

Fold each printed sheet in half lengthwise. The left side of the document will list the term and the right side will list the definition. Tape or staple the open edges of your flashcards. Cut out your flashcards on the solid lines indicated and fold them on the dotted lines.

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Balancing measure

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A performance measure that looks at a system from multiple angles or dimensions to avoid unintended consequences from a change in a different part of the system.

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Categorical data

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Data split into mutually exclusive groups.

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Clinical measure

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A type of performance measure designed to evaluate the processes or outcomes of care associated with the delivery of clinical services, to allow for intra- and interorganizational comparisons to be used to continuously improve resident health outcomes, and to focus on the appropriateness of clinical decision making and implementation of these decisions.

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Continuous data

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Data that can be measured on a continuum or scale.

Module 5

Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term

Demographic data

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Data that is socio-economic in nature (e.g., age, sex, race).

Module 5

Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term

Deviation

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The difference between an individual value in a data set and the mean value.

Module 5

Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term

Discrete data

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Data representing whole numbers.

Module 5

Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term

Dispersion

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The distribution of data around the mean.

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Event data

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Data related to high-volume, high-risk events within a facility (e.g., HAIs, immunization rates).

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Level of significance

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The probability value arbitrarily chosen by the researcher as the desired level of probability at which one may feel secure in rejecting the null hypothesis; typically set at 0.05 or 0.01.

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Mean

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The sum of all values divided by the total number of values.

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Measures of central tendency

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Describe how observations cluster around a middle value and locate only the center of a distribution measure; include mean, median, and mode.

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Median

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The midpoint of a set of observations

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Minimum performance threshold

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The level below which the process being used to reach a higher goal needs revision or improvement.

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Mode

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The observation that occurs most frequently in a data set.

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Performance measure

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A quantitative tool that provides an indication of an organization's performance in relation to a specified process or outcome.

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Process data

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Data related to facility protocols and practices (e.g., standard precautions, environmental cleaning).

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Qualitative data

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Data representing qualities or characteristics.

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Quantitative data

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Data representing counts or values on a numeric scale.

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Range

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The difference between the smallest and largest values in a data set.

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Standard deviation

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A measure that reflects the distribution of values around the mean; it is the average of all deviations in a data set and indicates how spread out the data are around the mean.

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Structural measure

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A measure that assesses features of a healthcare organization or clinician relevant to its capacity to provide healthcare. (CMS)

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Time data

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Data bound by a unit of time (e.g., month, year).

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Validity

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The extent to which a measure accurately reflects the concept or construct that it is intended to measure. (The Joint Commission)

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
Variance

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The deviation around the mean of a distribution.

Module 5
Section A: Basic Statistical Concepts

Term
p value

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The probability of observing a sample in which the test statistic is greater than or equal to the test statistic for the sample that was actually observed.

Module 5
Section B: Using Data Effectively for Decision Making

Term
Standardization

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Used when one needs to compare the event rates of different groups, for example, if an IP wants to compare catheter-associated urinary tract infection rates for two facilities.

Module 5
Section B: Using Data Effectively for Decision Making

Term
Statistical process control (SPC)

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A set of methods for improving systems, processes, and outcomes; the primary goal is to recognize and understand common and special cause variations that affect a process.

Module 5

Section B: Using Data Effectively for Decision Making

Term
Stratification

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The process by which the population in a dataset is separated into distinct categories.

Module 5

Section C: Communicating Quality Metrics & Performance Results

Term
Area map

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Map that uses different shades of chosen colors to indicate different rates of infection (or other disease/health condition), with the darker shades indicating higher rates or an increasing disease burden.

Module 5

Section C: Communicating Quality Metrics & Performance Results

Term
Bar graph

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Presents data as side-by-side bars for an easy comparison of magnitudes, frequency distributions, and time-series data.

Module 5

Section C: Communicating Quality Metrics & Performance Results

Term
Chart

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A form of visual data presentation used when the magnitudes of different events is important or when one wants to compare parts of the bigger picture.

Module 5

Section C: Communicating Quality Metrics & Performance Results

Term
Flowchart

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A diagram with boxes that show process steps, questions, people, systems, or other data of interest, with lines illustrating how the elements are interrelated.

Module 5

Section C: Communicating Quality Metrics & Performance Results

Term
Histogram

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A graphic of frequency distribution that looks much like a bar graph but in which each bar represents a different time interval.

Module 5

Section C: Communicating Quality Metrics & Performance Results

Term
Line chart

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Chart used to display the same data over time, for example, the rate of ICU CLABSIs over a year; each time point is equidistant from the previous and next time points, with time running along the x axis.

Module 5

Section C: Communicating Quality Metrics & Performance Results

Term
Pareto chart

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A type of bar chart that sorts a data series into vertical bars, each of which depicts an action or cause of interest, in descending order of height from left to right.

Module 5

Section C: Communicating Quality Metrics & Performance Results

Term
Pie chart

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Shows the proportion that a group represents within the whole population.

Module 5

Section C: Communicating Quality Metrics & Performance Results

Term
Spot map

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A tool for illustrating the geographic distribution of cases; uses dots or other symbols to show where each case-patient lives or was exposed.

Module 5

Section C: Communicating Quality Metrics & Performance Results

Term
Table

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A data set presented in rows and columns.

Module 5

Section D: Technology & Quality

Term
Reproducibility

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Evaluates whether findings can be repeated consistently when applied to new populations, to different institutions, or by different individuals. (Quality Indicator Study Group)