1. About

An **Aim Statement** helps to articulate the intended outcome of an improvement project. Think about SMART aims:

- **Specific**: who, what, where, when, how
- **Measurable**: numeric goals
- **Actionable and Achievable**
- **Relevant to stakeholders and organisation**
- **Timeframe**: short cycles of tests, by when

The **Driver Diagram** predicts the changes required to accomplish a given aim or outcome. It includes a graphic representation showing the links between an aim (describing the desired result), the things that must change to achieve that aim and specific ideas on how to make the changes.

2. Why?

These tools help drive the path of an improvement project by providing a visual representation of your improvement theory to test that theory and understand what aspects of the theory do and do not contribute to improvement.

3. How?

1. Formulate an **Aim Statement** using the SMART acronym
2. Identify primary drivers that must change in order to achieve the aim
3. Identify secondary drivers that need to change in order to act on the primary drivers
4. Identify specific change ideas that will positively impact on the drivers

**Example Aim Statement Template**

We will increase / decrease: ________________ (outcome)
from: ______________________________ (baseline %, rate, #, etc)
to: ______________________________ (future state %, rate, #, etc)
by: ____________________________ (date, 3-6 month timeframe)
in: ______________________________ (Population impacted)
Aim statement and driver diagram

1. Consider clinical/technical drivers and the six petals of the Framework for Improving Quality as your primary drivers.