

Key Definitions for Nursing Inquiry

EBP Process	Quality Improvement (QI)	System Redesign (SR)	Research
<p><i>The EBP process is a systematic process or methodology used to identify the best available evidence and translate that evidence into interventions (i.e. evidence-based practices. Quoted from: Priefer, Taylor & Alt-White*</i></p> <p>The purpose of the EBP process is to implement evidence-based interventions to improve quality of care and patient outcomes. Implementation is within the context of an organization. Various steps are included in the process, but in general these steps include: 1. Asking a practice question; 2. Acquiring the best evidence; 3. Appraising Evidence for credibility and applicability; 4. Applying Evidence to practice; and 5. Assessing (evaluating) to see if the practice change produced the expected results.</p>	<p><i>Quality improvement (QI) consists of systematic and continuous actions that lead to measurable improvement in health care services and the health status of targeted patient groups. Quoted from:</i></p> <p>http://www.hrsa.gov/quality/toolbox/methodology/qualityimprovement/</p> <p>The purpose of QI is to improve process or outcomes at a local level. Various QI methods and strategies exist, such as PDSA. Description of QI methods: http://www.queri.research.va.gov/implementation/quality_improvement/all_methods.cfm</p>	<p><i>Systems Redesign (SR) is about improvement in the way our system works. Quality is a system property. Therefore, the level of performance of the system is important to the patients, their families, and co-workers. SR is about how the parts of the system work with each other and how to improve our work and do it well consistently! System Redesign is a major tool being employed by VHA for improving its overall quality.</i></p> <p>Similar to QI, the purpose of SR is to improve processes or systems. Redesigning a system supports QI efforts within that system. Various SR methods and strategies exist, such as VA-TAMMCS.</p>	<p><i>Research is a systematic investigation (including research development, testing, and evaluation) designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge generalizable knowledge is information that expands the knowledge base of a scientific discipline or other scholarly field of study. Quoted from: VHA Handbook 1058.05</i></p> <p>http://www.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=2456</p> <p>The purpose of research is to develop new knowledge. Various research methods exist, and include quantitative and qualitative approaches.</p>

*Priefer, Taylor & Alt-White (2014). Engaging in evidence-based practice to guide clinical nurse leader practice outcomes. In J. L. Harris, L. Roussel, & P. L. Thomas (Eds.). *Initiating and Sustaining the Clinical Nurse Leader Role*, 2nd ed. Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett.