

Building an opioid improvement team

The opioid improvement team works in the clinic to support the implementation of opioid management improvements through the Six Building Blocks program. The team is responsible for leading the work, such as revising policies, developing and implementing workflows, and tracking progress. In addition, they will participate in monthly Shared Learning Calls with other organizations, and at least monthly calls with each other. We suggest you keep the team small enough to be a working group (e.g., 3-6).

The following table gives more information about team membership. You might also consider including a patient on the opioid improvement team. (See IHI for more information on including patients in QI work.)

Position	Time Commitment Estimates	Role Characteristics	Responsibilities
QI project lead (required)	2-8 hours per month	QI experience helpfulInterest in this topic	 Leads the day-to-day work Organizes meetings Oversees quality improvement processes on site (e.g., plan, do, study, act)
Clinical champion (required)	2-4 hours per month	 Interest in this topic Critical to success Sway in the organization 	 Builds consensus among clinicians and staff Maintains leadership support for program Lead clinical voice on the team
Tracking and Monitoring Lead	Highly variable depending on your system, 4+ hours per month	 Protected time for tracking and monitoring Skills in clinical data and technology Ready access to prescription and refill data 	Works with data to develop and generate reports
Others, as desired (medical assistant, nurse, social worker, behavioral health provider, clinic manager, pharmacist, MAT team member, patient)	2-4 hours per month		Represents roles important to team-based care of patients on long- term opioid therapy

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Funded by Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality (#R18H5023750, #HHSP2332015000131), Washington State Department of Health (CDC #5 NU17CE002734), National Institute on Drug Abuse (#UG1DAO13714), and the Washington State's Olympic Communities of Health. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of AHRQ, WA DOH, NIDA, or WA DOH.