# Hereditary Breast Cancer Quality Improvement Pilot Project
# PDSA Overview

## Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) Overview

**Hereditary Breast Cancer Quality Improvement (QI) Pilot Project 2024**


**What are we trying to accomplish?**

**How will we know that a change is an improvement?**

**What changes can we make that will result in improvement?**

**Introduction**

The Plan-Do-Study-Act method is a way to test a change that is implemented. By going through the prescribed four steps, it guides the thinking process into breaking down the task into steps and then evaluating the outcome, improving on it, and testing again. Most of us go through some or all of these steps when we implement change in our lives, and we don't even think about it. Having them written down often helps people focus and learn more.

For more information on the Plan-Do-Study-Act, go to the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) website:
http://www.ihi.org/resources/Pages/Tools/PlanDoStudyActWorksheet.aspx

**3 Guiding Questions**

There are 3 specific questions that guide the PDSA thinking process.

**Implementing PDSA Cycles**

Keep the following in mind when implementing PDSA cycles:

**Single Step** – Each PDSA often contains only a segment or single step of the entire tool implementation.

**Short Duration** – Each PDSA cycle should be as brief as possible for you to gain knowledge that it is working or not (some can be as short as 1 hour).

**Small Sample Size** – A PDSA will likely involve only a portion of the practice (maybe 1 or 2 doctors). Once that feedback is obtained and the process refined, the implementation can be broadened to include the whole practice.

**Guidance for PDSA Cycles**

As you work though strategies for implementation, you will often go back and adjust something and want to test if the change you made is better or not. Each time you make an adjustment and test it again, you will do another **PDSA cycle**.

## PLAN

**I plan to:** Think of a concise statement of what you plan to do in the testing. This will be a plan for focused action.

**I hope this produces:** Here you want to plan for a measurement of an outcome that you hope to achieve.

**Steps to execute:** Here is where you will think through the steps you are going to take in this cycle, along with the timeline of the cycle.

## DO

After you have your plan, you will execute it or set it in motion. During this implementation, you will keep a close watch on what happens.

**What did you observe?** Here you will write down observations you have during your implementation. This may include specific logistics that impacted the implementation.

## STUDY

After implementation, you will study the results.

**What did you learn? Did you meet your measurement goal(s)?** Here you will record how well it worked and whether you met your goal(s). Did everything go as planned? Do I need to modify the plan?

## ACT

**What did you conclude from this cycle?** Here you will record what you came away with for this implementation, if it worked or not. And if it did not work, what can you do differently in your next cycle to address that? If it did work, are there any further improvements that could be envisioned? Are there any ways that you want to scale up your success?