

Purpose of Measurement	<i>Research</i>	<i>Comparison or Accountability</i>	<i>Improvement</i>
Key question	“What is the truth?”	“Better or worse than...?”	“Are we getting better?”
Penalty for being wrong	Misdirection for profession	Misdirected reward/punish	Misdirection for an initiative
Measurement requirements and characteristics	Complete, accurate, slow, controlled, expensive	Denominators, risk adjusted, validity, attribution	Real time, raw counts, utility, consistent definitions
Typical displays	Control and experimental populations	Relative to benchmarks and standards	Run charts, time between events, control charts

Adapted from Solberg, Mosser, McDonald *Jt Comm J Qual Improv.* 1997

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