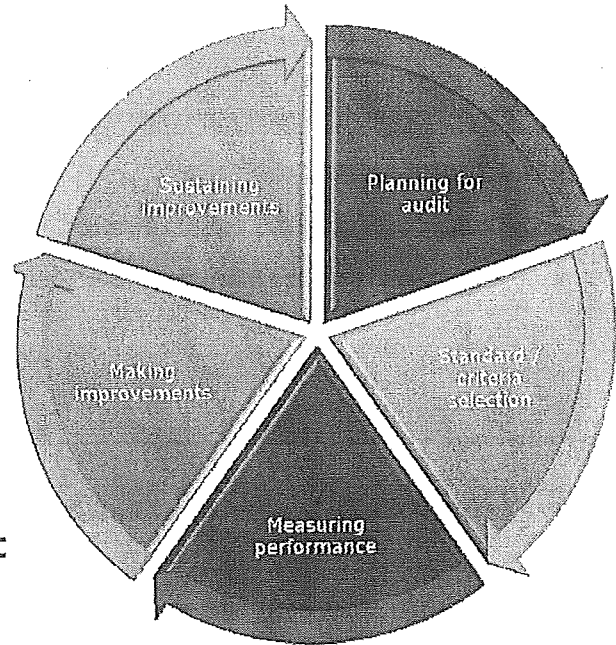


Appendix eight

TWELVE TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL CLINICAL AUDIT

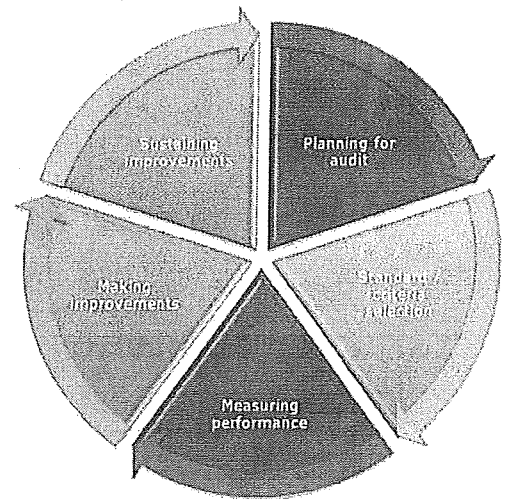
- 1. Keep audits simple**
- 2. Get everyone involved**
- 3. Determine the topic**
- 4. Have a plan**
- 5. Do not confuse clinical audit with research**
- 6. Do not collect needless data**
- 7. Take care with statistics – errors can lead to inaccurate conclusions**
- 8. Close all clinical audit loops**
- 9. Keep data only for as long as it is needed**
- 10. Share learning - tell everyone about your audit**
- 11. Tell 'The Organisation' about your audit**
- 12. Re-audit to ensure improvement in clinical care**



2. The five stage approach to clinical audit

2.6 Summary – The five 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