Advanced Improvement Methods (AIM)

What is AIM?

At Cincinnati Children's, The James M. Anderson Center for Health Systems Excellence is transforming the delivery of care through improvement science. Advanced Improvement Methods (AIM) is a highly interactive course for faculty from academic medical centers who lead improvement projects and already know the basics of quality improvement (QI) and clinical epidemiology and/or research methods. This course equips learners to apply Improvement Science, Statistical Process Control (SPC), and Planned Experimentation (PE) methods to address real-world healthcare challenges. We welcome participation from leaders in other health care systems.

> *"Being an AIM student meant the world to me, and it has been transformational in my projects and in my career development."*
>
> **AIM Graduate**

Course Benefits:

As a result of participating in AIM, learners will be able to:

- Apply Statistical Process Control (SPC) and Planned Experimentation (PE) to healthcare projects
- Analyze case studies (e.g., ED utilization, seizures, cycle time)
- Integrate data analysis with clinical and operational context to guide decision-making
- Translate analytical findings into actionable, measurable improvements that enhance outcomes

The Anderson Center

The Anderson Center is committed to developing the next generation of leaders who will accelerate the transformation of health. We have:

- Proven impact, with 88% of graduates achieving improvement results
- Developed over 1,300 improvement science leaders from within and beyond Cincinnati Children's
- Guided over 2,100 participants in team-based process improvement collaboratives
- Distinguished faculty with over 250 years of combined experience in improvement science who use evidence-based teaching and coaching practices
- Expert QI coaches and instructors who have made a commitment to bringing an equity focus to the courses with the aim of closing health disparity gaps

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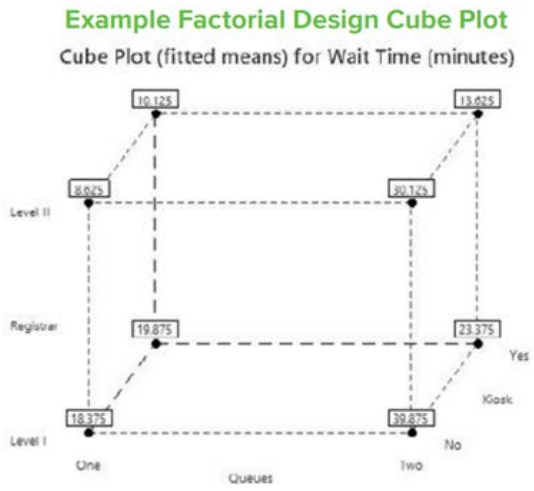
Who?

Physicians, nurses, and non-clinical leaders at the director level or above who have a background in health services research, an active leadership role in quality improvement, and a working knowledge of improvement science and/or biostatistics or clinical epidemiology.



What?

AIM helps build a broader and deeper understanding of quality improvement, biostatistics, and planned experimentation. Through brief didactic sessions, case studies, and simulation exercises, participants will dive deep into quality improvement and statistics and apply their learnings to a QI project within their organization.

> *"I really appreciate the format of the course which included the perfect mixture of independent reading, instructor-led teaching, and practical application."*
>
> **AIM Graduate**

How?

Expert faculty members lead the course in understanding the Model for Improvement, Shewhart's theory of variation, the theory and methods of planned experimentation, and the practice of designing, running, and analyzing experiments. Instructional methodologies include lecture, large and small group discussion, simulations, and project presentations.

When?

One cohort is offered per year.

Continuing Education

Participants in this course may qualify for continuing education credit. For more information, contact *cme@cchmc.org*.

Meet the Team

Co-Directors

Jeff Anderson, Vice President, Children's Health, UNC Health

Matt Frazier, Director, Decision Science-Learning Networks, Cincinnati Children's

Faculty

Maria Britto, Faculty Director, QI Capacity Building, Cincinnati Children's
Sarah Corathers, Clinical Director, Division of Endocrinology, Cincinnati Children's
Megan Elam, Vice President, Operations, Cincinnati Children's
Heather Kaplan, Chief Patient Outcomes Officer, Cincinnati Children's
Lloyd Provost, Advisor, Associates in Process Improvement

For more information about AIM and how to apply, go to https://www.cincinnatichildrens.org/research/divisions/j/anderson-center/education/aim or contact us at AIM_Communications@cchmc.org.