

Achieving Equitable Health Outcomes in Nebraska, Session 3: Scoping QI Projects for Health Equity

Key Takeaways:

- Clearly defining the problem to be solved is a critical first step in any quality improvement project. This often entails choosing from among multiple problems that could be addressed.
- A good problem statement describes the issue that needs to be addressed without offering theories on potential causes or solutions.
- The narrower the scope and more specific the description, the easier it will be to identify root cause(s) and to solve the problem deemed most important.
- Different audiences may have different conceptions of what a problem is based on their backgrounds, roles, and experiences.
- Problem statements may evolve over time as data are gathered, practices are better understood, or information on other problems comes to light.

Further Reading:

Problem Statements	<i>How to Write an Effective Problem Statement.</i> ISixSigma Website.
Joint Commission National Patient Safety Goal	<i>R3 Report Issue 38: National Patient Safety Goal to Improve Health Care Equity.</i> The Joint Commission Website. https://www.jointcommission.org/standards/r3-report/r3-report-issue-38-national-patient-safety-goal-to-improve-health-care-equity/
	<i>National Patient Safety Goal to Improve Health Care Equity.</i> R3 Report: Requirement, Rationale, Reference. A complimentary publication of The Joint Commission. Issue 38, December 20, 2022. https://www.jointcommission.org/-/media/tjc/documents/standards/r3-reports/r3_npsg-16.pdf
Achieving Equitable Health Outcomes in Nebraska Program	<i>Achieving Equitable Health Outcomes in Nebraska Program Homepage.</i> University of Nebraska Medical Center Website. https://www.unmc.edu/intmed/divisions/id/echo/health-equity/phase2.html
	<i>Achieving Equitable Health Outcomes in Nebraska Program Online Registration Form.</i> University of Nebraska Medical Center Website. https://redcap.nebraskamed.com/surveys/?s=9D448KMYJTF4JXA4