

# **Quality and Safety Series**

# Voice of the Customer Critical to Quality

# **OBJECTIVES**

- Define the term voice of the customer (VOC).
- Identify the components of a critical to quality (CTQ) tree.
- Discuss the uses and benefits of a CTQ tree.





# What Is VOC?

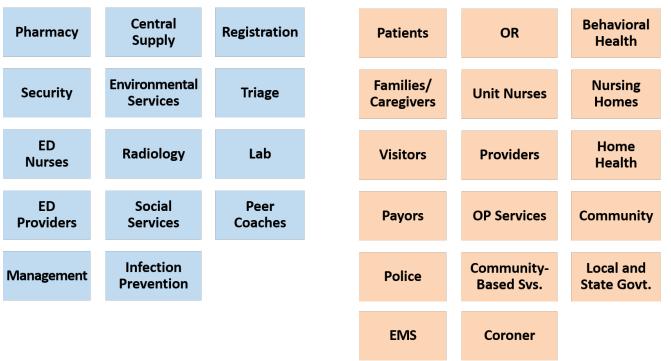
- Term used to capture and describe customer expectations.
- Discover customer opinions from sources, such as:
  - Interviews
  - Focus groups
  - Surveys
  - Patient and family advisory committees
  - Hospital Consumer Assessment of Health
    Providers and Systems (HCAHPS<sup>®</sup>) data





# Who Are Your Customers?

- Internal and external customers
  - Use stakeholder mapping to identify customers



#### Internal

#### External



## **CTQ** Tree

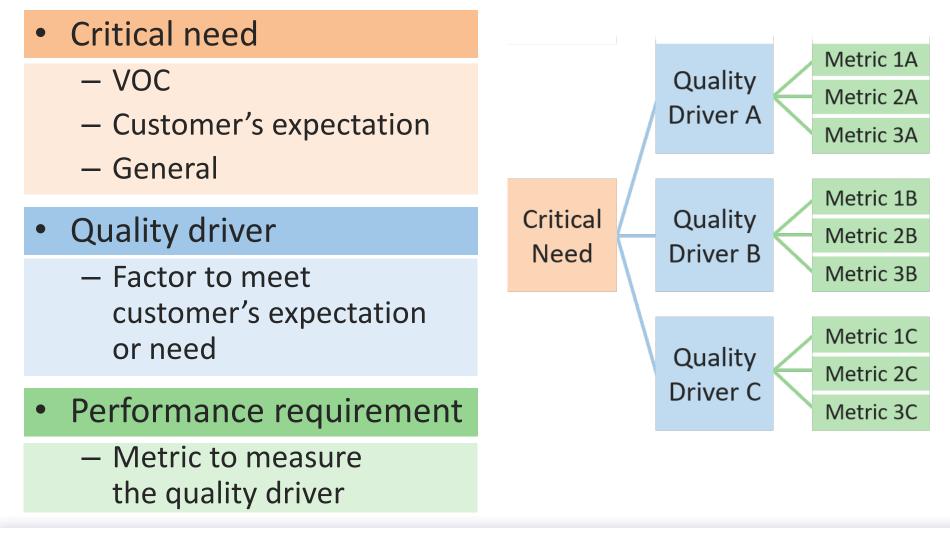
- The CTQ tree was developed as a Six Sigma tool.
- It can be used for the *define* phase of the DMAIC<sup>1</sup> process, or the *plan* phase of the PDSA<sup>2</sup> process.
- A CTQ tree translates customer requirements into metrics.
- Metrics provide a means to measure the quality of services based on the VOC.
- CTQ tree components move from general to very specific.
  - 1. DMAIC = define, measure, analyze, improve, control
  - 2. PDSA = plan, do, study, act

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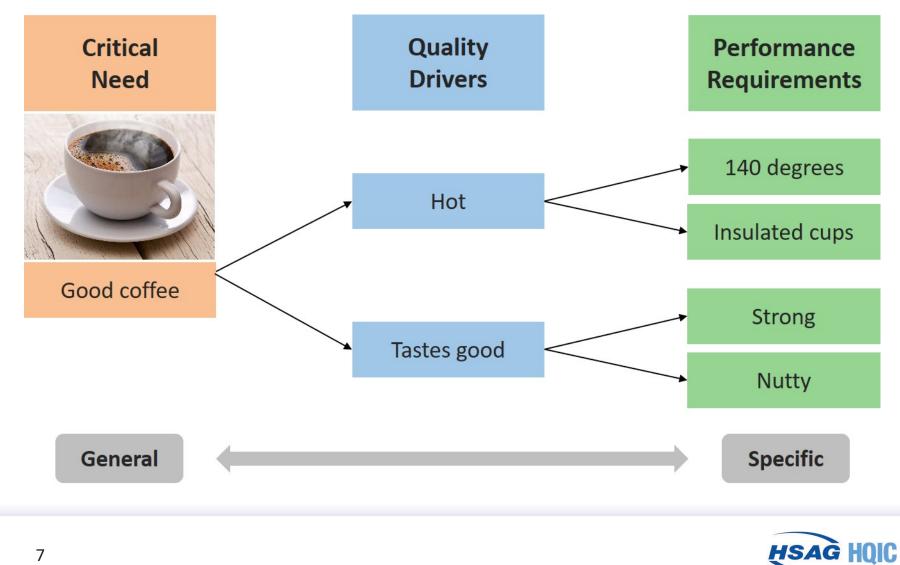


# **Components of the CTQ Tree**





## CTQ Tree: Example 1

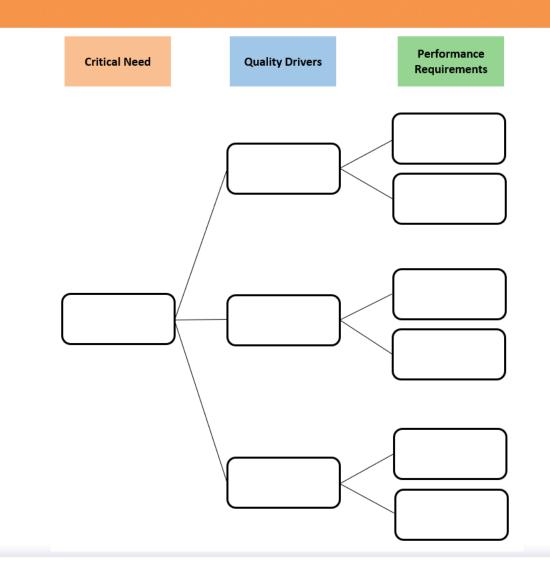


## CTQ Tree: Example 2

Critical Need	Quality Drivers	Performance Requirements
	Service	Staff availability and skill set
		Bed availability
		Emergency department throughput
	Cost	Maximize fast-track care/efficiencies
Good Care (VOC)		Appropriateness of care
		Consolidate/centralize services
	Customer Satisfaction	Timely
		Transparent
		Attentive staff
	Clinical	Accurate diagnosis
	Excellence	Appropriate treatment
	LACEMENCE	Timely care



# HSAG CTQ Tree Worksheet



9 Template available at: www.hsag.com/hqic-quality-series



# Why Use a CTQ Tree?

- To assist in developing a data collection plan.
- To identify key metrics.
- To ensure you are meeting the needs of your customers.



*"If you can't measure it, you can't change it."* 

– Peter Drucker



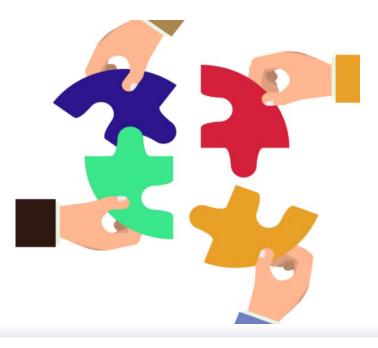
# Key Take-Aways

• It's important to identify your customers.

Internal and external

- The VOC assists in identifying what is important to your customers.
- The CTQ tree assists in translating the VOC into metrics.
- Key components of the CTQ tree are:
  - Critical need
  - Quality driver
  - Performance requirement

- A CTQ tree is useful in creating a data management plan.
  - DMAIC: *define*
  - PDSA: plan







# Thank you!

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