



HEALTH QUALITY & SAFETY  
COMMISSION NEW ZEALAND

*Kupu Taurangi Hauora o Aotearoa*

# Developing a theory for improvement and driver diagrams

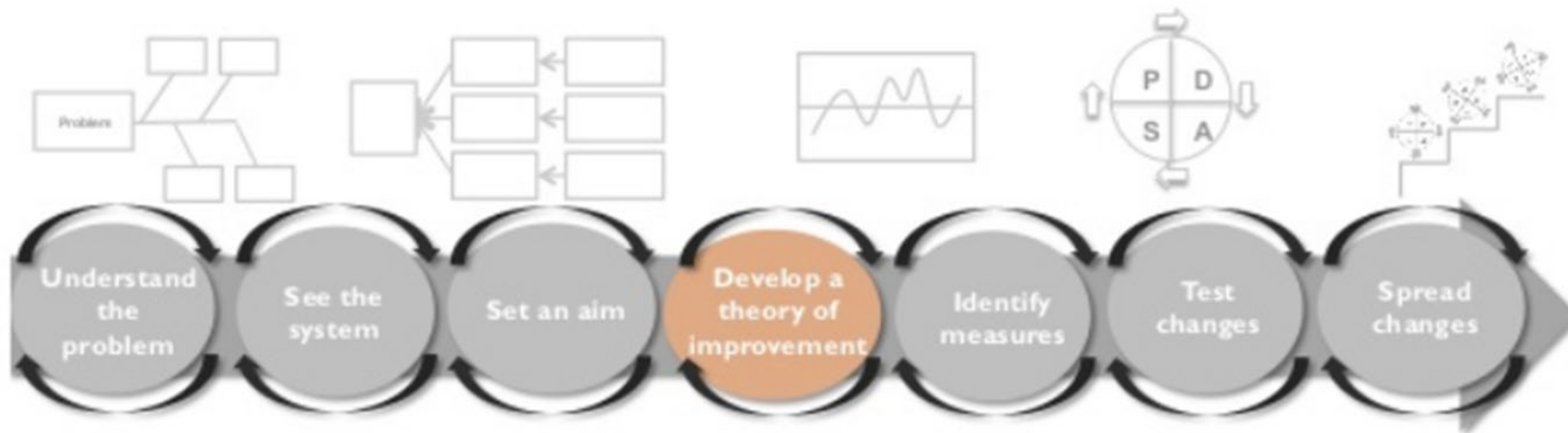
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# Approach

- Define theory of improvement within the context of adverse events.
- Examine the usefulness of a driver diagram.
- Consolidate learning – watch a video clip.
- Commence your driver diagram.



# Theory of improvement



# Why a theory?

- Creates a common language.
- Focuses improvement efforts on the most important parts of the system.
- Shows how changes are related to the aim & how different projects fit into a larger portfolio of work.
- Explicates the theory of improvement so it can be tested.

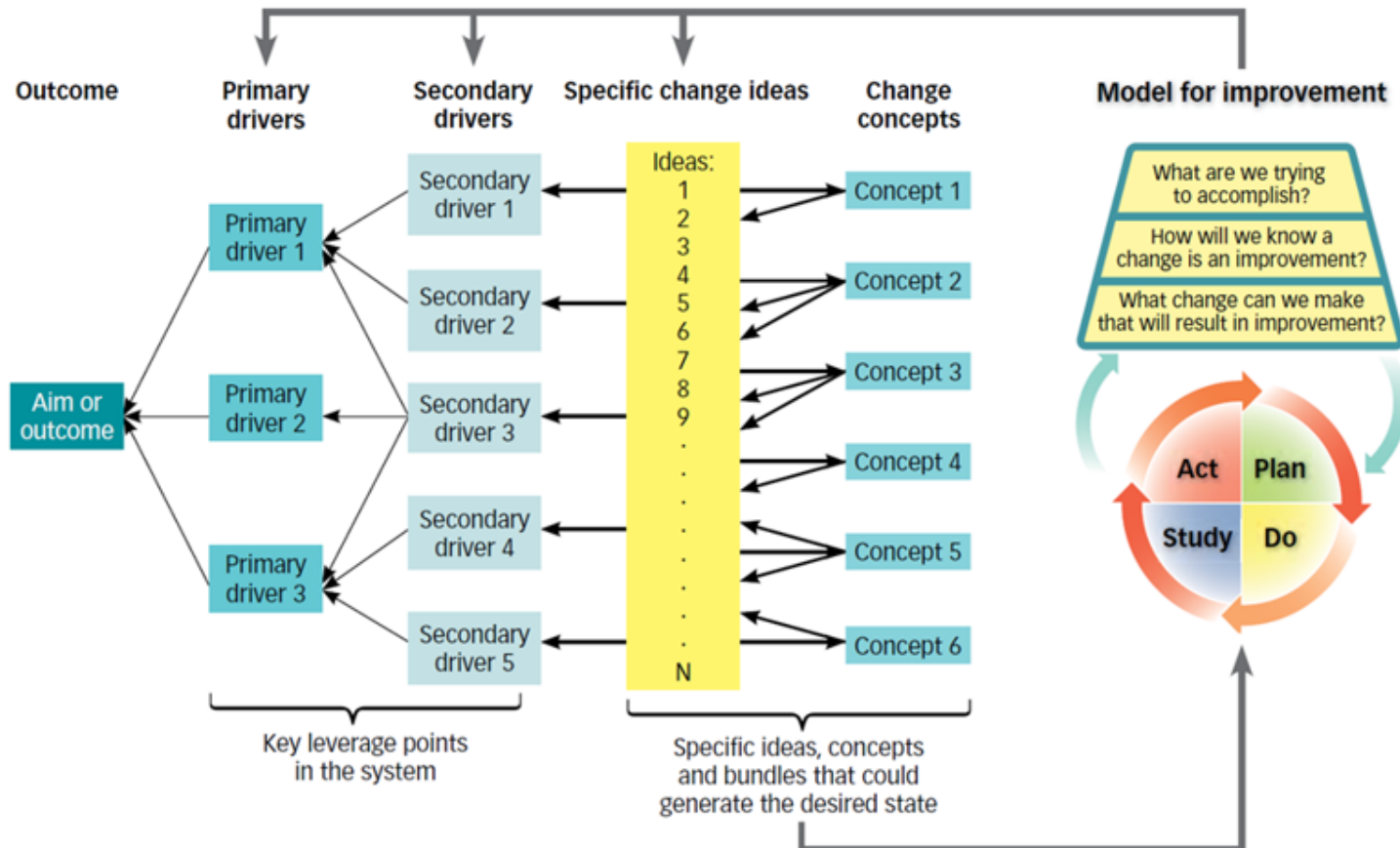
# Making it visual

- Some of us are more visual learners.
- A driver diagram is intended as a clear and simple depiction of the improvement theory.
- Shows structures and processes required to bring about an improvement.



# Driver diagram

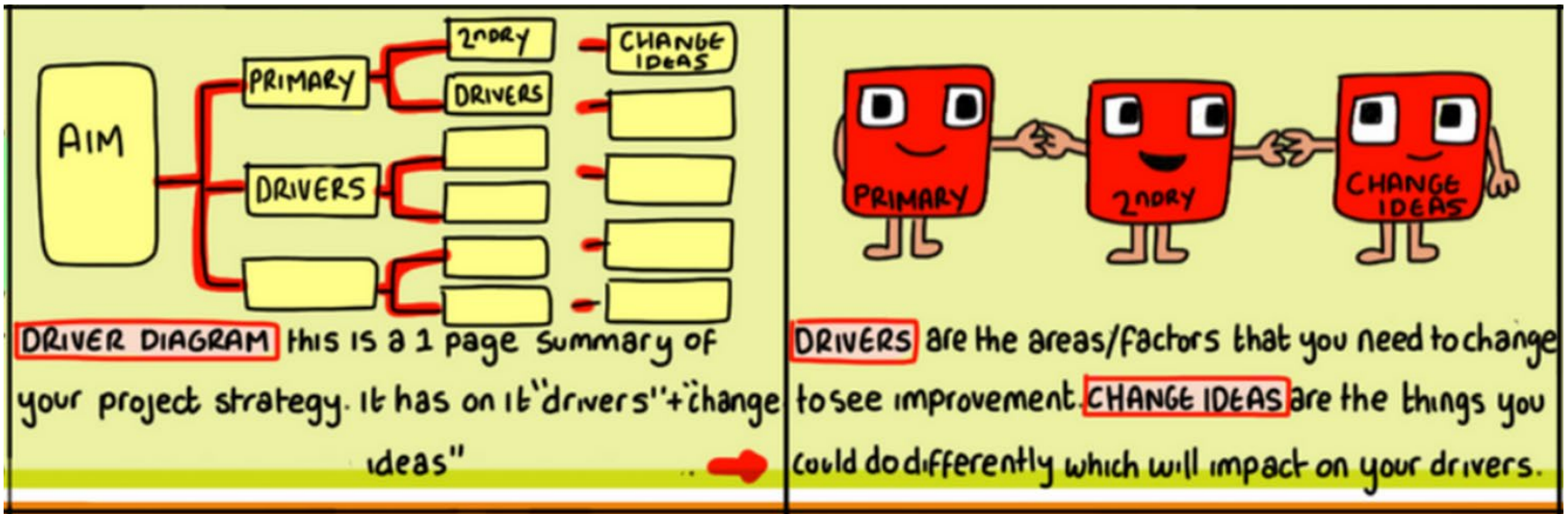
## Driver diagram informs testing, testing refines theory



# Components

- Aim statement
- Primary drivers
- Secondary drivers
- Change concepts
- Change ideas

# Another view



Ref: <https://qi.elft.nhs.uk/resource/driver-diagrams/>



# Video clip



[Lesson 1: Introducing driver diagrams \(10.15 minutes\)](#)

[Lesson 2: Reasons to use driver diagrams \(12.43 minutes\)](#)

[Lesson 3: How to develop a driver diagram \(21.00 minutes\)](#)

# Thank you and questions

