	RESEARCH	QUALITY IMPROVEMENT
What is the purpose of your project?	To generate new knowledge, that is generalizable to the wider population. Generalizable knowledge consists of facts, theories, principles or relationships, or the accumulation of information on which they are based, that can be corroborated by accepted scientific methods of observation and inference.	To improve internal processes, practices, costs or productivity for a specific intervention [i.e. determine how this intervention affected this participant group in this setting].
Will the results be generalizable?	Results are generalizable, can be applied to other institutions.	Results are not generalizable; relevant only to the institution.
Will participants be placed at risk during the project?	There may be some risk incurred by participants, e.g. physical, emotional, privacy risks of harm, as a result of change in the usual standard of care/intervention or from being exposed to questions regarding sensitive issues.	There will be no risks beyond the usual intervention [i.e. improve usual care and not place participants at risk; privacy may be a concern].
Will the data from participants be kept confidential?	Yes, deidentified or anonymous.	Yes, deidentified or anonymous.
Could your project be done with participants outside your setting?	Yes, having participants outside the setting would add strength to its external validity, e.g. multi-site trials. (generalizable)	No, having participants outside the setting would not make sense because another setting would not provide specific site information. (nongeneralizable)
What do you plan to do with your findings? How will they be applied?	Findings will be applied as widely as possible to increase the body of scientific knowledge by publishing or presenting for others within the discipline. This process might have a longer time frame & is dependent on the research meeting scholarly criteria for publication.	Communicate findings within the organization primarily by providing specific feedback to decision makers responsible for managing the practice and implement any needed process changes. Findings may be published with organizational approval [i.e., QI is carried out for purposes of meeting organizational goals]. This process often has a short, more immediate time frame.
Is Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval required?	Yes.	No, but may submit for evaluation as "not research" by using the UMKC IRB research/not research determination process. See UMKC IRB link listed below.

For additional info – see UMKC IRB details on defining human subject research: **http://ors.umkc.edu/research-compliance-(iacuc-ibc-irb-rsc)/institutional-review-board-(irb)**

See the US Dept. of Health and Human Services view of quality improvement activities in relation to the regulations for human subjects research - ***www.hhs.gov/ohrp/regulations-and-policy/guidance/faq/quality-improvement-activities/***

This document was created using **Fraserhealth's** DEPARTMENT OF EVALUATION AND RESEARCH SERVICES 2011 09 12 guidelines, as seen in the Differentiation of Research, Quality Improvement and Program Evaluation document [1,2,3,4]

1 Kring, DL. Research and Quality Improvement: Different Processes, Different Evidence. MEDSURG Nursing. June 2008. Vol. 17, No. 3, p. 162-169.

2 Rozalis, ML. Evaluation and Research: Differences and Similarities. The Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation. 2003. Vol. 18, No. 2, p. 1-31.

3 Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research: Alberta Research Ethics Community Consensus Initiative (ARECCI). ARECCI Ethics Decision-Support Tools for Projects

4 Vancouver Coastal Health. Draft Project Screening Tool. October 2008