

CPD for the Busy Rheumatologist Learning Beyond the Mini-Practice Audit Model (mPAM): What Do I Do Next?

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“I really have been able to see a positive impact on my practice. I now have been able to review guidelines and actually make a difference in the care of my patients,” reflects Dr. AKI Joint, a rheumatologist member of the Canadian Rheumatology Association (CRA). “My cardiovascular care for my systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) patients has improved. Each time I have done an audit, I have seen improvements. In the first audit, I realized that I was not documenting the lipid results consistently. In the second audit, I identified improved documentation of this aspect of patient care.”

The mini-Practice Audit Model (mPAM) and other audits facilitate the opportunity to apply guidelines to our own practice, learn from the application and continue to enhance the delivery of care. Implementing the use of the mPAM audit and re-audit every 3-6 months can be instructive and uncover further opportunities to improve care. Dr. AKI Joint could start with one or two aspects of a guideline, to make this intervention more valuable and impact a change in clinical practice.

The use of mPAMs leads to opportunities for self-reflection, which can stimulate participation in other types of learning (as outlined by the Royal College Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Program (<https://www.royalcollege.ca/en/cpd/moc-program/moc-framework>)), such as group learning (MOC Section 1), individual learning (MOC Section 2), and through further feedback and improvement (MOC Section 3). This may lead to exploring relationships with colleagues, including other specialists who can assist in the discussion of cases, as well as providing coaching or mentoring in the support of others. Dr. AKI Joint could consider using clinical case rounds as a venue to enhance practice. By encouraging one another, collaborative resources can be identified for reading, research and practice improvement.

“I have now seen that not only is the initial audit helpful for my patients,” says Dr. AKI Joint, “but re-auditing allows me to learn about my practice and implement systematic changes to enhance patient care through a continuous cycle of quality improvement. I am going

to share my findings by presenting the improvements at our hospital medical rounds and will also submit my audit approach for the CRA Practice Reflection Award (<https://rheum.ca/awards/practice-reflection-award/>).”

Selected References

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