



WELCOME



INTRODUCTION:

Welcome

Welcome to the **South Dakota Quality Improvement Toolkit**! This Toolkit was created through a partnership between the South Dakota Department of Health and the South Dakota Cardiovascular Collaborative. The purpose of this Toolkit is to familiarize you with quality improvement processes as a way of improving clinical quality.

Managing the care of cardiovascular health is as complex as the disease itself. Making clinic-wide, system-level improvements in cardiovascular care can be challenging and time consuming. Quality Improvement (QI) is an approach for improving care and the processes for delivering care. It does not specify what improvements should be made, other than that any improvement should be organized, systematic, reproducible, and sustainable.

“This Toolkit describes a step-by-step general quality improvement approach that is easily adaptable to any QI effort in any type of organization.”

It provides key resources that explain what QI is and information and tools to assist with implementing QI strategies. While many of the examples are related to cardiovascular disease, quality improvement initiatives can be applied to any process or condition where improvements are needed.