory and practice of different approaches to QI, as well as the evidence base for, and methods of evaluating, approaches to improve the quality of healthcare.	Fees not stated.
<a href="#">Quality and Safety in Healthcare MSc</a> , Imperial College	This two-year part-time course offers a sound theoretical background to the principles of clinical risk management, QI and patient safety.	£4850 for the 2016 two-year part-time programme for EU.
<a href="#">Quality and Safety in Healthcare</a> , Cardiff University	This elearning course introduces the key concepts in patient safety and tools to improve care.	£1292 at 24/5/16.
<a href="#">A Crash Course in Quality Improvement</a> , University of Stirling	This online module is a basic introduction to 'how to do' QI.	Fees not stated. Other QI courses are available.
<a href="#">Improvement Science</a> , University of West London	MSc of six modules conducted part-time over four years which provides the skills, competence and underpinning knowledge to be truly effective in your role and build your capability to work with the latest improvement models and tools.	Fees not stated.
<a href="#">Advancing Quality Improvement in Health and Social Care</a> , Teeside University	One year part-time PG Cert which enables students to apply comprehensive knowledge to lead the evidence-based enhancement of quality and safety in health and social care.	Fees not stated.

## Books

Resource	Descriptor	Accessibility and cost
<p><a href="#">‘Quality improvement for general practice: a guide for GPs and the whole practice team’</a></p> <p>Published by the Royal College of General Practitioners (2015).</p>	<p>Explains accessible and workable tools for practice-level interventions.</p>	<p>Downloadable pdf.</p>
<p><b>‘The improvement guide: a practical approach to enhancing organizational performance’</b></p> <p>Langley GJ, Moen RD, Nolan KM, Nolan TW, Normal CL, Provost L (2009).</p>	<p>Clear and practical guide to the ‘Model for Improvement’.</p> <p>Appropriate for healthcare settings.</p> <p>Includes tools for improvement and describes how they can be used.</p> <p>Includes case studies.</p>	<p>£38.99 (Hardcover, Amazon, price at 24/5/16).</p> <p>£37.04 (Kindle, price at 24/5/16).</p>
<p><b>‘Measuring quality improvement in healthcare’</b></p> <p>Carey RG, Lloyd RC (2001).</p>	<p>Guide on how to gather, analyse and use data to direct quality improvements.</p> <p>Accessible, with case studies.</p>	<p>£15.73 (paperback, price at 24/5/16).</p> <p>£30.54 (Kindle, price at 24/5/16).</p>
<p><b>‘Organizing for quality: the improvement journeys of leading hospitals in Europe and the US’</b></p> <p>Bate P, Mendel P, Robert G (2008).</p>	<p>Case studies.</p> <p>All secondary care but with some useful pointers to factors that promote QI, some of which can be applicable to primary care.</p>	<p>£36.99 (paperback, price at 24/5/16).</p> <p>£35.14 (Kindle, price at 24/5/16).</p>
<p><a href="#">‘Quality improvement made simple’</a></p> <p>Published by The Health Foundation.</p>	<p>Booklet describing common approaches used to improve quality including where they have come from, their efficacy and applicability to healthcare settings.</p>	<p>Free download or paper copy available to all from The Health Foundation.</p>
<p><b>‘Safety and improvement in primary care: the essential guide.’</b></p> <p>Bowie P, De Wet C (2014).</p>	<p>This book describes improvement methods, concepts and interventions largely developed by the team at NHS Education for Scotland (NES).</p>	<p>£37.99 (paperback, price at 24/5/16).</p> <p>£36.09 (Kindle, price at 24/5/16).</p>
<p><a href="#">‘The handbook of quality and service improvement tools’</a></p> <p>Published by NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement (2010).</p>	<p>Brings together a set of proven tools, theories and techniques that NHS staff can use to design and implement quality improvement projects.</p>	<p>Available on Slideshare as part of the legacy documents from NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement (then NHS IQ and now Sustainable Improvement Team).</p>
<p><a href="#">‘The facilitator’s toolkit’</a></p> <p>Published by NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement (2010).</p>	<p>Tips and tools for facilitating groups to plan interventions.</p>	<p>Downloadable pdf.</p>
<p><a href="#">‘Quality improvement theory and practice in healthcare’</a></p> <p>Published by NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement (2008).</p>	<p>A large report which includes details of various QI approaches.</p>	<p>Downloadable pdf.</p>

<p><a href="#">‘Quality improvement in primary care: the essential guide’</a></p> <p>Gillam S, Siriwardena A N (2014).</p>	<p>This is a comprehensive, up-to-date and accessible guide to QI. It describes the principles of QI as well as useful tools with some GP examples. It is UK focussed.</p>	<p>£28.49 (paperback, priced 24/5/16).</p>
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