

# American Hospital Association Physician Leadership Forum July 19, 2011

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Dean**

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<http://nashhealthpolicy.blogspot.com/>



**Tobacco Smoke Enema (1750s-1810s)**

The tobacco enema was used to infuse tobacco smoke into a patient's rectum for various medical purposes, primarily the resuscitation of drowning victims. A rectal tube inserted into the anus was connected to a fumigator and bellows that forced the smoke towards the rectum. The warmth of the smoke was thought to promote respiration, but doubts about the credibility of tobacco enemas led to the popular phrase "blow smoke up one's ass."

**This Old Tool has been reintroduced in Washington D.C. by  
the New Administration.  
Are you starting to feel it**

# HealthData Management

## HEALTH I.T. **CHANGES COMING**

President Obama signed the health care reform bill in March, but its effect on information technology is just starting to unfold. Here's what you need to know. **PAGE 18**

iPhone **sparks**  
smartphone innovation **pg. 25**



INSIDE THIS WEEK: A 14-PAGE SPECIAL REPORT ON AGEING

# The Economist

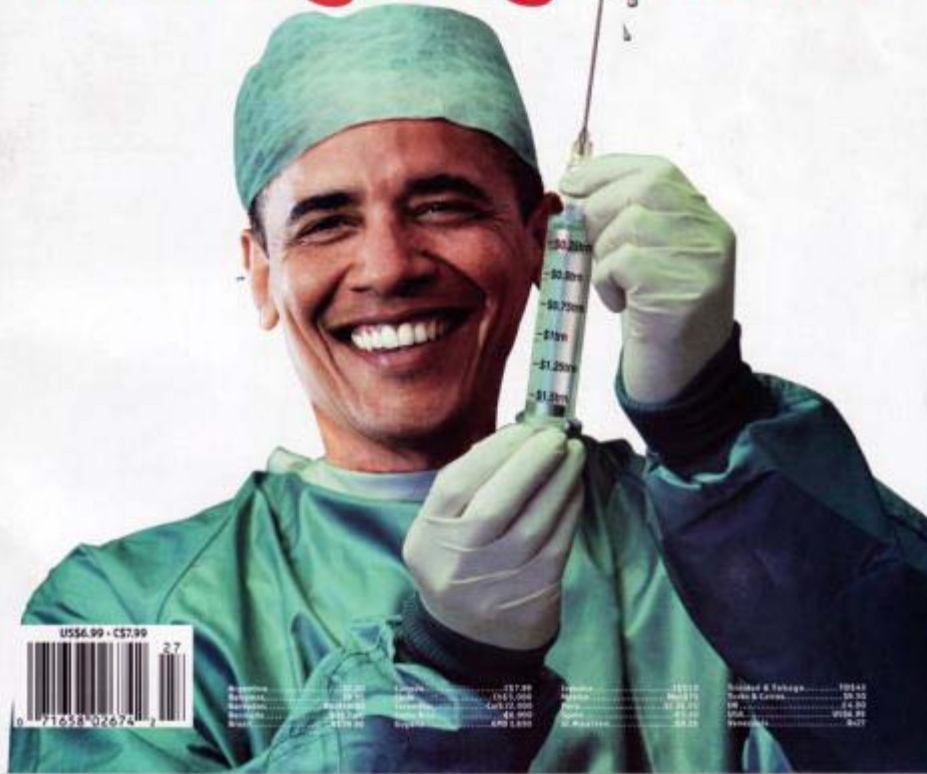
JUNE 27TH-JULY 3RD 2009

Economist.com

- Iran's agony
- The mystery of Mrs Merkel
- Asia's consumers to the rescue?
- The Greeks and those marbles
- Evolution and depression

## Reforming health care

# This is going to hurt



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**FUTURE  
PRACTICE  
ALTERNATIVES  
IN MEDICINE**  
**DAVID B. NASH, M.D.**

IGAKU-SHOIN New York · Tokyo

# FUTURE PRACTICE ALTERNATIVES IN MEDICINE

SECOND EDITION

DAVID B. NASH, M.D.

IGAKU-SHOIN New York • Tokyo

# **practicing** **MEDICINE** **in the 21st century**

Edited by: David B. Nash MD, MBA  
Alexandria Skoufalos, EdD  
Megan Hartman, MS  
Howard Horwitz, MPH



"When an entire profession is in a state of denial and caught in a whirlwind of confidence about its mission, its methods, and its effectiveness, facing the truth—however harsh—is the first step back from the brink. American medicine (and American Healthcare) is in that precise talismanic and Darwinian Scaevola by Douglas David Nash and Sanjaya Kumar's unvarnished shot across the bow we've been waiting for at least a decade.

In 1999 the Institute of Medicine issued an embarrassing and pivotal report (Is Error Inevitable) validating the annual unnecessary deaths of at least 40 thousand patients at the hands of medical error. Some eleven years later, while American Healthcare has become universally aware of the problem and equally aware that the solutions are far more difficult than thought, Patient Safety is still in the dark ages with tens of thousands still killed by mistake every year. Worse, the same country is confused about the other failure of the fee-for-service model to provide even the slightest incentive to improve the health of Americans. Quite the contrary, as Nash and Kumar point out with crushing honesty, we have a system that only succeeds financially in how people stay ill.

This book will be regarded in far one year as a major turning point in the history of health care. In the wake of congressional failure to pass even the most basic health insurance bill, pivoted off of healthcare reform, Donatus Basso (Is our best hope for spotting the start of the revolution) knows we are quite literally dying for it!"

John J. Reiss, MD, Director of Population Sciences, The Center for Health Care of the Future

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**DEMAND BETTER!**

**REVIVE OUR BROKEN HEALTHCARE SYSTEM**

Sanjaya Kumar, M.D., M.P.H.  
David B. Nash, M.D., M.B.A.



## DEMAND BETTER!

### REVIVE OUR BROKEN HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Much of the healthcare debate is a re-statement—the skyrocketing cost of direct patient care, the cost to more millions of currently uninsured people the administrative costs that eat up a large chunk of every healthcare dollar, the cost of defensive medicine to avert malpractice lawsuits. The core driver of the cost problem however, is a set of largely unchallenged beliefs about the safety and efficacy of our healthcare system. How can it be that we stand more than \$200 billion each year on medical care that fails to improve patients' health and often harms them?

The problem is cultural. We collaborate a collective mythology about American healthcare. We know, for example, that modern medicine is largely backed up by solid science like any other country. We've focused a great deal on safety improvement over the past decade and we trust that our healthcare will safely harm patients. Our physicians and hospitals are excited to deliver the right care that is expertly coordinated. Our medical schools are the envy of the world and offer the very best training of future physicians. All of this we know.

There is no easy fix to these problems, of course, but there is a best place to look for a solution. This is a book about debunking healthcare myths through the lens of quality. What it is and is not, why it is failing, how much of our present system has to be re-examined. Poor healthcare quality drives enormous uncertainty in clinical decision-making from patients or unexplained variation in payment for services and financial accountability for quality and patient safety from Redemptions. Quality by addressing each of these dimensions will transform the economics of our healthcare system. Greater safety, effectiveness and efficiency is possible.

This is not a utopian vision. It is based on a quality revolution that is already underway and is gradually transforming the way medical care is delivered in the US. It didn't need mandates from politicians, although it will need their support to achieve full.

This is a pivotal moment in American healthcare delivery, marked by tremendous innovation and accelerating improvements in safety and quality. Much of that innovation is aimed directly at building a better research base to compare the effectiveness of different treatments for the same medical condition, developing accountability mechanisms that work, piloting second generation performance models, paying greater attention to quality improvement in medical training curriculum and expanding access to quality care in rural and underserved areas.

As quality and safety evolution in healthcare delivery has begun, Physicians have various tools to help them make better decisions. Hospital and physician report cards are multiplying although they are in their infancy in the US, but have been jump-started by more than 100 hospitals and academic research centers. Performance initiatives continue to evolve, but they need to be implemented with a bundled system to minimize error and waste and to drive superior outcomes. Today's physicians need medical training that teaches them how to close their quality feedback loop and practice collaboratively.

Invite the reader to think he or she is one of those who is about to read some of the topics in this book will appreciate the manner in which DEMAND BETTER integrates these topics into a cohesive, practical approach to the problems and emerging solutions that are of great interest to them. DEMAND BETTER synthesizes the healthcare executive's many needs, integrates reports, organizations and publishes their book beyond our healthcare myths and stands on the front lines of the quality and safety evolution.

## About the Authors



**Sanjaya Kumar, MD, MPH**

Sanjaya Kumar, MD, MPH, is President, CEO and Chief Medical Officer of Quantros, Inc., a leader in web-based healthcare quality, data management and patient safety applications. Quantros products are used in one out of every three U.S. hospitals.

Dr. Kumar is devoted to an agenda aimed at improving the quality of care provided to patients by today's evolving health care delivery systems. He has been the clinical lead on many cooperative clinical quality improvement projects.

Dr. Kumar serves on numerous quality improvement committees, task forces and working groups, both at the national level and state level and is a frequent speaker at national healthcare conferences and meetings. Dr. Kumar has been published widely in peer reviewed medical journals and has hosted various healthcare industry conferences.

Dr. Kumar authored the best-selling *Care Survivor* in the U.S. Health System which was published in 2008.



**David B. Nash, MD, M.B.A.**

David Nash is the Founding Dean and the Dr. Raymond C. and Debra N. Granoff Professor of Health Policy at the Jefferson School of Population Health.

Dr. Nash is a board certified internist who is internationally recognized for his work in outcomes research, medical staff development and quality-of-care improvement and has been repeatedly named to Modern Healthcare's list of the 100 Most Powerful Persons in Healthcare.

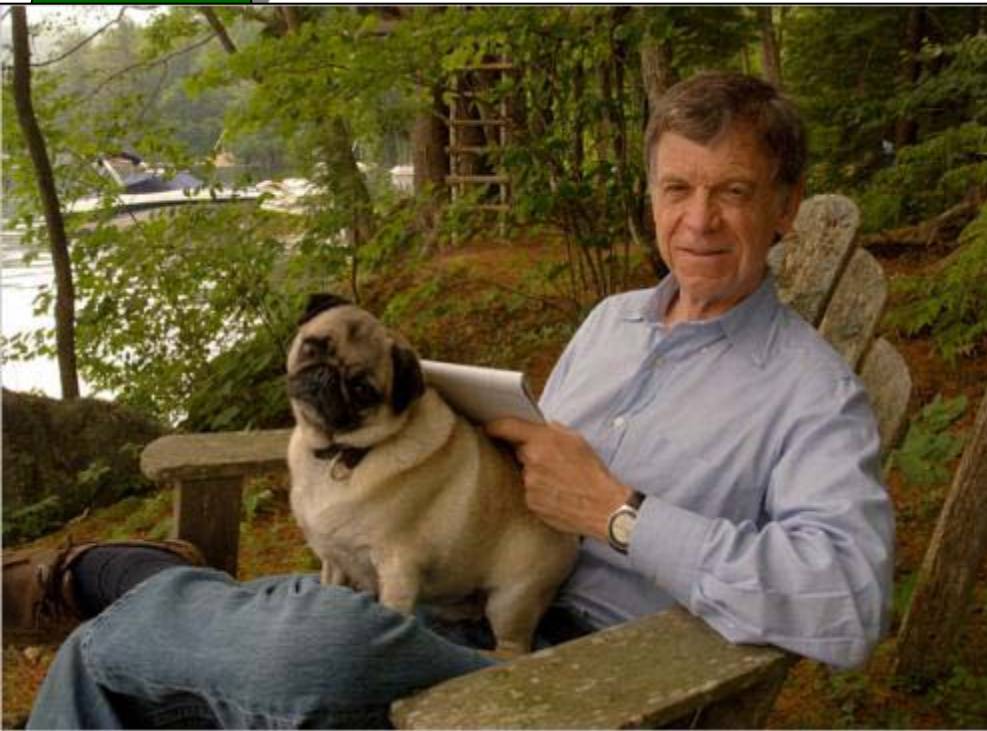
He is a consultant in both the public and private sectors. In December 2005, he was named to the Board of Directors for Humana Inc., one of the largest publicly traded health care companies. He recently was appointed to the Board of Man Life Health—a fourth generation system in suburban Philadelphia, PA. From 1999-2008, he chaired the Board Committee on Quality and Safety.

Through publications, public appearances, his blog and an online column on the Page Today he reaches more than 100,000 persons every month.

Dr. Nash received his BA in economics from Pennsylvania State University, his MD from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and his MBA in Health Administration from the Wharton School of Business where he was a former Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar.



“The institutionalization of leadership training is one of the key attributes of good leadership.”



John P. Kotter,  
Harvard Business School

**... all hospitals are accountable to  
the public  
for their degree of success...  
If the initiative is not taken by the  
medical profession, it will be taken  
by the lay public.**

*1918 Am. College of Surgery*

IMMIGRATION (P.35) | MILLER TIME (P.64) | P&G's BUZZ MOMS (P.32)

The McGraw-Hill Companies

# BusinessWeek

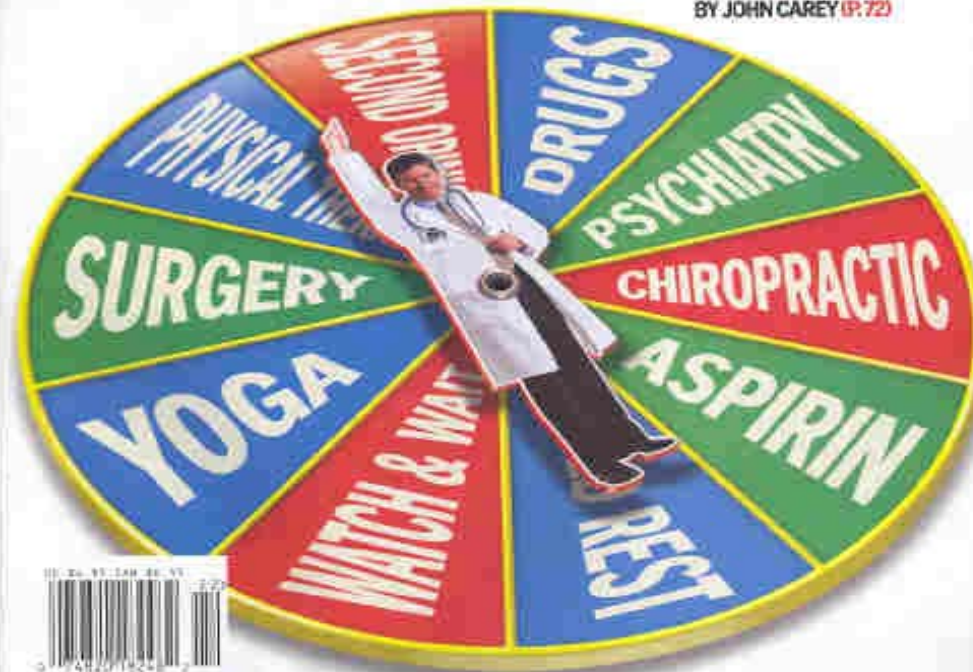
MAY 29, 2006

www.businessweek.com

## Medical Guesswork

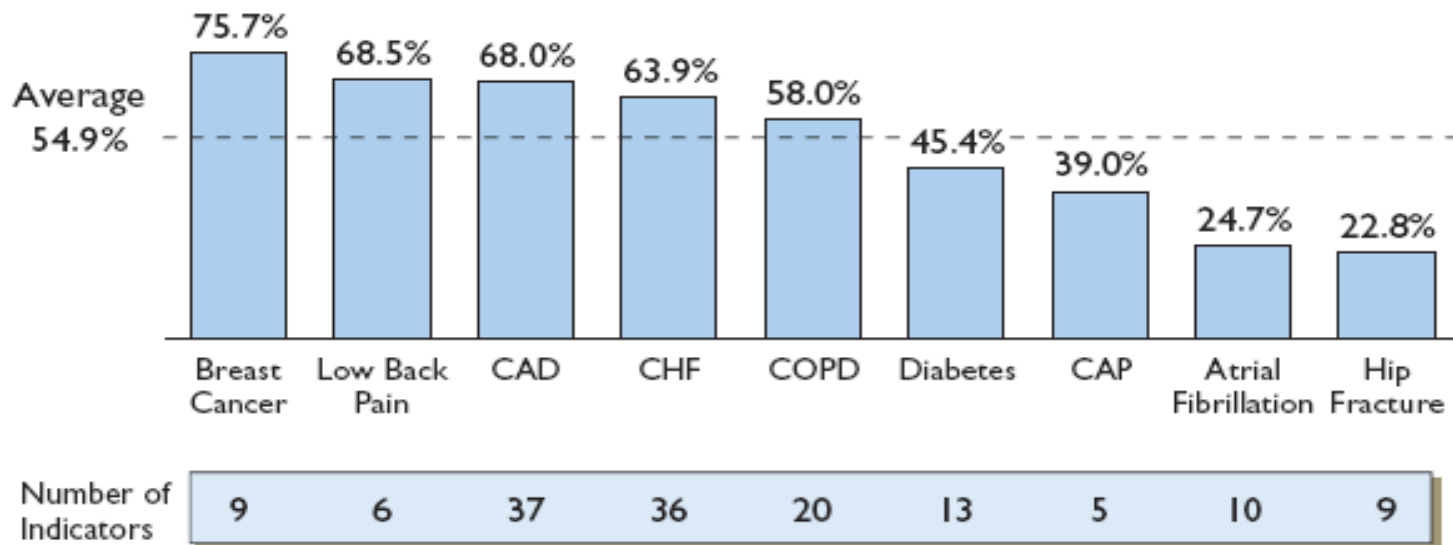
From heart surgery to prostate care, the medical industry knows little about which treatments really work

BY JOHN CAREY (P.72)



# Uneven Adherence to the Evidence

Percentage of Recommended Care Received, by Condition<sup>1</sup>



Source: McGlynn EA, et al., "The Quality of Health Care Delivered to Adults in the United States," *New England Journal of Medicine*. June 26, 2003: 2635–2645.

# Institute of Medicine's Definition of Quality

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**“The degree to which health services for individuals and populations increase the likelihood of desired health outcomes and are consistent with current professional knowledge.”**

Institute of Medicine. Crossing the quality chasm: A new health system for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. March 2001

Advance Copy Uncorrected Proofs

FIRST, DO NO HARM



TO ERR IS HUMAN

BUILDING A SAFER HEALTH SYSTEM

I N S T I T U T E   O F   M E D I C I N E

**The New York Times Magazine**

MARCH 16, 2003 / SECTION 6

**This  
War's  
Medic**

# Half of what doctors know is wrong.

Can prevention kill you?  
Is it ever O.K. for a doctor to  
refuse to treat a patient?  
Are nurses expendable?  
Should the results of an insidious  
experiment be ignored?  
Are men the stronger sex?  
What's really responsible for  
the malpractice morass?  
Can old-fashioned  
treatments still work?

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—Allen H. Neuharth, Founder, Sept. 15, 1982

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Today's debate: Medical errors

## Why do so many still die needlessly in hospitals?

### Our view:

**Part-voluntary, part-mandatory reporting system can reduce deaths.**

When a report came out last week from a private group claiming that nearly 200,000 hospital patients die each year from preventable medical errors, it promptly sparked a fierce controversy.

The estimate was double the number found in a landmark study in 1999 by the Institute of Medicine (IOM), a federal advisory group, and the lead author of that earlier study went on the offensive. He charged that the new report used flawed research methods that inflated the fatalities.

But why argue? The difference alone makes a more telling point: Five years after the IOM report drew front-page headlines and widespread outrage, there still is not even a sure way to measure the problem. And that appalling fact should concern any prospective hospital patient — which is to say, everyone.

This year, Congress is finally doing something, though hardly enough.

Before the end of the year, it is expected to install new incentives for medical personnel to report errors. The new system, already approved by both houses, would allow doctors, nurses and other hospital workers to report mistakes anonymously. Independent analysts would then look for patterns and recommend changes. Lawyers and employers would be kept in the dark.

That's an important step.

Suppose, for instance, that a nurse gives a patient the wrong pill because its name and packaging resemble a drug next to it on the hospital's pharmacy shelf. Neither she nor the pharmacist will want to reveal the error, for fear of being punished or sued. The error likely will recur.

But if they can confidentially report the problem, experts can devise ways to improve the packaging and placement of med-

### Mistakes cost lives

Highlights from a new study of medical errors involving Medicare patients hospitalized from 2000 through 2002:

- ▶ Out of 37 million hospitalizations, 1.14 million "safety incidents" occurred.
- ▶ 263,864 deaths were directly attributed to the incidents.
- ▶ The safety incidents accounted for \$8.54 billion in additional Medicare costs.
- ▶ Nearly 60% of safety incidents involved the failure to diagnose and treat conditions that developed in the hospital, bedsores and post-operative infections.

Source: HealthGrader's "Patient Safety in American Hospitals" study released July 27

icines to reduce the risk of simple human error. Lives will be saved.

Six states that have set up similar procedures have seen a significant increase in reported mistakes.

That's clearly the right way to handle relatively minor mistakes, even when they result in some harm.

Even so, the picture will still be woefully incomplete — and patients will remain at risk — unless the reporting of errors that kill or cause the most serious injuries is made mandatory.

Only 22 states currently have mandatory error-reporting systems. The others rely on hospital-industry watchdogs or malpractice lawyers to be on the lookout for mistakes.

The argument over numbers is proof that leaving the solution to the courts is not a prescription for eliminating deadly errors.

Five years ago, the IOM recommended a two-tiered approach, part voluntary, part mandatory. It is still the most sensible compromise.

The question is why five years have elapsed with so little being done. With tens of thousands dying needlessly every year, the next life at risk may be your own.



MAY 1, 2006

www.time.com AOL Keyword: TIME

INSIDE THE WHITE HOUSE SHAKE-UP • PREVIEW: HOT SUMMER MOVIES

# TIME



## WHAT DOCTORS HATE ABOUT HOSPITALS

An insider's view of what can go wrong—and how you can improve your odds of getting the right treatment

BY NANCY GIBBS & AMANDA BOWER

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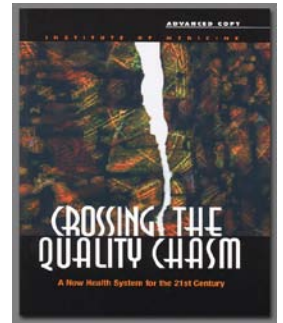
I N S T I T U T E   O F   M E D I C I N E



# CROSSING THE QUALITY CHASM

A New Health System for the 21st Century

# Institute of Medicine Report 2001



## Key Dimensions of the Quality Healthcare Delivery

**Safe**: avoiding injuries to patients from the care that is intended to help them.

**Effective**: providing services based on scientific knowledge to all who could benefit and refraining from providing services to those not likely to benefit (avoiding **underuse** and **overuse**, respectively).

**Patient-centered**: providing care that is **respectful** of and responsive to individual patient preferences, needs, and values and ensuring that patient values guide all clinical decisions.

**Timely**: **reducing waits** and sometimes harmful **delays** for both those who receive and those who give care.

**Equitable**: providing care that does **not vary** in quality because of personal characteristics such as gender, ethnicity, geographic location, and socioeconomic status.

**Efficient**: **avoiding waste, including waste of equipment, supplies, ideas, and energy.**

Institute of Medicine. Crossing the quality chasm: A new health system for the 21st century. March 2001; 5-6

**PATIENTS' VOICES IN QUALITY**

Floyd J. Fowler Jr., Carrie A. Levin & Karen R. Sepucha

**NARRATIVE MATTERS**

Why Was Dialysis The Predetermined Route For A 95-Year-Old?

**THE CARE SPAN**

Improving Quality In Care Transitions  
Mary D. Naylor et al.

AT THE INTERSECTION OF HEALTH, HEALTH CARE, AND POLICY

# Health Affairs

**Still Crossing The Quality Chasm**

**The Ongoing Quality Improvement Journey**

Mark R. Chassin & Jerod M. Loeb

**Making The Trade-Off With Costs**

Mark V. Pauly

559

574

**Two Perspectives On The Costs Of Medical Errors**

John C. Goodman et al.

Jill Van Den Bos et al.

**Adverse Events: Ten Times More Of Them Than We Thought?**

David C. Classen et al.

581

**Our War On Central-Line Infections: A Model For Quality Improvement**

Peter J. Pronovost, Jill A. Marsteller & Christine A. Goeschel

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**Preventing Deaths At Ascension Health**

David Pryor et al.

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**Assessing The Premier Pay-For-Performance Experiment**

Rachel M. Werner et al.

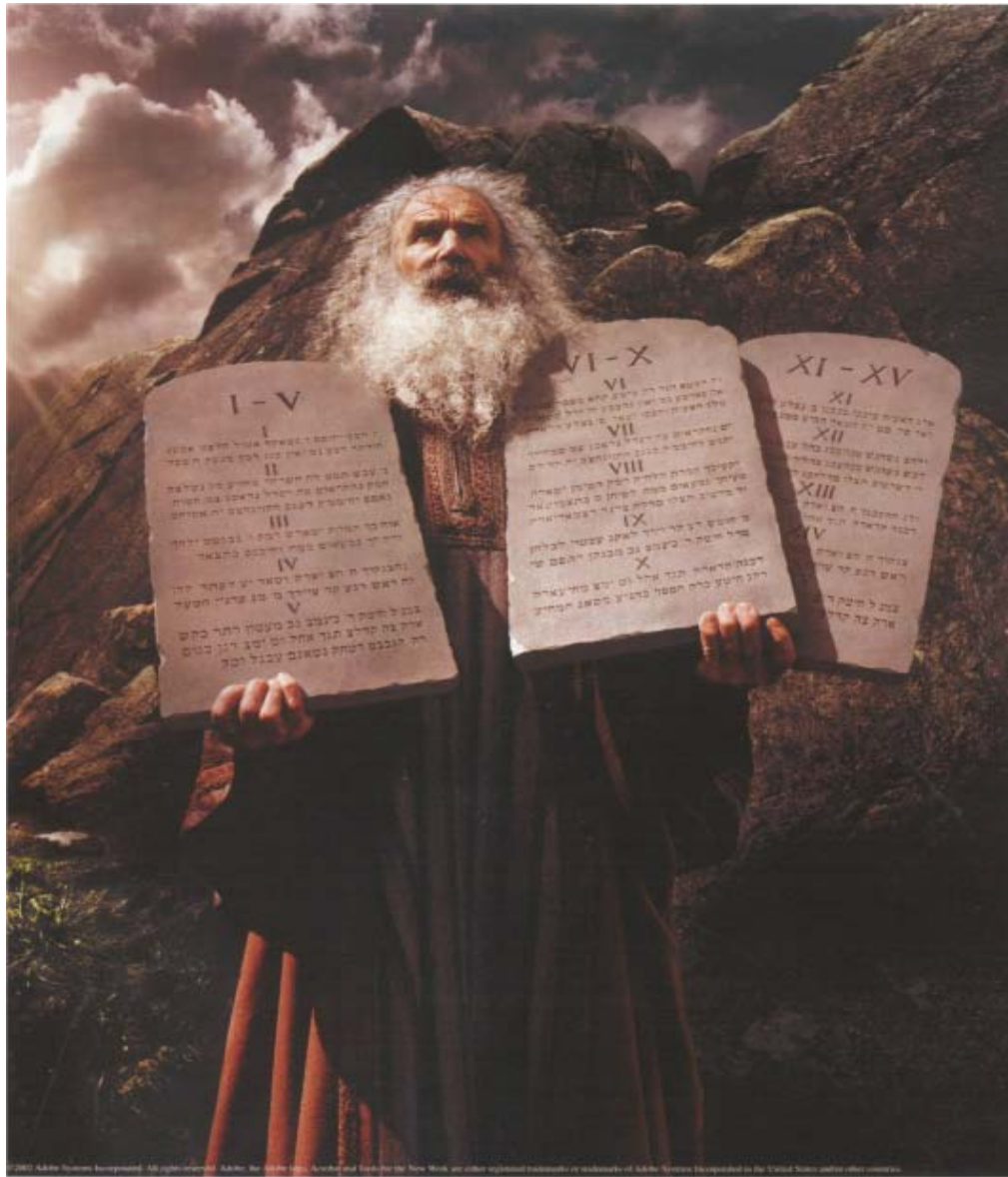
690

**PLUS: Quality In The Public Health System**

Honoré, Wright, Berwick, Clancy, Lee, Nowinski & Kah

WWW.HEALTHAFFAIRS.ORG

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# Ten Commandments Crossing the Quality Chasm

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## Current Rules

1. Care is based primarily on visits
2. Professional autonomy drives variability
3. Professionals control care
4. Information is a record
5. Decision making is based on training and experience

## New Rules

1. Care is based on continuous healing relationships
2. Care is customized according to patient needs and values
3. The patient is the source of control
4. Knowledge is shared freely
5. Decision making is evidence-based

*Don Berwick 2002*

# Ten Commandments (*cont.d*)

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## Current Rules

6. “Do no harm” is an individual responsibility
7. Secrecy is necessary
8. The system reacts to needs
9. **Cost reduction is sought**
10. Preference is given to professional roles over the system

## New Rules

6. Safety is a system property
7. Transparency is necessary
8. Needs are anticipated
9. **Waste is continuously decreased**
10. Cooperation among clinicians is a priority

*Don Berwick 2002*



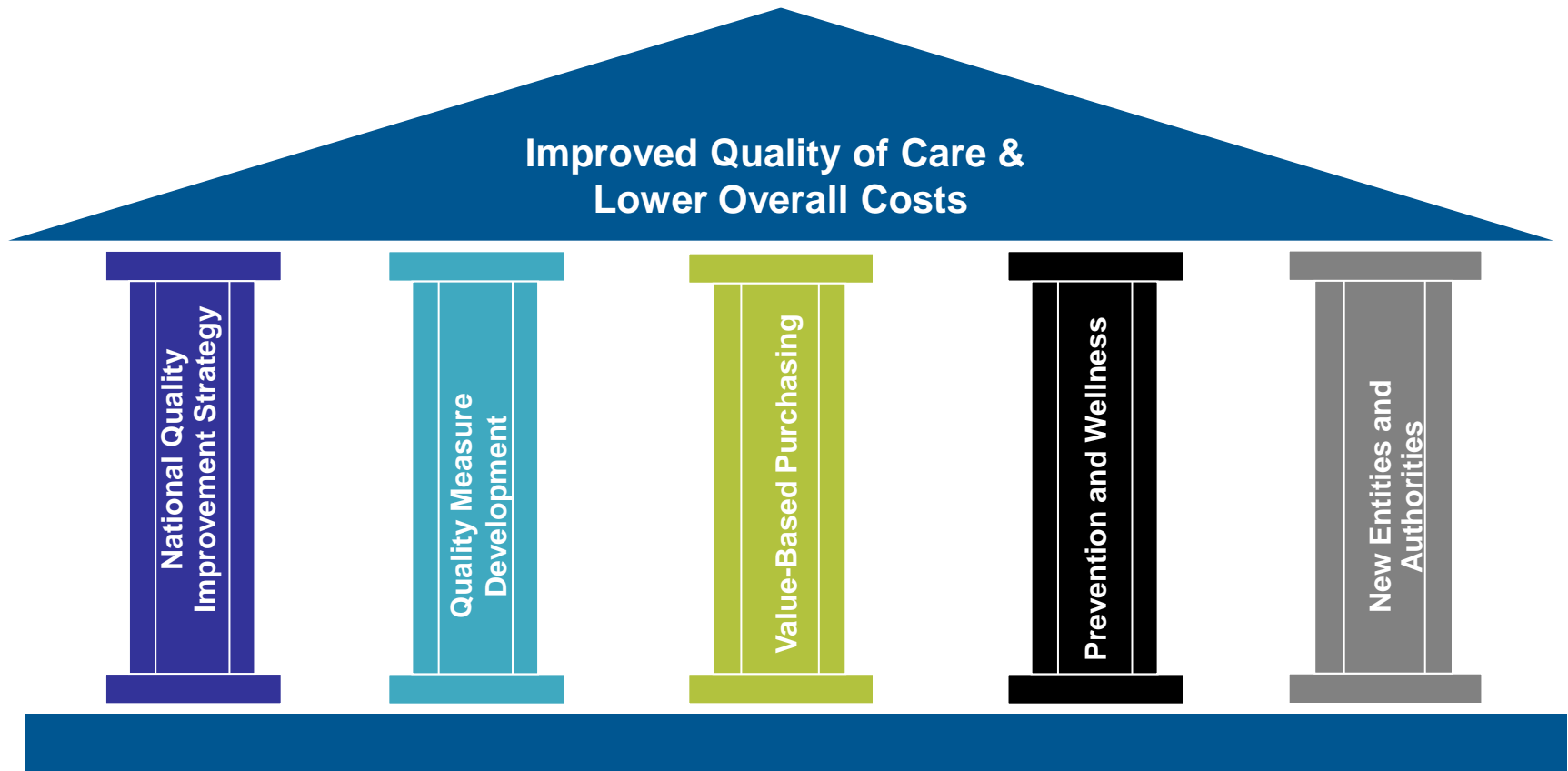
George Abbott, John Caldwell, Scott Arthur Masear, Rod Rossi, and P.C. Vay

**“Please listen carefully as our menu makes no sense.”**

92 Harvard Business Review | February 2008 | hbr.org



# Health Reform Builds on the Current Quality Infrastructure



# The Four Underlying Concepts of Cost Containment Through Payment Reform.....

Tying payment to **evidence and outcomes** rather than per unit of service

“**Bundling**” payments for physician and hospital services by episode or condition

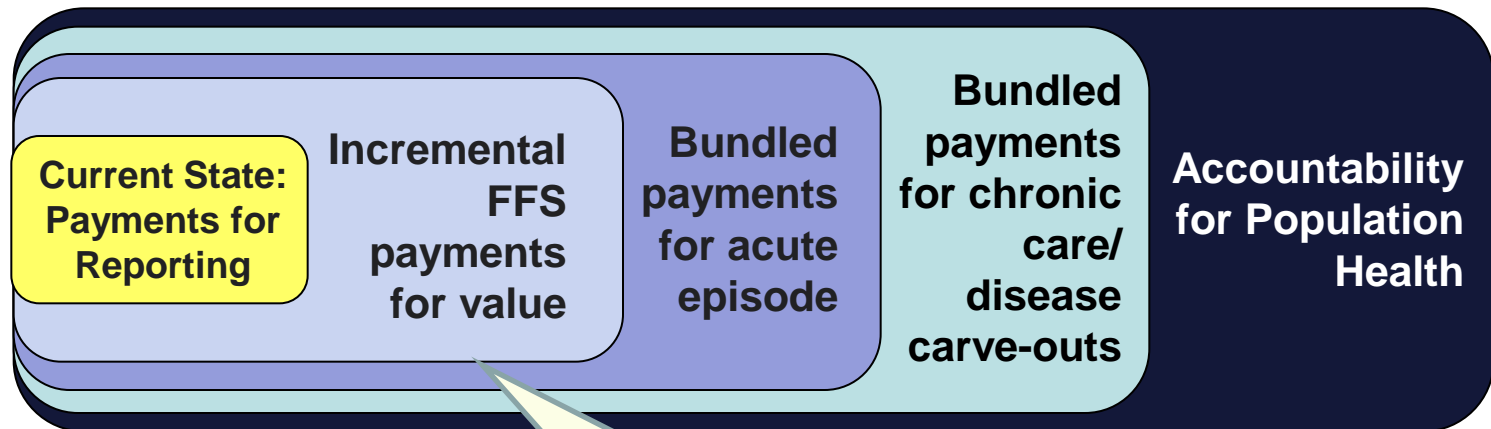
Reimbursement for the **coordination of care** in a medical home

**Accountability for results**  
- patient management across care settings

# Range of Models in Existence or Development

Increasing assumed risk by provider

Increasing coordination/integration required



P4P, "Never" Events

# The Medical Home is Something Fundamentally Different

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## • Usual Care

Relies on the clinician



Care provided to those who come in



Performance is assumed



Innovation is infrequent



Includes only primary care



Navigation and care



Management not available



H.I.T. may or may not support care



## • Medical Home

Relies on the team

Care provided for all

Performance is measured

Innovation occurs regularly

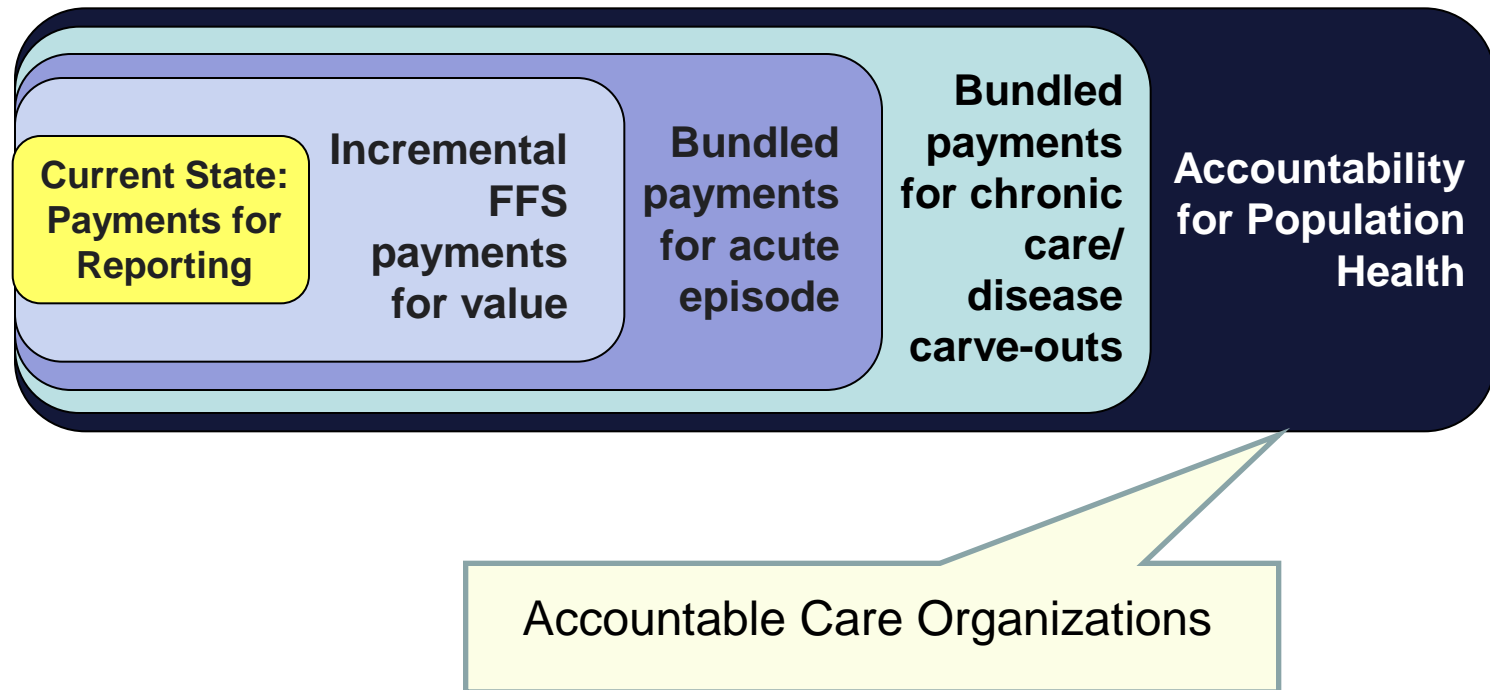
Includes mental health, PharmD's and others

Navigation and care

Management are required

H.I.T. must support care

# Range of Models in Existence or Development



# Accountable Care Organizations

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## Key distinguishing characteristics:

1. Medicare patients
2. Provider driven
3. Includes specialists
4. No new \$ - shared savings

# What did we learn from the Physician Group Practice (PGP) demonstration?

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1. An integrated organization
2. Expending resources on improving quality
3. Limiting unnecessary services
4. Dedicated physician leadership
5. Central role of Health I.T.
6. Manage population health

# The “Triple Aim” under CMS

---

1. Better care for individuals
2. Better health for populations
3. Slower growth in costs through improvements in care



By Susan DeVore and R. Wesley Champion

# Driving Population Health Through Accountable Care Organizations

DOI: 10.1377/hlthaff.2010.0935  
HEALTH AFFAIRS 30,  
NO. 1 (2011): 41-50  
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The People-to-People Health  
Foundation, Inc.

**ABSTRACT** Accountable care organizations, scheduled to become part of the Medicare program under the Affordable Care Act, have been promoted as a way to improve health care quality, reduce growth in costs, and increase patients' satisfaction. It is unclear how these organizations will develop. Yet in principle they will have to meet quality metrics, adopt improved care processes, assume risk, and provide incentives for population health and wellness. These capabilities represent a radical departure from today's health delivery system. In May 2010 the Premier healthcare alliance formed the Accountable Care Implementation Collaborative, which consists of health systems that seek to pursue accountability by forming partnerships with private payers to evolve from fee-for-service payment models to new, value-driven models. This article describes how participants in the collaborative are building models and developing best practices that can inform the implementation of accountable care organizations as well as public policies.

**Susan DeVore** (susan.devore@premierinc.com) is president and chief executive officer of the Premier healthcare alliance, in Charlotte, North Carolina.

**R. Wesley Champion** is a senior vice president at Premier Consulting Solutions, in Charlotte.

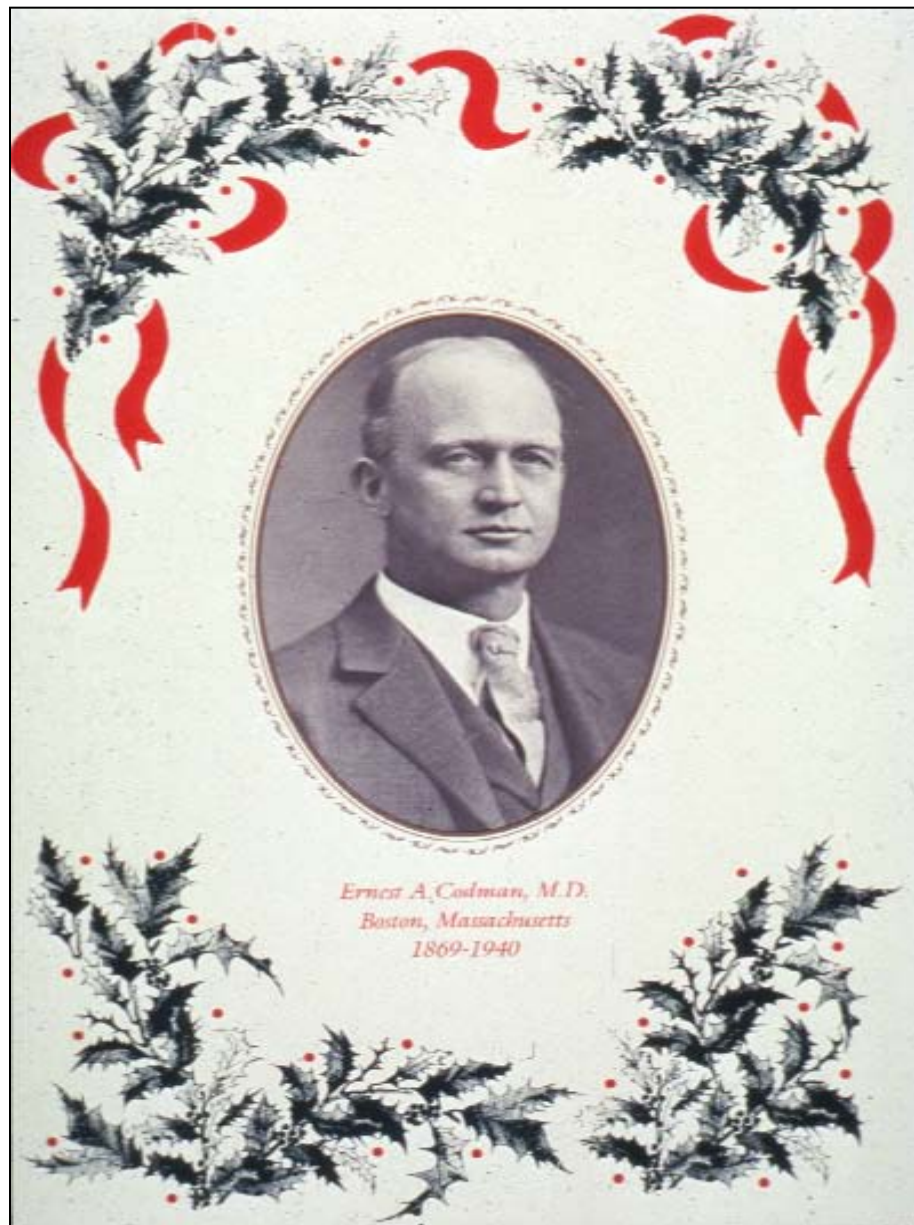
*The*  
TIPPING POINT

*How Little Things Can  
Make a Big Difference*

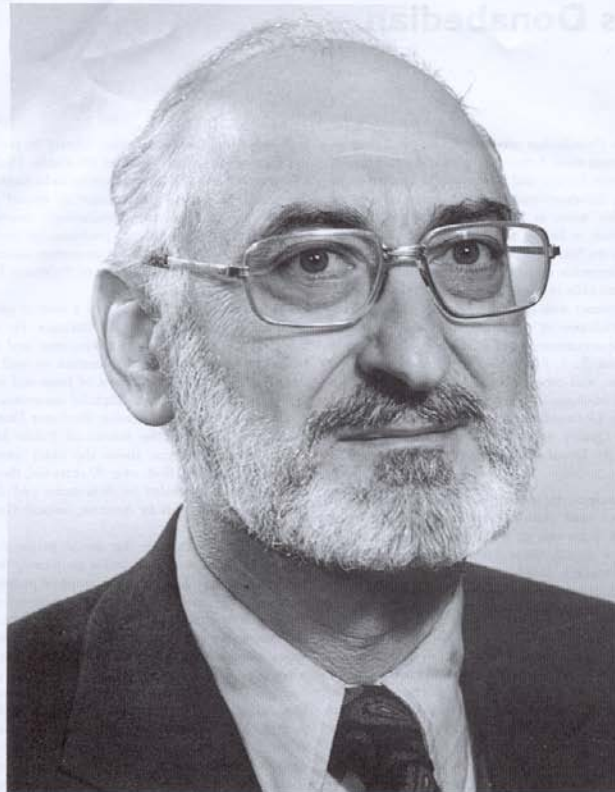


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*Ernest A. Codman, M.D.  
Boston, Massachusetts  
1869-1940*



**Avedis Donabedian**

7 January 1919–9 November 2000

The President, Executive Board, Members and Friends of The International Society for Quality in Health Care and the Editors of the Society's Journal, honour the distinguished life and acclaimed contributions of **Avedis Donabedian**, primary architect of the field of quality in health care and a life Member of ISQua, who died peacefully at his home in Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA on 9 November 2000.

MICHAEL TOMKOLOVE: BUCK ARMEY IS BACK ON THE ATTACK. ARTHUR LUBOW: CAN MODERN DANCE BE SAVED?

# The New York Times Magazine

NOVEMBER 9, 2009



IF  
HEALTH  
CARE  
IS GOING  
TO  
CHANGE,  
HIS IDEAS  
WILL  
CHANGE  
IT

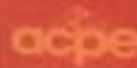
DR. BRENT JAMES  
WILL MAKE IT BETTER  
BY DAVID LEONHARDT

# DOCTORS

must have a seat at the **leadership table**



American College of Physician Executives



Inspiring physician leaders — Improving health





## *Old*

## *New*

---

**We don't have time**  
**Quality costs money**  
**Use intuition and**  
**anecdote**

**Defects come**  
**from people**

**We don't have time not to**  
**Quality saves money**  
**Collect and analyze data**

**Defects come from**  
**defective processes**

# Physicians as Leaders

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Reinersten JL. Annals Internal Medicine

1998; 128: 833-838.

- 1. From star athlete to player – coach**
- 2. Leaders change things**
  - ~ hazardous duty
- 3. Leadership is not victim hood**
- 4. Leaders define reality**
  - ~ use of data

# Physicians as Leaders

---

5. Leaders develop and test changes
6. Leadership takes courage
  - ~ risk taking
7. Leaders persuade
8. Leaders are not daunted by the loudest negative voice
9. Leaders do much of their work outside of their immediate area of responsibility

# Tools for Physician Leaders

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1. Treatment standards and protocols
2. Leapfrog criteria
3. Hospitalist programs
4. Technology- CPOE, ambulatory EMR
5. Practice Profiling
6. Safety culture engineering
7. External benchmarking



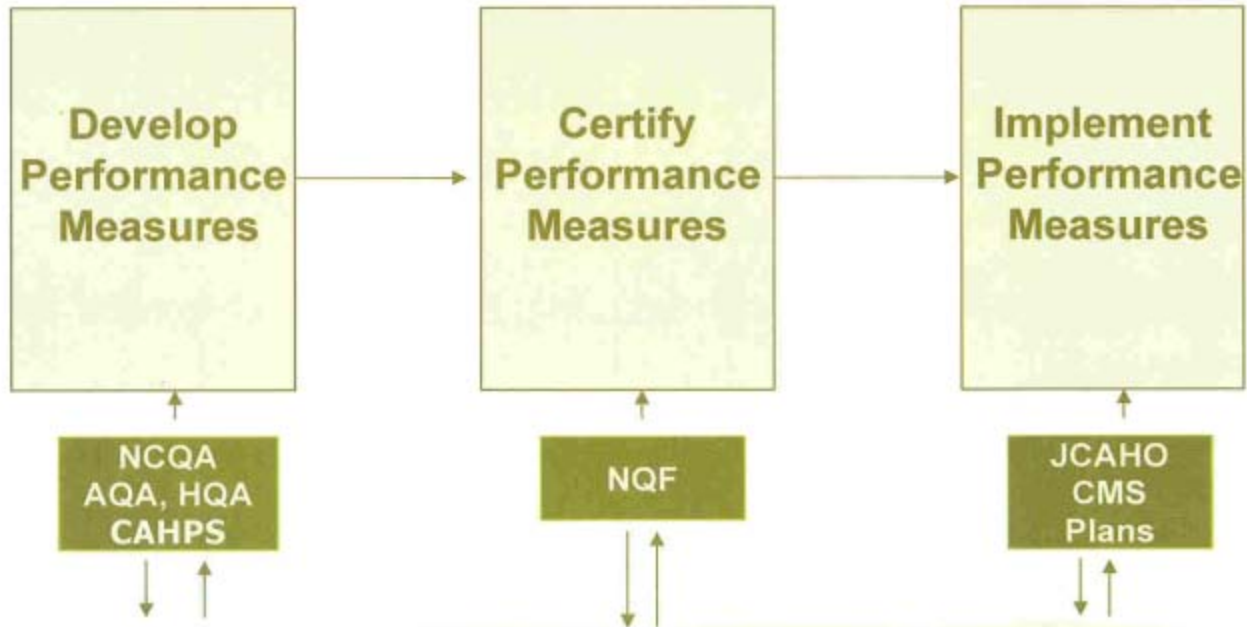
# How to Build Measurement into Practices

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- **Seek usefulness, not perfection in the measurement**
- **Use a balanced set of measures**
- **Keep measurement simple**
- **Use qualitative and quantitative data**
- **Write down operational measures**
- **Measure small samples**
- **Build measurement into daily work**
- **Develop a measurement team**

# A need for unified governance

## No American Quality Improvement Community



Multiple Public and Private Sector Stakeholders  
100+ different P4P Programs

Source: Tooker/ACP

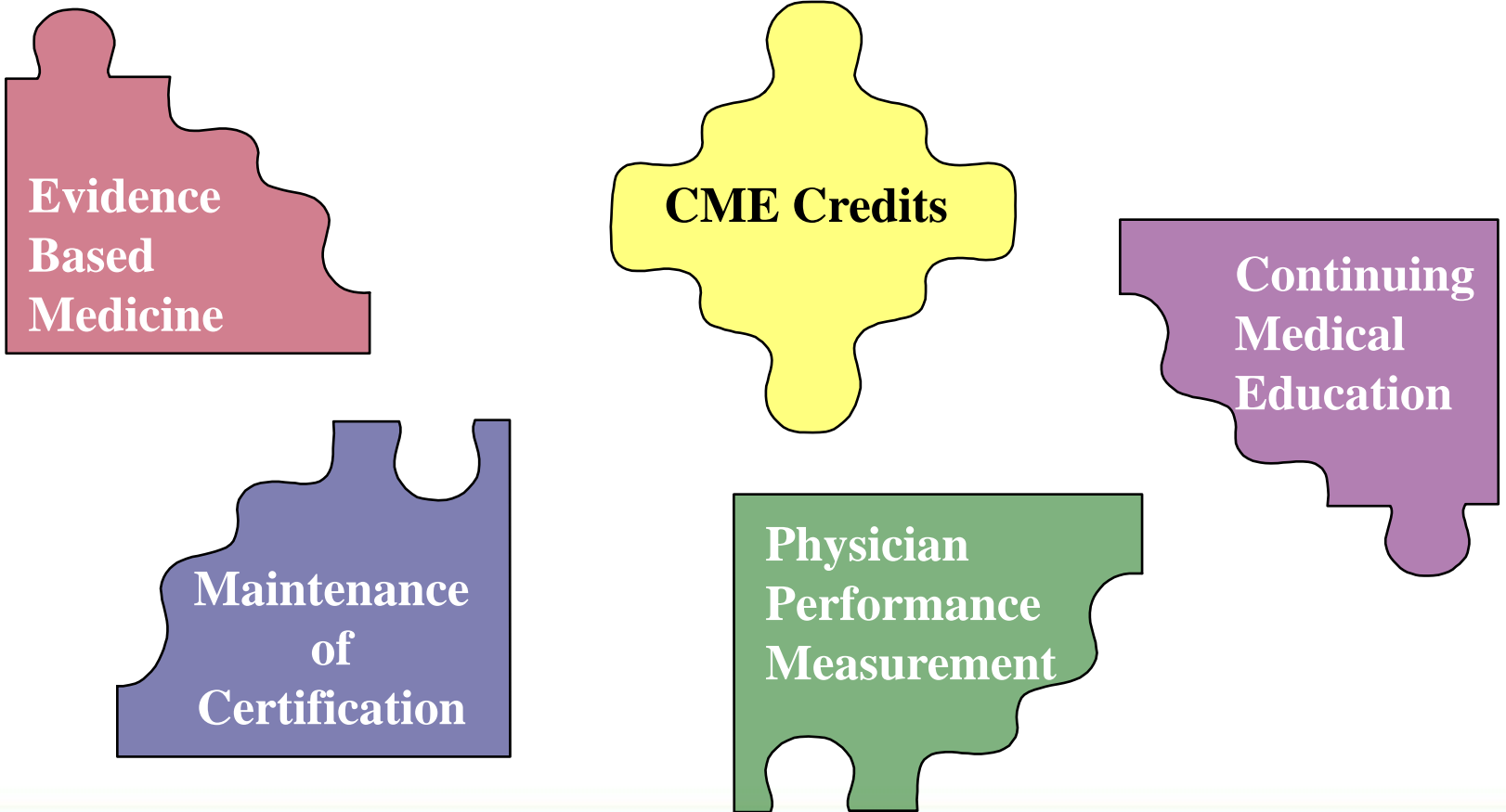
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>No harm from care</b> (procedural competence, experience, medical knowledge, evidence based medicine)</li> <li>• <b>No errors</b> (anatomy, physiology, pathology, etc..., systems engineering, information systems, cognitive psychology)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>No delays in acute care</b> (pathology, process mapping, team function, information systems, procedural competence)</li> <li>• <b>Access chronic care</b> (information systems, communications)</li> <li>• <b>Ongoing preventive care</b> (epidemiology, surveillance)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Curative of acute illness</b> (basic science, vocabulary, key concepts integrated around biologic homeostasis, pathology, resilience, evidence based medicine)</li> <li>• <b>Prevention</b> (epidemiology, evidence based medicine)</li> <li>• <b>Reduce suffering</b> (psychology, religion, procedural competence)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cost-benefit analysis</b> (epidemiology, economics, statistics)</li> <li>• <b>Reduction of waste</b> (process engineering)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Justice</b> (philosophy, public health, business, sociology)</li> <li>• <b>Finance</b> (economics, business, international health)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cultural beliefs</b> (anthropology)</li> <li>• <b>Ethical values</b> (philosophy, religion)</li> <li>• <b>Communications</b> (psychology, Spanish language skills, humanities)</li> </ul>
Safe	Timely	Effective	Efficient	Equitable	Patient-Centered

Objectives of Quality Medical Care

Figure 1 Attributes of the Institute of Medicine quality objectives with related curriculum areas.



# Evolution and Convergence of Physician Performance Measurement, CME, EBM and Maintenance of Certification

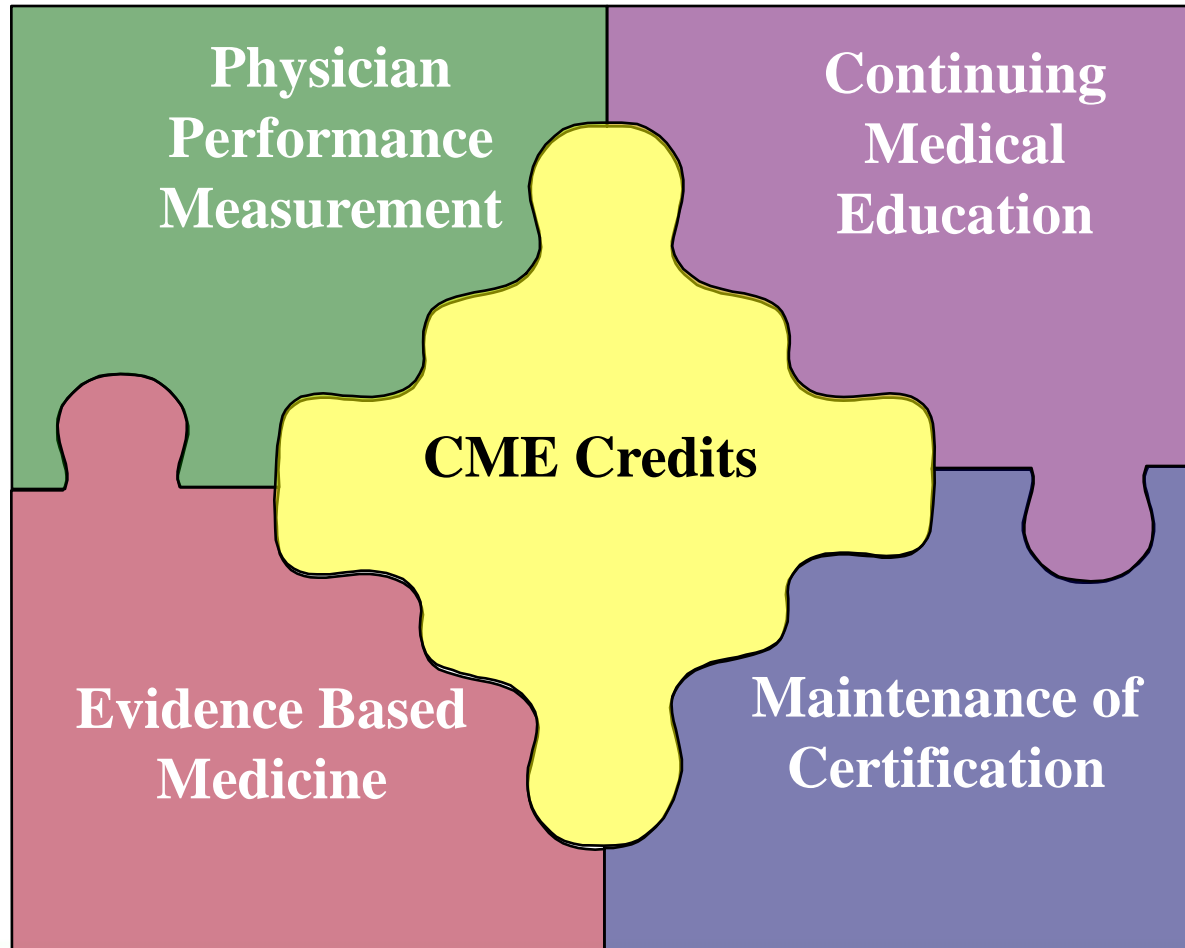


# Continuing Medical Education (CME) and Continuous Physician Professional

## Development (CPPD): Evolution and Change

CME		CPPD
Intermittent		Continuous
Class room lectures		Self learning
Face-to-face		Web based
Content unrelated to practice		Integrated into work-flow
Medical science only		Also management; finances
Focused on individuals		Also focused on team
(General) needs assessment		Performance based
Evaluation of knowledge		Change in performance; ROI

# Convergence of Various Tools



By Darrell G. Kirch and Philip G. Boyson

## Changing The Culture In Medical Education To Teach Patient Safety

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The Hospitalist Program  
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**Philip G. Boyson** is executive associate dean of graduate medical education and a professor of anesthesia and medicine at the School of Medicine, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**ABSTRACT** In 1999 a seminal Institute of Medicine report estimated that preventable medical errors accounted for 44,000–98,000 patient deaths annually in U.S. hospitals. In response to this problem, the nation's medical schools, teaching hospitals, and health systems recognized that achieving greater patient safety requires more than a brief course in an already crowded medical school curriculum. It requires a fundamental culture change across all phases of medical education. This includes graduate medical education, which is already teaching the next generation of physicians to approach patient safety in a new way. In this paper the authors explore five factors critical to transforming the culture for patient safety and reflect on one real-world example at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine.

When a report on medical errors comes out, the response often is the question: "Why aren't they teaching this in medical school?" As noted by the Institute of Medicine (IOM) a decade ago in *To Err Is Human*,<sup>1</sup> one's first reaction to a medical error is to blame someone. The report noted, however, that blame may be misplaced, because the conditions of the current health care delivery system can contribute to errors. Therefore, the IOM stated, a multilayered approach—one that addresses systems errors as well as human ones—must be taken to prevent medical errors. There is no "magic bullet" to fix this problem. Advancing patient safety requires a fundamental culture change in health care.

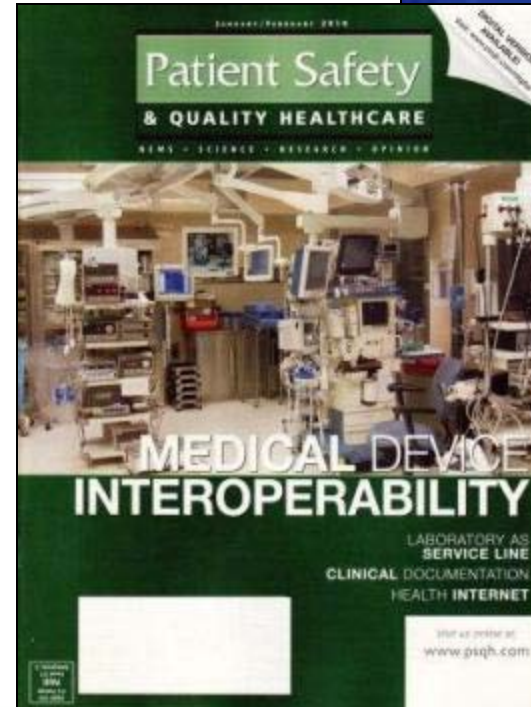
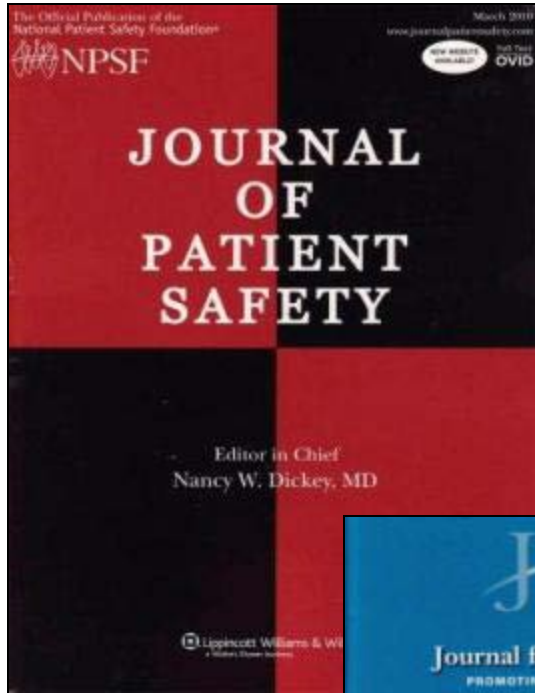
Medical education alone cannot accomplish this shift. However, critical elements of the change are evolving in the nation's teaching hospitals and medical schools—collectively referred to as "academic medicine." These institutions recognize that although they produce the best clinicians and scientific experts in the world and provide them with a great body of knowledge, today's challenge lies in getting these experts to

work well together in the clinical environment.

Both individually and collectively as the academic medicine community, these institutions are changing their overall culture to bring about an environment more conducive to patient safety. They are putting processes in place to ensure that clinicians deliver care in optimal ways and, in doing so, are fostering the learning environment needed for resident physicians to become the central change agents for patient safety.

This paper provides an overview of this cultural change, identifies five factors critical to that change, and offers examples of how those factors are being implemented at the University of North Carolina (UNC) School of Medicine, one of the nation's academic medical centers. Along with many other academic medical centers, the school is participating in the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) patient safety initiative called TeamSTEPPS (Strategies and Tools to Enhance Performance and Patient Safety).

TeamSTEPPS is a set of tools used to assess an institution's readiness for change. The program offers patient safety training for health care staff



# The Doctors Company Foundation Young Physicians Patient Safety Award

Conferred in partnership with the  
Lucian Leape Institute at the  
National Patient Safety Foundation



LUCIAN  
LEAPE  
INSTITUTE  
A PART OF THE  
NATIONAL PATIENT SAFETY FOUNDATION

THE DOCTORS COMPANY  
FOUNDATION

Share your personal  
essay on how a  
patient safety event  
impacted your  
learning and growth.



The Doctors Company Foundation — created in 2008 by the largest national insurer of medical liability for physicians, surgeons and other health professionals — provides charitable grants to support patient safety research, forums and pilot programs, patient safety education programs and medical liability research. The Lucian Leape Institute was formed in 2007 to provide a strategic vision for improving patient safety. Composed of national thought leaders with a common interest in patient safety, the Institute functions as a think tank to identify new approaches to improving patient safety.

For the first time, The Doctors Company Foundation in partnership with the Lucian Leape Institute at the National Patient Safety Foundation presents *The Doctors Company Foundation Young Physicians Patient Safety Award* — an award to recognize young physicians for their deep personal insight into the significance of patient safety work. Individuals are invited to submit essays that will be judged by NPSF. Six winners of this prestigious award will be selected and will receive \$5,000 plus registration and travel expenses to the NPSF Annual Congress.



#### WHO IS ELIGIBLE:

All third-year and fourth-year medical students, and first-year residents who were in a hospital setting as of June 2010 or later.

#### WHAT IS REQUIRED:

Submit an essay (500-1,000 words) explaining your most instructional patient safety event ... one that resulted in a personal transformation. Go to [www.npsf.org/npsfac/youngphys-11.php](http://www.npsf.org/npsfac/youngphys-11.php) to complete the online form. The award will be presented at the NPSF Annual Congress, May 25-27, in National Harbor, MD (Washington, DC).

#### WHEN IS THE DEADLINE:

Essays are due by 5:00pm ET, Monday, February 28, 2011. No phone or mailed submissions will be accepted.

#### WHERE DO I LEARN MORE:

Contact Sara Reardon at [sreardon@npsf.org](mailto:sreardon@npsf.org) or go to [www.npsf.org/npsfac/youngphys-11.php](http://www.npsf.org/npsfac/youngphys-11.php)



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## *Report to Congress*

### **National Strategy for Quality Improvement in Health Care**

March 2011



# What Does This All Mean?

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## Major Themes Moving Forward

1. **Transparency**
2. **Accountability**
3. **No outcome, No income**



# How Might We Get There?

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## Change the Culture

1. **Practice based on evidence**
2. **Reduce unexplained clinical variation**
3. **Reduce slavish adherence to professional autonomy**
4. **Continuously measure and close feedback loop**
5. **Engage with patients across the continuum of care**

# What are the major hurdles?

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1. **Replace pernicious piecework payment system**
2. **Re-align incentives**
3. **Create rewards for collaboration, coordination and conservative practice**
4. **Recognize the cultural barriers**



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# Nash's Immutable Rule

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High quality care costs less!

THE PROVOCATIVE, PROFOUND, AND DEEPLY AFFECTING  
MODERN CLASSIC THAT HAS INSPIRED MILLIONS

ZEN



AND

THE ART OF  
MOTORCYCLE  
MAINTENANCE

AN INQUIRY INTO VALUES

ROBERT M. PIRSIG