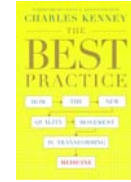


The Best Practice

How the New Quality Movement Is Transforming Medicine

Charles Kenney

Significant Progress: Movement Has...

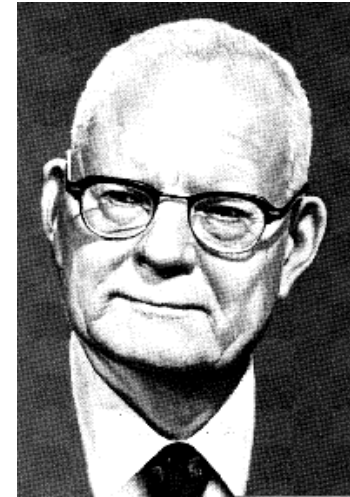


1. Established overwhelming substantive case for change needed to achieve quality/safety
2. Put quality/safety in the spotlight
 - Hospital-acquired infections
 - Medication safety
 - Evidence-based care
 - Best practices
 - Industrial quality techniques
3. Saved lives

The Vision: Systems Thinking



- Batalden/Berwick inspired by Deming – focus on system not individual. How can system work better?
- Could this approach work in health care?
- National Demonstration Project
- Key finding: The *absence* of systems thinking in health care



W. Edwards Deming

“You’re the MD and you do a beautiful diagnosis. But what if blood is drawn from the wrong patient? What if you cannot read the x-ray? What if the pharmacist doesn’t put the right thing in the bottle? We’re talking about managing a system!”

Blan Godfrey, PhD, Bell Labs



A. Blanton Godfrey

Visionaries: Birthday Club/IHI/Leape



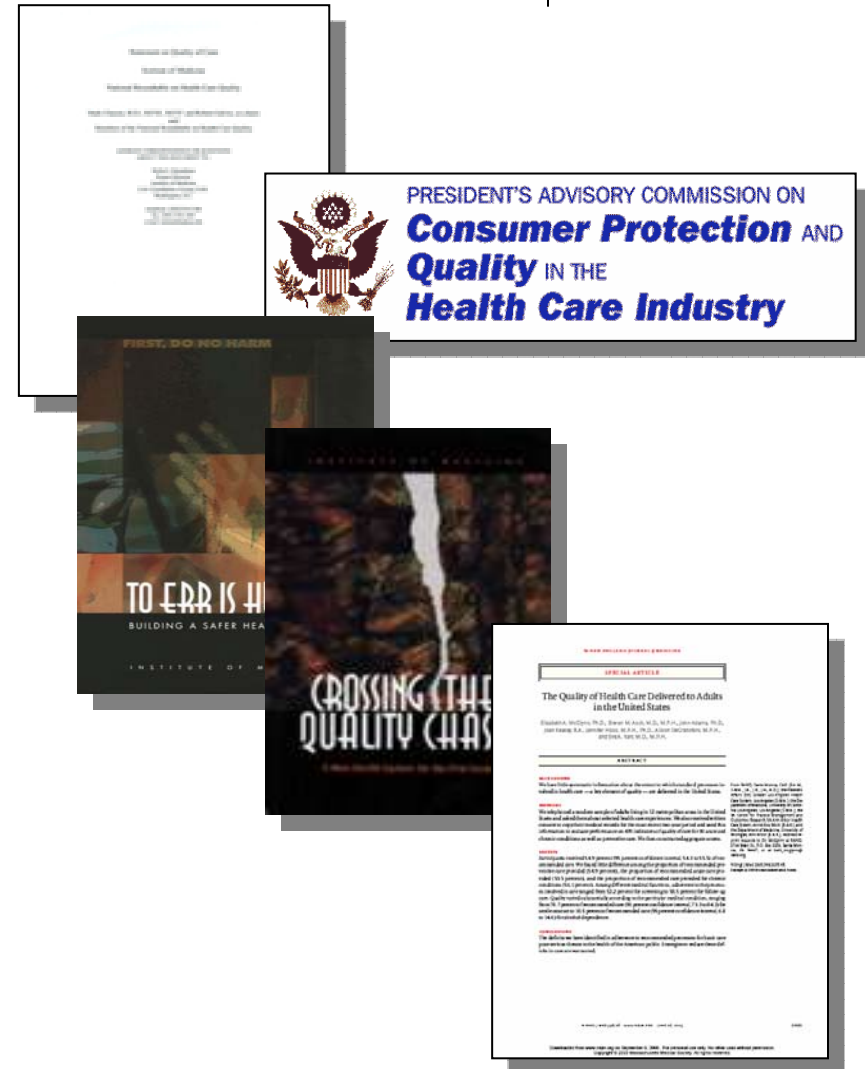
- Late 1988 Birthday Club explores this “new way of thinking about health care”
- Develop organization to pursue quality agenda – birth of IHI
- Harvard Medical Practice Study – Lucian Leape and colleagues discover millions preventable medical errors



Movement's Substantive Foundation: Confirmed Birthday Club Thesis



- IOM National Roundtable on Health Care Quality – The Urgent Need to Improve Health Care Quality (1998)
- President's Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry (1998)
- *To Err Is Human: Building a Safer Health System* – IOM (1999)
- *Crossing the Quality Chasm: A New Health System for the 21st Century* – IOM (2001)
- RAND: *"The Quality of Health Care Delivered to Adults in the United States."* (NEJM 2003)



Jarring Findings: Absence of Systems Thinking Results in...



- Reports dented longstanding article of faith that U.S. health care provides the highest possible quality/is the best in world
- *"... substandard care... unacceptable level of errors..."*
(President's Commission)
- *"Serious/widespread quality problems throughout American medicine..."*
(Roundtable)
- *System "routinely fails to deliver its potential benefits..."* (Chasm)
- David Lawrence, CEO, Kaiser Permanente: **"The chassis is broken."**

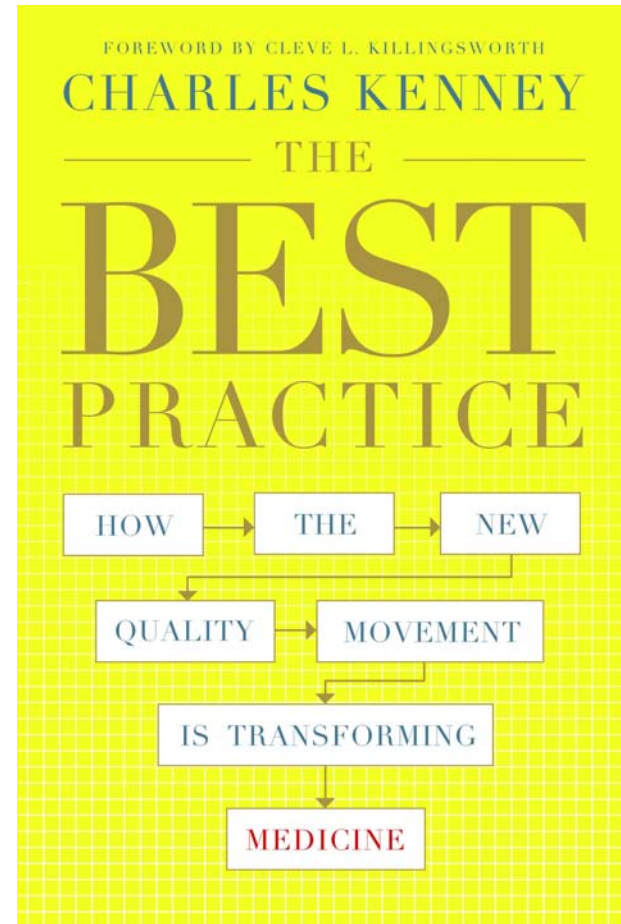
Call to Action



- *“Make quality improvement the driving force of the industry.”*
(Pres. Commission)
- *“Major, systematic... overhaul of how we deliver health care...”*
(Roundtable)

The Best Practice

- Most did not respond to call to action
- *The Best Practice* is about some who did
 - Cincinnati Children's
 - Virginia Mason
 - Jönköping County
 - Kaiser Permanente
- *The Best Practice* is about them and their
 - Leadership – *The* essential element
 - Passion/determination to change
 - Courage



Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center *Leadership*

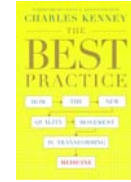


- Triumvirate
 - CEO, Jim Anderson
 - Board Leader, Lee Carter
 - Dr. Uma Kotagal, Director Health Policy/Clinical Effectiveness



“We’re all united from frontline nurse to chairman of the board—we all have the same goal.”

Uma's Strategy: Recruit Stars/Build Credibility



- Dr. Fred Ryckman – quality training at Intermountain, Salt Lake City
- Risky strategy
- Setting goal: Current rate 1.5 – 2% – What's the right target?
- Tackles surgical site infections – applies IHI bundle

0.5% !!

"Even though I thought it the most absurd thing I've ever heard of in my life, I agreed to do it if it would get me a moment of peace."

Transformative Experience



Dr. Ryckman: "I had spent my whole career doing what I needed to do *today* to try and save this kid's life... Remove the liver in a donor, take it to the sickest kid, put in the new liver... I had worked on single individual patients. I remember... thinking if I could work on solving some of these quality problems you're talking about *hundreds* of patients. The question was how can we do systems management and impact hundreds, *thousands* of patients?"



Virginia Mason Medical Center (VMMC): *Courage and Innovation*



- To Japan: *"Have you lost your mind?"*
- TPS empowers every worker to build in quality – "stop the line"
- Implement at VMMC – Nurse/doctor chemo treatment
- It's about the system – not the individual
- And it's about culture



Jönköping County, Sweden: A Learning Journey



- Sweden – generally better outcomes than US/lower cost
- Berwick: Jönköping quality work perhaps unparalleled internationally
- Qulturum – unique learning center; Göran Henriks
 - Baldrige process
 - Balanced Scorecard
 - IHI Breakthrough Series
 - IHI Pursuing Perfection
 - Dartmouth micro-system
 - Scania, Swedish truck maker, industrial quality techniques
 - Team to every IHI Annual Forum since 1996
 - Brent James Intermountain

Kaiser: Technology/Measurement



- “Any area of health care that has been measured has been improved” (George Halvorson)
- Kaiser reflects positive trends toward
 - EHR
 - Measurement
 - Transparency
 - Competition
- Measurement + transparency = competition = quality improvement



Much Progress But Formidable Obstacles



- Two in particular –
 - Culture/attitude
 - Payment system (take it away, Don)
- Reflexive objection to quality movement – *What are you talking about?! We have the best docs, technology, hospitals...*
- Culture of health care – *“Often wrong, but never in doubt!”*



"Perfectly Perfect"???

- NYT July 29, 2008: Dr. Abigail Zuger:

"The reformers are out to streamline the routines, retrain the workers and keep them permanently on display — an ant farm behind clear glass — to make sure things never get out of control again."

"Incentives to minimize errors, complications and inefficiency will mount. Health care will become perfectly safe, perfectly smooth, perfectly perfect."

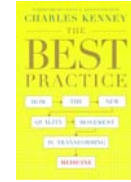
- Why would a doctor ridicule life-saving work?

Lack of Awareness/Understanding



- Paul Batalden: Too often physicians tended to be “in love with what they were doing and *to suggest that these smart people should do something different was an affront.*”
- Sorrel – Hopkins students – *To Err?*
- Far too many stakeholders unaware of these stories/the potential
 - Physicians/caregivers
 - Trustees
 - Administrators
 - Public officials
 - Patients

To Accelerate Change, Spread the Word



- Need to better communicate to the Dr. Zegers and others
- Need effective communications about the movement and about quality and safety – IHI, Commonwealth Fund
- But need much more –
 - Books
 - Articles
 - Blogs
 - Conferences to educate health care stakeholders and the public
- Need you to be messengers – help spread the word; tell the story – in telling the story we advance the cause