

THE 5 STAGE APPROACH TO CLINICAL AUDIT

The Stages of Clinical Audit



Stage 1 - Planning for audit

- **Involving stakeholders**
- **Determining the audit topic**
- **Planning the delivery of audit fieldwork**

Stage 2 – Standard and criteria selection

- **Identification of standards and audit criteria**
- **Selecting and developing appropriate performance levels**
- **Inclusion / exclusion criteria**
- **Exceptions**

Stage 3 - Measuring performance

- **Data collection**
- **Data analysis** – measure actual performance against standard
- **Drawing conclusions**
- **Presentation of results**

Stage 4 – Making improvements

- **Development of quality improvement plans (QIPs)**

Stage 5 – Sustaining improvements

- **Monitoring the quality improvement plan**
- **Performance indicators**
- **Dissemination and celebrating success**
- **Remember - close the loop - re-audit**