

Key Takeaways:

- The neighborhoods people live in have a major impact on their health and well-being. Many people in the U.S. live in neighborhoods with high rates of violence, unsafe air or water, and other health and safety risks.
- Interventions and policy changes at the local, state, and federal level can help reduce these health and safety risks and promote health. For example, providing patients with transportation to their doctor’s appointments.
- Root Cause Analysis (RCA) and the Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) technique are two methods for identifying the root cause of potential points of failure or human error in a process.
- RCA is most effective for bigger problems where the risk of failure is higher and it is necessary to deeply understand the causes of error. The most common tool used for an RCA is the “5 Whys” technique.
- PDSA is most effective for smaller problems that only require a quick assessment of the potential causes.

Further Reading

Health Equity	Healthy People 2030: Neighborhood and Built Environment - https://health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/neighborhood-and-built-environment
	Crime, Violence and Health (video): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= wGI1hc XvY
	Public Health – Environment and Health By Alan Abelsohn M.D. (video): https://youtu.be/bxl_ZExrYUk
	County Health Rankings & Roadmaps – explore Nebraska neighborhood and environmental factor county-level measures using the orange drop down bar on the left.
	Social Determinants of Health in Rural Communities Toolkit: https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/toolkits/sdoh
	ICD-10-CM Codes for Social Determinants of Health: https://www.aha.org/system/files/2018-04/value-initiative-icd-10-code-social-determinants-of-health.pdf
Quality Improvement – Root Cause Analysis	Root Cause Analysis Tools . US Dept of Veterans Affairs, VHA National Center for Patient Safety.
	Guidance for Performing Root Cause Analysis with Performance Improvement Projects . Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Website.
	5 Whys: Finding the Root Cause of a Problem . Institute for Healthcare Improvement Website.
Quality Improvement – Plan-Do-Study-Act Technique	Fillable Plan Do Study Act (PDSA) Tool for Health Care Quality Improvement . Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.
	PDSA Cycle Template . Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Website.
	Plan-Do-Study-Act Worksheets . Institute for Healthcare Improvement Website.