

Questions to Answer Before Creating a Community

Updated February 24, 2010

1. What would be the mission of this community and what core challenges will be addressed? Are these practical issues (for example: improving the implementation of TB infection control methods) or advocacy issues?
2. Who do you envision using this community? (For example: program manager, administrators, clinicians, academics, etc. -- catering to a diverse mix of stakeholders is strongly recommended.)
3. Who would the "power users" in this community be? In addition to moderators, we suggest you identify champions, i.e. professionals with a vested interest in the use of this community.
4. Identify potential "heated" topics and debates and be ready to address them in your community. Open collaboration means just that: discussions and resources posted by members are not screened or reviewed before publication for the sake of neutrality and openness (of course, prompt action is taken against commercial or other posts violating the [Terms of Use](#)).
5. Can you think of 1-2 individuals who might be interested in joining you as co-moderators, and whose practice and area of expertise (and/or geographic location) is somewhat different and therefore complementary to your own?
6. If you are a potential moderator for this community, are you ready to make time to contribute to the community (remember: this is easy with email integration and instant notifications) or do you have a support system in place to help you with participation?
7. Are you ready and interested in working with us to engage in various initiatives such as outreach and partnerships for your community?

-- Thank you for your interest, and feel free to [send us your answers to these questions](#) as a suggestion for creating a community. Sincerely, the GHDonline team --