

Qualifying Questions for Category Selection

Research (Quantitative, Qualitative)

Research uses the scientific process to generate new knowledge and evidence about a subject using methodology including measurements of variables, collection and statistical analysis of data and conclusions based on results of the study.

1. Did you use a methodology to answer a research question?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No (if No, choose a different category)
2. Does your study involve data collection and analysis?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No (if No, you must choose a different category)
3. Do you use a methodology to answer a research question or test a research hypothesis?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No (if No, choose a different category)

Non-Research (Evidence Based Practice, Quality Improvement)

Evidence Based Practice

Evidence based practice uses the best evidence from published research studies and combines it with clinical expertise to answer a specific question and guide clinical practice resulting in the best patient outcomes. **A literature review ONLY will not be accepted.** A literature review is a review and synthesis of existing published literature on a specific topic or research question. For an EBP or QI project that does not include implementation, there must be a **plan** for project implementation and analysis articulated in the methods section.

1. Is your project a literature review?
 - a. Yes (if Yes, literature reviews not eligible and abstract not accepted)
 - b. No
2. Have you provided evidence from the literature and combined it with clinical expertise to address a problem?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No (If No, you must choose a different category)
3. Have you implemented the evidence into clinical practice or is there a well-articulated **plan** to implement the evidence into clinical practice?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No (if No, incomplete submissions not accepted)

Quality Improvement

Quality improvement (QI) is a data-driven strategy to improve processes, costs, productivity, and outcomes within an organization based on evidence from the literature. The focus is on the current structure within the institution that needs to be changed. **A literature review ONLY will not be accepted.** A literature review is a review and synthesis of existing published literature on a specific topic or research question. For an EBP or QI project that does not include implementation, there must be a **plan** for project implementation and analysis articulated in the methods section.

1. Is this a literature review?
 - a. Yes (If Yes, literature reviews not accepted and your project is not eligible)
 - b. No
2. Has your project been implemented or is there a well-articulated **plan** to implement your project?
 - a. Yes
 - c. No (If No, incomplete submissions not accepted)
3. Does your project improve internal systems or processes in an organization to improve cost, productivity and/or quality outcomes?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No (If No, choose a different category.)

Non-Research (Case Study, Innovation)

Case Study

A case study describes an unusual, complicated or novel case of the symptoms, signs, diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up of an individual patient and includes the relevant literature on the topic.

1. Does your submission describe the case of an individual patient?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No (if No, choose a different category)

Innovation

An innovation project describes a **new invention** of a product or process that demonstrates adherence to scholarly standards and practices with proof of concept backed by evidence from the literature which may include pilot studies.

1. Does your innovation project reflect an innovative product or process?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No (if No, choose a different category)