

SEA vs. AUDIT

How they compare

SIGNIFICANT EVENT AUDIT

CLINICAL AUDIT

Typically focuses on single cases

Focuses on groups of patients with the same condition or illness

Reactive to events. SEA is carried out after an incident occurs

Anticipatory. Audits are conducted to see if care is following agreed best practice

Learning from experience. Adopts a case study team approach to help unpick what happened

Learning from analysis. Review of hard data to determine how care is being delivered

Compares care with what SHOULD NOT happen

Compares care with what SHOULD happen

Should be multi-disciplinary activity, with results written into a report and widely shared.

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