Gaps may be defined as the difference between “the way things are” and “the way they should be”. The easiest gaps to identify are those relating to knowledge. A “learning or professional practice gap” is the term used to describe a learner’s deficiency or shortcoming, which if eliminated results in improvements in knowledge, competence and/or performance that can potentially improve health outcomes.

**Identifying Gaps**

The process involves first establishing who the learners are (i.e. what is their level of training and expertise) and then determining what skills they have, what skills they need and

- **Surveys:** needs assessment; client survey, staff surveys
- **Audits:** Hand Hygiene, PPE, reprocessing,
- **Surveillance:** data can identify system level gaps and strengths in infection prevention practices

**Activities**

Choose activities that will communicate knowledge to learners. Training delivery methods keep changing, and you may discover that it’s time to revise your approach to training depending on your audience and your identified gaps.

- **Games:** IPAC Trivia
- **Contests with incentives!**
- **From survey results:** Working Groups