**UofACOM-P BETTER Resident Research work sheet:**

**Electronic version of this worksheet with steps 1-10 complete, due by Tuesday afternoon presentation**

As you go about planning your project and completing the IHI/CITI modules, this is a planning document to help you think about important questions and stay organized. We will be talking more about each of the steps during our sessions together during BETTER weeks. If you are stuck on ANY of the steps, email Dr. Franks Snedecor or Gerkin.

There are deadlines but you should also continuously return to this worksheet making changes as you learn more and your project evolves. If you are doing a group project, one worksheet per project will need to be submitted.

1. Research Question*: (What is the general topic on which you want to work?): From as broad as cardiology, inpatient, ambulatory or specific like heart failure, peripheral vascular disease.* ***Deadline: First day of BETTER week. It will need to be further narrowed by the afternoon of the second day.***
2. Background: (*What do we currently know about this problem?): Why did you select it? What are the current clinical guidelines for the condition that you are considering a project around, summarize the literature, problem, measures used in other studies and prior successful interventions? This will become more of an abstract in the future but you may find that early this is just an annotated bibliography and connects with your references. Don’t forget to look in the Nursing and health care quality literature if you are stuck.* ***Deadline: first draft due the afternoon of the 3rd day of your first BETTER week***
3. References *+ as you take notes, save the reference and a brief description regarding study design and conclusion- this will make the preparation of your manuscript much easier.* ***Deadline: Have at least 5 references pulled and listed here before the end of the library session. Faculty will check prior to you leaving.***
4. Your Team- *Who is your mentor and fellow investigators? Where will the research take place (BUMCP, VA, other)*

***Answers to 1-4 due the afternoon of day 3 submit during meeting with faculty***

1. Research Design: (*What change can we make that will result in improveme*nt?): *Consider potential changes to implement (from literature review, discussion with colleagues, experience from a different perspective).*
2. Variables:- *How will we know a change is an improvement? Make sure that you have an Outcome, Process and Balancing measure. Include variables to be collected and your data analysis plan*
3. Methods (including statistical): (*What are we trying to accomplish?)*: *In the SMART format (Specific, measureable, achievable, relevant and time-based) (QI) OR a Research Question in the PICO format (patient, intervention, comparison, outcome).*
4. Limitations:
5. Expected timeline: *What will you complete between this BETTER week and the next?* *What do you still need for your poster presentation in May?*
6. You will need IRB approval *Discuss with Dr. Gerkin*

***Answers to 1-10 due the afternoon of day 5, submit during meeting with faculty***