

## Summative Evaluations

The Summative Evaluation focus is on outcomes following the conclusion of the activity. The purpose is to determine if the activity's learning outcomes have been achieved – especially long term. This evaluation does not provide immediate feedback such as noted in a typical exit activity evaluation. For the purposes for continuing nursing education it is usually a follow up evaluation at 30, 60, 90 days to 6 months following the completion of the activity. The goal is to determine if practice has changed as a result of participating in the activity or to ascertain if barriers exist. Typical survey questions might be,

*List 1 way that you have incorporated concepts learned in "X" educational activity into your practice of nursing.*

*If unable to incorporate change into your practice what barriers have you encountered?*

The participant is usually contacted by questionnaires or surveys via an electronic method. The contact may also be via mail, although the response rate is usually lower or by evaluating the employment setting (if a method is available). The methods include self-reported change in behaviors, change in quality outcomes, return on investment (ROI), or observation of performance. Other methods to collect data might be observations observed or recorded by others or performance assessments as in simulation setting.

Once the data is collected the Nurse Planner and Planning Committee evaluate to ascertain if the learning activity's outcomes have been achieved.

Not every activity is needs a Summative Evaluation.