

Online Appendix A: A Description of Project JOINTS Materials, Tools, and Activities

Printed and Online Campaign Materials and Tools

How-to Guide

A clear, step-by-step guide to teach teams how to implement the key Project JOINTS interventions. Includes review of evidence, implementation suggestions, how to use the Model for Improvement, recommendations for forming a team, and measurement strategies.

Business case

Written document that quickly demonstrates the financial benefits of increased uptake of the SSI interventions to hospital leaders and providers, reducing need for additional research while making recommendations on resources an improvement team may need. Intended for hospital recruitment.

Measurement information

A small set of recommended process measures (with specific numerator and denominator definitions) and tracking tools provided to all facilities to encourage using metrics for improvement and to identify trends and examples of struggle or success.

Improvement tools

Materials developed by successful teams — for example, successful protocols, order sets and forms, and instructions and guidelines for implementing key changes. IHI “stamp of approval” ensures the tools follow Project JOINTS recommendations and allows new facilities to save time by adopting vetted materials and videos.

Patient and family handouts

Sample materials developed by successful facilities to distribute to patients and families to explain the benefits of the intervention and encourage their adoption of elements requiring their participation. Additionally, tools to help patients and families track their efforts.

Surgeon evidence materials

Targeted materials to better engage surgeons. Attractive materials in an abbreviated format (one-page review, surgeon-only calls, videos and quotes from high-profile surgeons) for a busy audience.

Interactive Campaign Activities

Webinar call series

IHI-hosted calls to introduce recommended interventions and provide coaching to participating teams on evidence, implementation techniques, and examples of success. Live sessions and recorded webinars posted on the project's website allow IHI to reach hundreds of teams in a cost-effective manner for participants.

Electronic communications (*listserv, website, update bulletins*)

Provide convenient, 24/7 access to standardized technical information directly from IHI and a platform for sharing ideas among participants.

In-person presentations (*site visits, town hall meetings, plenary presentations*)

Nodes helped coordinate in-person events in each state, allowing IHI team to build credibility, disseminate change ideas, facilitate sharing among teams, and receive project feedback to identify problems and adjust interventions. Exposure to these events was limited to only those who attended.

Support from exemplar hospitals

IHI-vetted hospitals achieving success in one or more intervention shared their stories on the Project JOINTS website and webinars. Exemplar hospitals were available to any Project JOINTS participant for additional coaching.