

Planning a Regularly Scheduled CME Series That Facilitates the Translation of New Knowledge into Practice

1. Include as an explicit goal the implementation of new information into practice.

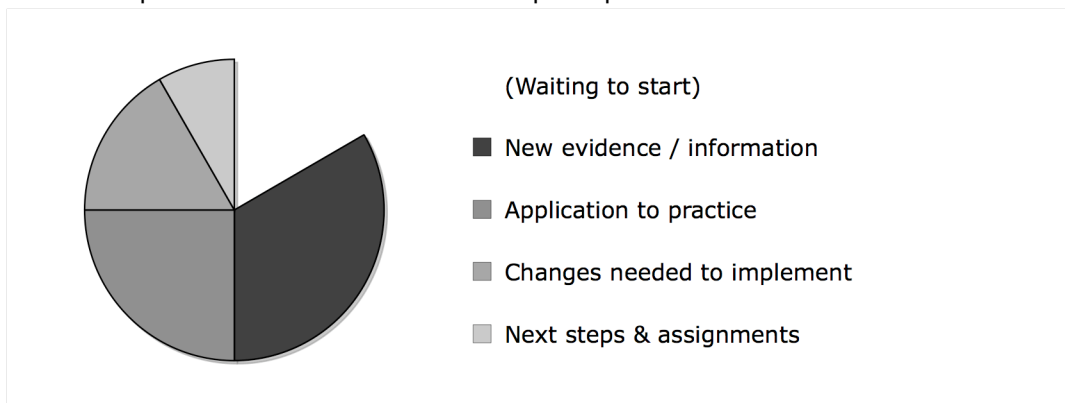
Specify this goal when developing the purpose and expected results of the activity. Consider this goal when determining the topics to address, information to be discussed, expectations for changes in practice considered, and innovations in care delivery that will bring about these changes.

2. Include needed improvements in care delivery as specific session topics.

In addition to new biomedical advances, consider topics related to needed improvements in care delivery. Check with service chiefs, clinic directors, health center medical directors, quality improvement leads, compliance officers and others for suggestions regarding how the educational series can advance institutional efforts to improve care.

3. Format the discussion at sessions explicitly to include considerations for implementation.

The presentation and discussion at a typical one-hour session will typically include both the introduction of new information and the discussion of relevant implementation issues. A likely sequence for the presentation and discussion with participants is illustrated below.



Implementation of a desired practice may involve change (e.g., likely barriers and how to address them) at one or more of the following levels:

- Individual
- Work group or team
- Unit (e.g., hospital floor, health center, department)
- Organization
- Infrastructure (e.g., CareWeb)

4. Engage presenters and participants in routinely addressing implementation issues.

- Establish expectations that implementation will be addressed by discussing the purpose and expected results of the educational series, including implementation of new knowledge into practice.
- Agree on a general format that includes the discussion of implementation issues.

5. Review the success of the series in implementing change and possible improvements.

- Review the evaluations for individual sessions to assess whether implementation is being addressed and changes that participants are planning.
- Discuss with service chiefs, clinic directors, and others how the series is helping advance the delivery of care and how the educational series can further enhance improvement of care delivery.