

# Psoriasis example

Using a Model for Improvement approach.

## **1. What are we trying to accomplish? Needs to be specific 'by how much?' and 'by when?'**

To improve care and wellbeing of patients suffering from psoriasis in align with existing Quality Standards for Psoriasis.<sup>(1)</sup>

- Increase recording of disease severity assessment at diagnosis and when response to treatment assessed by x% in x months' time
- Increase assessment of the impact of disease on physical, psychological and social wellbeing at diagnosis and when response to treatment is assessed by x% in x months' time
- Increase annual recall of patients with psoriasis to assess for arthritis by x% in x months' time
- Increase proportion of adults with psoriasis offered 5 yearly cardiovascular risk assessment by x% in x months' time

## **2. How will we know that a change is an improvement?**

- % of patients with disease severity assessment documented in Electronic Medical Records (EMR)
- % of patients with Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI) documented in EMR
- % of patients with Annual Psoriasis Epidemiological Screening Tool (PEST) assessment documented in EMR
- % of patients offered 5 yearly cardiovascular risk assessment

## **3. What changes can we make that will result in improvement?**

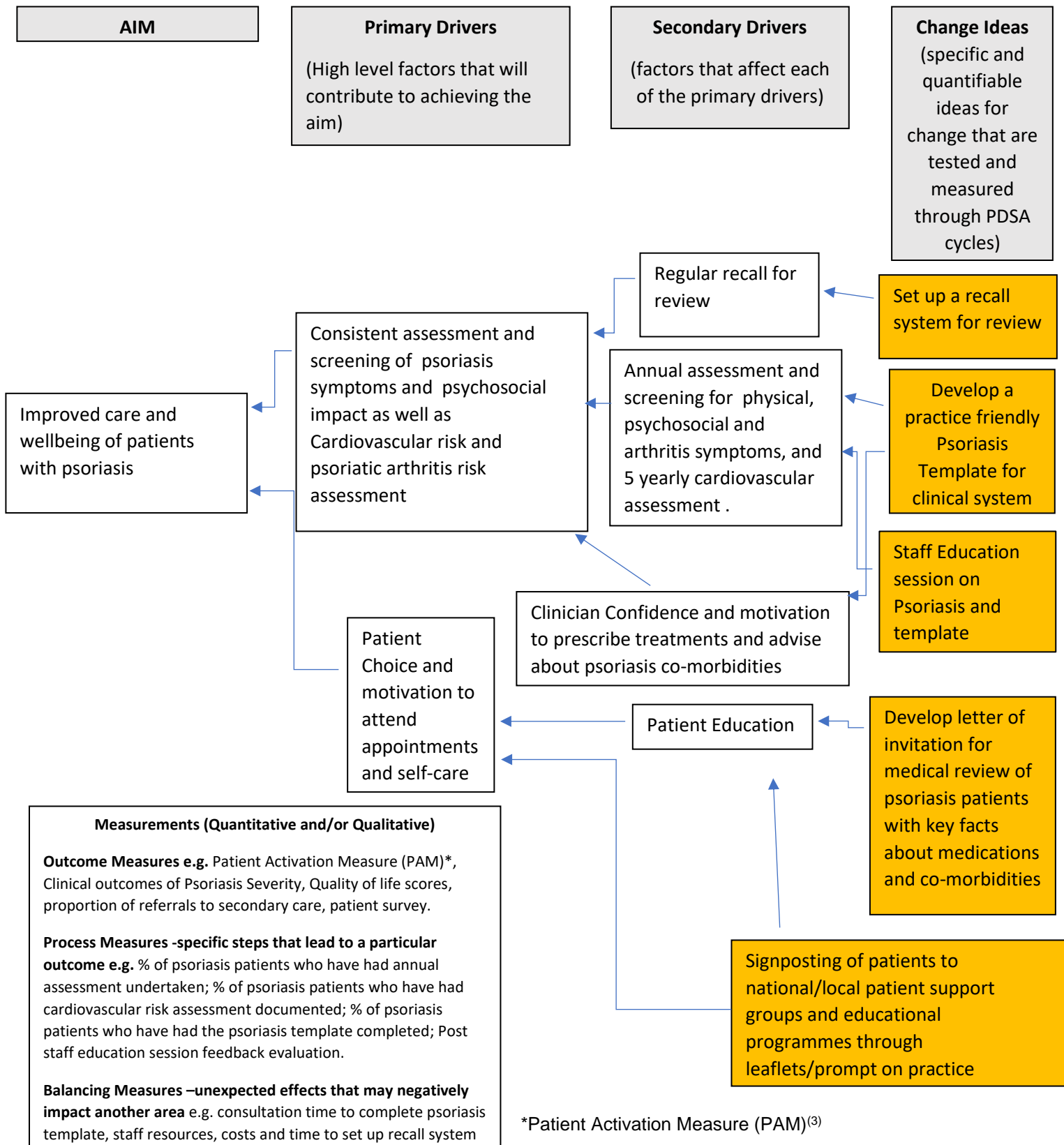
Undertake a PDSA approach to **each planned change idea** and include **measurement of outcomes, processes and unexpected effects (called 'balance measures')**.

Examples of planned change ideas could include:

- Development of a psoriasis template for practice systems to facilitate disease and impact assessment, psoriasis management as well as screening for co-morbidities.
- Development of a recall system for annual review of patients with psoriasis
- Develop practice formulary of topical treatments for psoriasis
- Staff teaching session on Psoriasis and Psoriasis template, and practice formulary
- Develop letter of invitation for medical review of psoriasis patients with key facts about medications and co-morbidities
- Signposting of patients to national/local patient support groups and educational programmes through leaflets/prompt on practice template

**A Driver Diagram** can also be used to provide a structured approach to planning improvements moving from the **clear aim** to the **ideas for improvement**

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[An example of a QI project for psoriasis in primary care undertaken by Dr. Kenneth Lim in Redhill, Surrey.](#)

### References

1. [NICE Quality Standard Psoriasis, August 2013.](#)
2. [British Association of Dermatologists. Psoriasis Epidemiology Screening Tool](#)
3. [Patient Activation Measure \(PAM\)](#)