

**Seven Questions to Ask Before Adopting a Best Practice**

One of the best ways to accelerate improvement is to adopt best practices. Think of a best practice as a strategy, policy, or practice that has worked well in another setting. Once we identify a best practice, the next steps is to determine whether it can be effectively adopted or adapted in our organization. This is important for assuring that we do not waste time and resources trying to adopt best practices that don't fit our needs. This tool presents seven questions to ask before adopting a best practice.

**The Best Practice:**

1. **Relevance.** Does it directly address our need?

2. **Credibility.** Is it supported by a credible person, institution, or evidence base?

3. **Clarity.** Do we clearly understand it?

4. **Compatibility.** Is it compatible with our existing values, culture and structure?

5. **Transferability.** Can we adopt it as is, or will it need refinement?

6. **Feasibility.** Can we implement it with an acceptable level of effort and cost?

7. **Value.** Are the potential benefits of this worth the potential costs?

**Notes:**