"Reasons-Not-To":

Content, Value Cited, Reply, and Way Forward

Reason-Not-To	Content	Value Cited	Reply	Way Forward
"HIPAA"	Can't identify patients/clients	Patient privacy	Evaluation research can be HIPAA-compliant	Get permission or get QI exemption
"IRB"	Need IRB approval	Rights of human subjects	QI is exempt from IRB	Consider define as QI project
"Not my Job "	Evaluation is outside mission; Lack of resources	Mission loyalty	Ethical responsibility to know results	Start where you're at
"Evidence-based"	Don't need evaluation research; we're already doing "evidence-based" treatment	Evaluation science	Individual, not population-based; Data from research centers far from real-world settings	Outcomes-based program evaluation
"We Just Know What's Right"	A political philosophy, accepted, makes evaluation unnecessary	Advantages of less restrictive, community-based care	Virtues of community care do not eliminate need for hospital care; balance needed	Population-based evaluation of outcomes with varying balances of community-based and hospital care
"We Don't Know Enough"	Evaluation methodology not developed	Evaluation science	Evaluation methods exist, even if at early stage	Use existing knowledge base
"No Baseline Data"	Lack of historical data; sometimes, no consensus on metrics	Good science needs data	Evaluation, even on a small scale, will be worthwhile	Start small, where possible
"There's Too Much to Do"	Urgent administrative needs	Need to set priorities	Yes, but…	Foster evaluation ethic among parties; start small; evaluate *some*thing