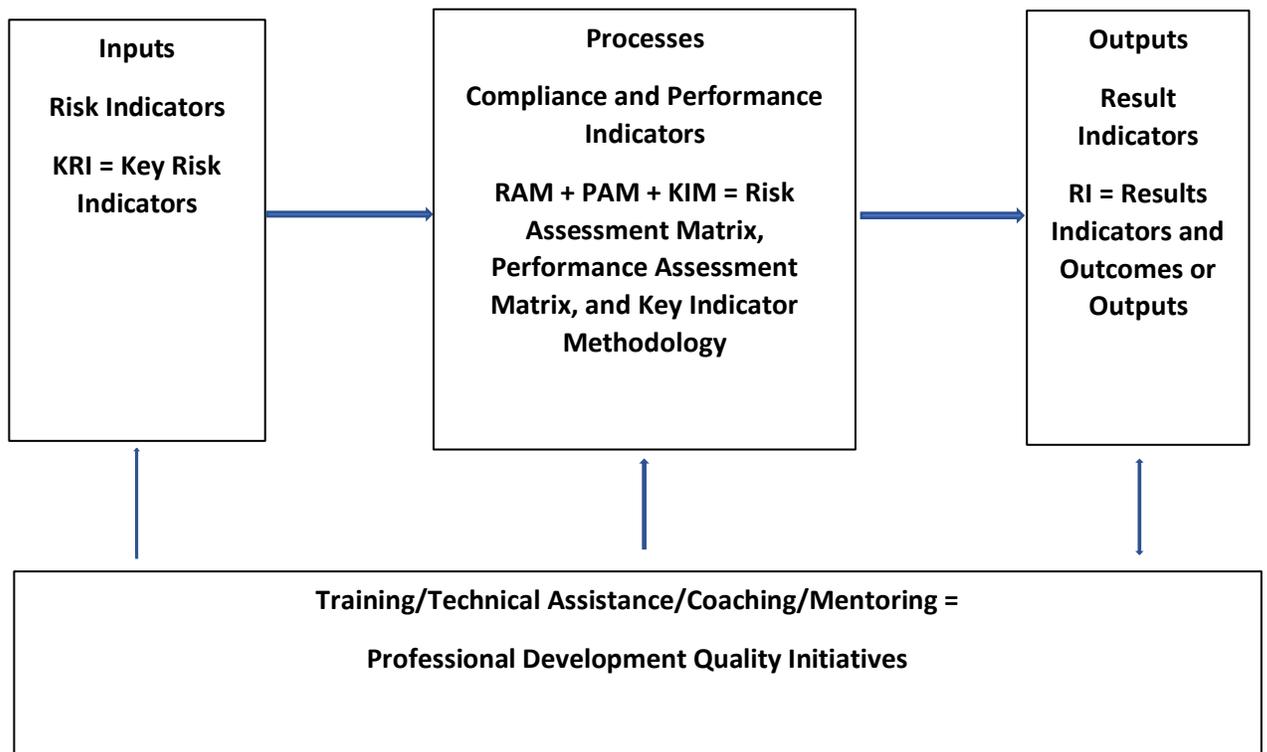


**ECPQIM5: Early Childhood Program Quality Improvement/Indicator Model Version 5 Technical
Research Note**

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The purpose of this brief technical research note is to introduce the latest version of the Early Childhood Program Quality Improvement/Indicator Model (Version 5). This latest version takes into account the previous versions of the ECPQIMs and incorporates the latest monitoring research into the model.



The above figure depicts the relationships of risk indicators to compliance and performance indicators to outcome/result indicators. It also demonstrates the importance of quality initiatives such as professional development systems engaged in training, technical assistance, coaching, and mentoring of teachers. ECPQIM5 has taken all the best components from previous versions and has combined it in this present Version Five.

Another way of thinking about the relationships is to think in terms of a typical information system that involves inputs, processes, and outputs. ECPQIM2 was organized in this fashion while the other versions of ECPQIM were organized more according to the dictates of a logic model.

The best example of this version of the model is the Head Start Grantee Performance Management System (GPMS) that is under development and revision as we speak. There has been a great deal of interest in developing similar models in various state and Canadian Provinces. Head Start appears to have the lead in developing this state-of-the-art program monitoring system.

The other thing to notice with ECPQIM5 is the balance of compliance and performance indicators. This can occur with a deliberate effort to build in best practices or promising practices or through the use of other quality initiatives from Quality Rating and Improvement Systems, Accreditation Systems, or Professional Development Systems. And it is with the constant tie ins to professional development that really increases the strength of this latest version of ECPQIM5.

Also, the addition of Risk Indicators is an important design consideration which should have been introduced much earlier. It has been present in licensing and compliance but it is a critical element that will help to either make or break a program monitoring system. It helps to get programs off on a good start and not behind the eight ball.

As with any program monitoring system it is attempting to find the critical paths of those agencies that are successful and those that are struggling. It is through the use of validation studies to determine what the appropriate paths are statistically so that the proper balance of key indicators can be put in place to produce the greatest outputs/outcomes/results.

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