

Government's Role in Crossing the "Quality Chasm"

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Why a federal government role?

- **Protect and promote the public well-being**
- **“Quality Chasm” cuts across boundaries**
- **Size and scale of the “Quality Chasm” warrant broad, coordinated, long-term approach**

Leadership & partnering

- Motivate disparate parties to a common purpose
- Establish strategies and tactics
- Provide tools necessary to reach set goals

Examples of government leadership in quality promotion

- **Department of Health and Human Services**
 - Patient Safety Task Force
 - Quality Interagency Council (QuIC)
 - Agency for Healthcare Quality Research
 - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - Division of Laboratory Systems
 - Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion
- **Institute of Medicine reports**



“Epidemiology of Quality”

Donabedian, *Inquiry*, 1985

CDC’s definition of surveillance is:

- Collect, analyze, interpret health data
- Use it to plan, implement and evaluate public health practices
- Disseminate data to those who need to know in a timely fashion
- Collaborate on interventions to prevent and control outcomes

Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion's decade of success reducing healthcare- assoc. infections

<u>ICU-type</u>	BSI*	VAP*	UTI*
coronary	43%	42%	40%
medical	44%	56%	46%
surgical	31%	38%	30%
pediatric	32%	26%	59%

National Nosocomial Infections Surveillance, 1991-99

*BSI= central line-associated bloodstream infection rate

*VAP= ventilator-associated pneumonia rate

*UTI= catheter-associated urinary tract infection rate





➤ **Integrates 3 surveillance systems**

Hospital patient

Healthcare Worker

Dialysis patient



NHSN

➤ **Internet based**

➤ **New strategies, partnerships**



Quality Institute Conference - A Leadership Event!

- As key stakeholders
- We must work together
- Develop a strategic plan for the health care and laboratory communities
- Address the “Quality Chasm” as a committed team



Why the laboratory?

- 7 billion laboratory tests per year that affect over 70% of medical decisions
 - pre-analytic” and “post-analytic”
- Expertise in quality systems approach
- Experience with standardization, automation, and computerization
- A culture of team work, measurement and reporting

Why the laboratory?

- Experience with statutory and regulatory approach to quality assurance
- Significant, recent experience with the strengths and weaknesses of the statutory and regulatory approach

Why the laboratory?

- Diverse, vigorous organizations engaged in quality assurance activities
- Non-governmental organizations active in developing and implementing guidelines and standards

Questions for us:

What tools are needed?

- Performance measures
- National reporting or monitoring
- A proposed Quality Institute

Government's Role in Crossing the "Quality Chasm"

- Statutory and regulatory?
- Guidelines and standards?
- Research?
- Education and training?
- Cooperative agreements and partnerships?

**We want to hear from our
partners, you!**

