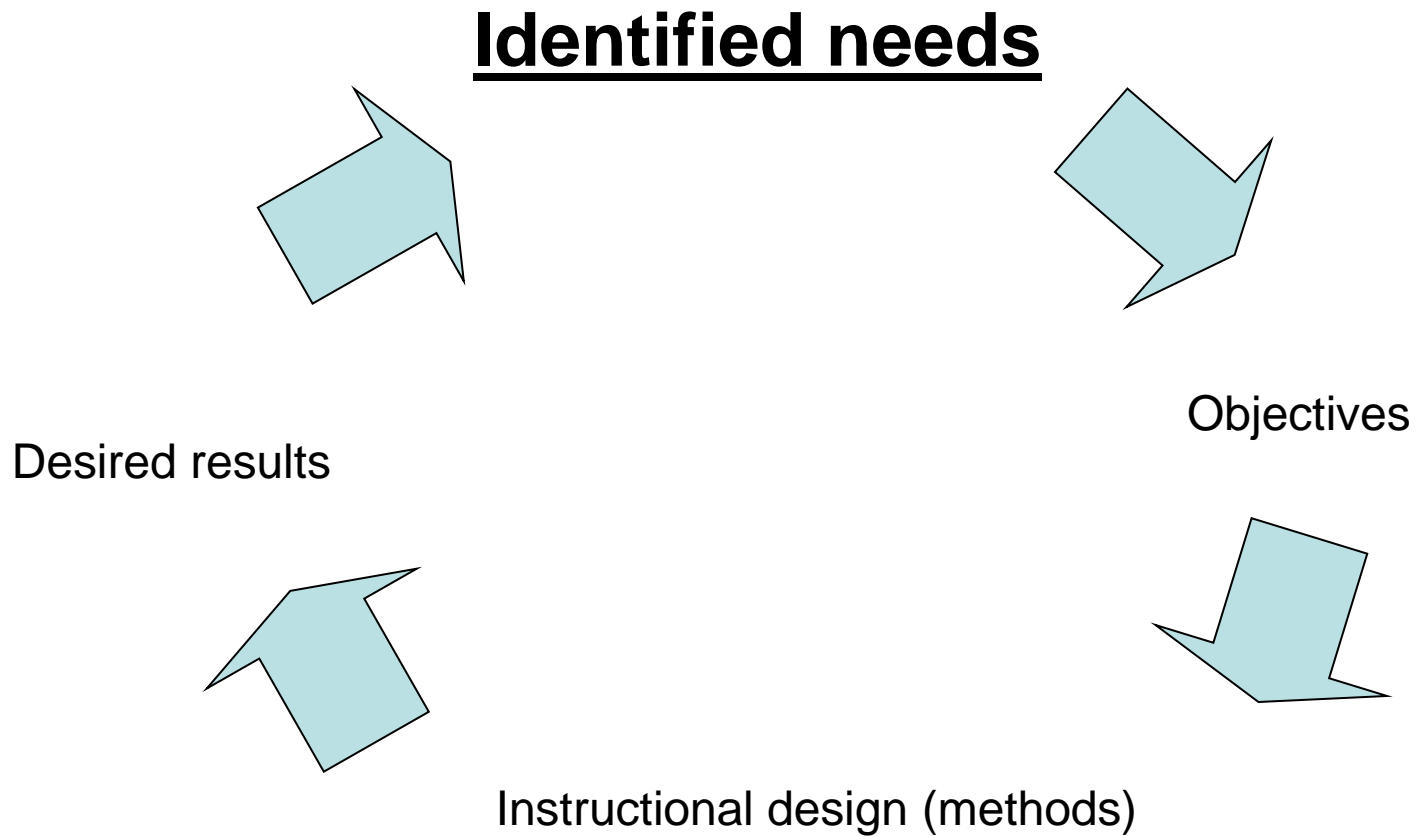


# Needs Linkages



# Needs

- There are two aspects to Needs
  - The documents which will contain the evidence of the need for the education and will function as references
  - The needs statement which is usually several paragraphs long and tells the story of the need for the education and references the needs documents

# Statement of Need

- The statement of need is the overall need for the educational activity that relates to the target audience and derives from a Needs Assessment
- Educational needs provide the reason for offering CME activities. They represent a deficit in knowledge, skills, attitudes and/or behavior among prospective participants
- A minimum of 3 needs documents are required

# Needs Statement

- The statement stems from data of bad outcomes, bad performance on quality indicators, barriers to accomplishing quality care, new guidelines that have not been widely disseminated, or data inside one's institution from overuse, underuse or misuse of drugs, devices or referrals.
- The needs statement should not merely state that physicians need to know the material or that they have to stay up to date or that they have to take a board exam

# Analogy

- Its like the background section in a grant. It describes what we know and why more work in this area is needed.
- Historically many of these were actually used as the course description in a brochure, when a course description is a summary of the activity and not the explanation of the need
- In other words...why are we teaching this stuff?

# Examples of Needs Documents

Expert	Participant	Observed	Environmental Screening
Planning Cmte	Evaluations	Health system analysis	Epidemiologic data
Departmental Chair	Focus panel	Clinical observation	Lay Press
Topic Expert	Organizational assessment	M&M	
Expert panels	Requests	Epidemiological data	
Peer review		National guidelines	
Research findings		Database analysis	

# Final Comments

- Sample needs statements can be found on our website at [www.HopkinsCME.edu](http://www.HopkinsCME.edu)
- The next slide set will be on objectives