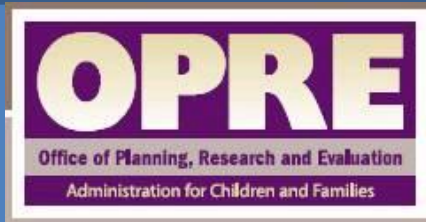


QRIS and Quality Initiatives: New Research and Resources

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OPRE Projects on QRIS/Quality Initiatives

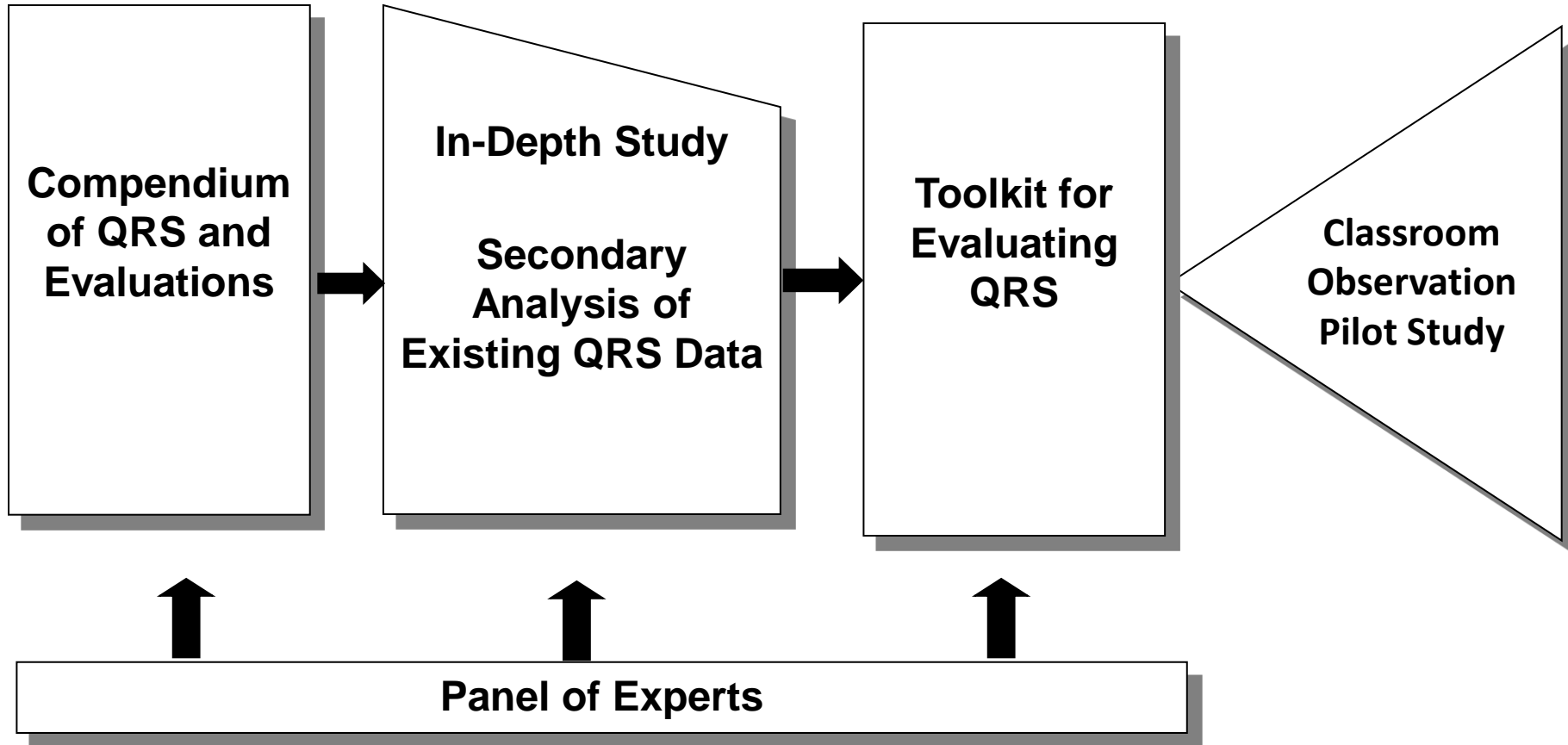
- **QRS Assessment**
- **Quality Initiatives Research and Evaluation Consortium (INQUIRE)**
- **Quality Dosage, Features and Thresholds and Child Outcomes***

*Will be the focus of a plenary session at the CCPRC meeting this week

QRS Assessment: Goals

- **Catalog comprehensive and consistent information on QRS key elements**
- **Gather and synthesize in-depth information on planning, design, and evaluation for select QRS**
- **Analyze secondary data to aggregate findings across QRS**
- **Develop a toolkit of resources for QRS evaluation**

QRS Assessment: Key Tasks



Compendium of QRS

- **Foundational work for the Assessment**
- **Provides information, analysis and resources to QRIS stakeholders**
- **Produced cross-QRIS comparative information on 26 QRIS as well as individual profiles**
- **Data collection:**
 - **Template included over 200 data elements**
 - **Stage one: review of publicly available sources**
 - **Stage two: interviews with QRIS administrators to complete the templates**
 - **Data collected from Aug-Oct, 2009**
 - **Released in April 2010 (on OPRE web site)**

In-Depth Study Topics

- **Quality Measurement in Select QRIS**
 - What is the variation in how select QRIS define and measure quality?
 - What processes are used to measure components and determine an overall rating?
 - What is the availability (and use) of consistent and reliable data on quality measurement?
- **QRIS as a System Builder**
 - How and to what extent do QRISs contribute to ECE system development and integration?
 - How could QRISs assess the extent of their contribution to ECE system development?

Secondary Data Analysis

- **Analysis will address issues related to quality measurement**
 - **How providers differ on quality components**
 - **Correlations among quality components**
 - **Unique contributions of quality components**
 - **Strategies for weighting and combining components**

Toolkit Content

- **Identifying research questions**
- **Developing a QRIS logic model**
- **Designing the evaluation**
- **Existing measures, measurement resources, and data collection best practices**
- **Identifying funding sources and determining costs**
- **Selecting and working with an evaluator**

Key Challenges and Questions for QRIS

- **Enrolling and serving programs/providers in QRIS and other quality initiatives**
- **Supporting programs/providers to reach higher quality**
- **Engaging parents and the public**
- **Being responsive and sensitive to diversity of children and programs**
- **Managing data and documenting results**

Enrolling and Serving Programs in QRIS

- **What goals should be set for QRIS participation given limited resources?**
 - Which programs/providers should be targeted?
 - What incentives can be offered?
- **Adjust expectations for outcomes of QRIS that are aligned with participation density**
- **Recognize that bringing in new participants may bring new challenges. Be prepared to adjust to meet the needs.**

Supporting Quality Improvement

- **What models of quality improvement are being used in QRIS? Which are effective?**
- **Which content is most important to focus on in QRIS coaching/onsite assistance?**
- **What is the optimal dosage and intensity of QRIS coaching/onsite assistance?**
- **How can quality improvement in QRIS be more directly linked to state PD systems?**

Engaging Parents and the Public in QRIS

- **What strategies work best to encourage parent use of QRIS information?**
 - **What terms about early care and education resonate with parents?**
 - **How can we time the provision of information to better support parents' decision making?**
- **What approaches to marketing a QRIS can improve awareness?**

Being Responsive to Diversity

- **Adding quality indicators to address diversity is challenging because the field hasn't produced them yet**
- **What interim solutions can be tried and evaluated?**
- **How should quality improvement strategies be adapted to work with culturally and linguistically diverse providers**

Managing Data and Documenting Results

- **What information can be tracked to better support the work of quality consultants/TA specialists?**
- **What training and ongoing support needs to be built into the QRIS to ensure data integrity, use of data for case management, and use of data to track outputs and outcomes?**

INQUIRE

- **New Research to Policy, Research to Practice Briefs:**
 - **Effective evaluation of QRIS**
 - **Including child outcomes in QRIS evaluation**
 - **Best practices for conducting program observations in QRIS and QI initiatives**
 - **Financial incentives to promote quality**

INQUIRE

- **Topical workgroups have been formed to produce new resources on:**
 - **Quality Improvement**
 - **Validation of QRIS**
 - **Data systems**