

Reporting checklist for quality improvement in health care

Based on the SQUIRE guidelines.

Instructions to authors

Complete this checklist by entering the page numbers from your manuscript where readers will find each of the items listed below.

Your article may not currently address all the items on the checklist. Please modify your text to include the missing information. If you are certain that an item does not apply, please write "n/a" and provide a short explanation.

Upload your completed checklist as an extra file when you submit to a journal.

In your methods section, say that you used the SQUIRE reporting guidelines, and cite them as:

Ogrinc G, Davies L, Goodman D, Batalden P, Davidoff F, Stevens D. SQUIRE 2.0 (Standards for Quality Improvement Reporting Excellence): revised publication guidelines from a detailed consensus process

		Reporting Item	Page Number
Title			
	#1	Indicate that the manuscript concerns an initiative to improve healthcare (broadly defined to include the quality, safety, effectiveness, patient centeredness, timeliness, cost, efficiency, and equity of healthcare)	
Abstract			
	#2a	Provide adequate information to aid in searching and indexing	
	#2b	Summarize all key information from various sections of the text using the abstract format of the intended publication or a structured summary such as: background, local problem, methods, interventions, results, conclusions	
Introduction			
Problem description	#3	Nature and significance of the local problem	
Available knowledge	#4	Summary of what is currently known about the problem, including relevant previous studies	
Rationale	#5	Informal or formal frameworks, models, concepts, and / or theories used to explain the problem, any reasons or assumptions that were used to develop the intervention(s), and reasons why the intervention(s) was expected to work	
Specific aims	#6	Purpose of the project and of this report	
Methods			
Context	#7	Contextual elements considered important at the outset of introducing the intervention(s)	
Intervention(s)	#8a	Description of the intervention(s) in sufficient detail that others could reproduce it	
Intervention(s)	#8b	Specifics of the team involved in the work	
Study of the Intervention(s)	#9a	Approach chosen for assessing the impact of the intervention(s)	
Study of the Intervention(s)	#9b	Approach used to establish whether the observed outcomes were due to the intervention(s)	
Measures	#10a	Measures chosen for studying processes and outcomes of the intervention(s), including rationale for choosing them, their operational definitions, and their validity and reliability	

Measures	#10b	Description of the approach to the ongoing assessment of contextual elements that contributed to the success, failure, efficiency, and cost	
Measures	#10c	Methods employed for assessing completeness and accuracy of data	
Analysis	#11a	Qualitative and quantitative methods used to draw inferences from the data	
Analysis	#11b	Methods for understanding variation within the data, including the effects of time as a variable	
Ethical considerations	#12	Ethical aspects of implementing and studying the intervention(s) and how they were addressed, including, but not limited to, formal ethics review and potential conflict(s) of interest	
Results			
	#13a	Initial steps of the intervention(s) and their evolution over time (e.g., time-line diagram, flow chart, or table), including modifications made to the intervention during the project	
	#13b	Details of the process measures and outcome	
	#13c	Contextual elements that interacted with the intervention(s)	
	#13d	Observed associations between outcomes, interventions, and relevant contextual elements	
	#13e	Unintended consequences such as unexpected benefits, problems, failures, or costs associated with the intervention(s).	
	#13f	Details about missing data	
Discussion			
Summary	#14a	Key findings, including relevance to the rationale and specific aims	
Summary	#14b	Particular strengths of the project	
Interpretation	#15a	Nature of the association between the intervention(s) and the outcomes	
Interpretation	#15b	Comparison of results with findings from other publications	
Interpretation	#15c	Impact of the project on people and systems	
Interpretation	#15d	Reasons for any differences between observed and anticipated outcomes, including the influence of context	
Interpretation	#15e	Costs and strategic trade-offs, including opportunity costs	
Limitations	#16a	Limits to the generalizability of the work	
Limitations	#16b	Factors that might have limited internal validity such as confounding, bias, or imprecision in the design, methods, measurement, or analysis	
Limitations	#16c	Efforts made to minimize and adjust for limitations	
Conclusion	#17a	Usefulness of the work	
Conclusion	#17b	Sustainability	
Conclusion	#17c	Potential for spread to other contexts	
Conclusion	#17d	Implications for practice and for further study in the field	
Conclusion	#17e	Suggested next steps	
Other information			
Funding	#18	Sources of funding that supported this work. Role, if any, of the funding organization in the design, implementation, interpretation, and reporting	

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