

Leveraging quality improvement to strengthen primary care systems in the face of NCDs: A Case Study from Ecuador

A decorative graphic in the bottom right corner featuring a large teal circle, a smaller green circle overlapping it, and a blue grid pattern in the background.

Jafet Arrieta

Director
Latin America Region

Roadmap

1. Background
2. The problem
3. The opportunity
4. Aim
5. Theory of change
6. Results
7. Lessons learned
8. Recommendations





Health care quality gaps



In 2016, approx. 8.6 million people died due to causes amenable to healthcare in LMICs (Kruk,

Gage, Joseph, et al., 2018):

- 5 million due to poor-quality care
- 3.6 were due to non-utilization of health care services
- **Economic loss = USD\$ 6 trillion**



VIEWPOINT

Crossing the Global Health Care Quality Chasm A Key Component of Universal Health Coverage

Donald Berwick, MD
Director, Center for Health Systems Research and Analysis, Institute of Medicine

Despite years of investment and research, the quality of health care in every country is much worse than it should be. The fundamental principles of design and human factors. The route to improvement places the "user"—patient, individual, or community—first. This report recommends full transparency; communities; care that is reflective of social decisions on clear evidence learning (Box). For example, in Kenya's which was developed in the continuing improvement of health care is a multidisciplinary work, change. The system empowers those at the front line.

The Lancet Global Health Commission on
High Quality Health Systems
in the SDG Era

High-quality health systems in the Sustainable Development Goals era: time for a revolution



Margaret E Kruk, Anna D Gage, Catherine Arsenault, Keely Jordan, Hannah H Leslie, Sanam Roder-DeWan, Olusoji Adeyi, Pierre Barker, Bernadette Daelmans, Svetlana V Doubova, Mike English, Ezequiel Garcia Elorrio, Frederico Guanaes, Oye Gureje, Lisa R Hirschhorn, Lixin Jiang, Edward Kelley, Ephrem Tekle Lemango, Jerker Liljestrand, Address Malata, Tanya Marchant, Malebona Precious Matsoso, John G Meara, Manoj Mohanan, Youssoupha Ndiaye, Ole F Norheim, K Srinath Reddy, Alexander K Rowe, Joshua A Salomon, Gagan Thapa, Nana A Y Twum-Danso, Muhammad Pate



The global healthcare quality chasm

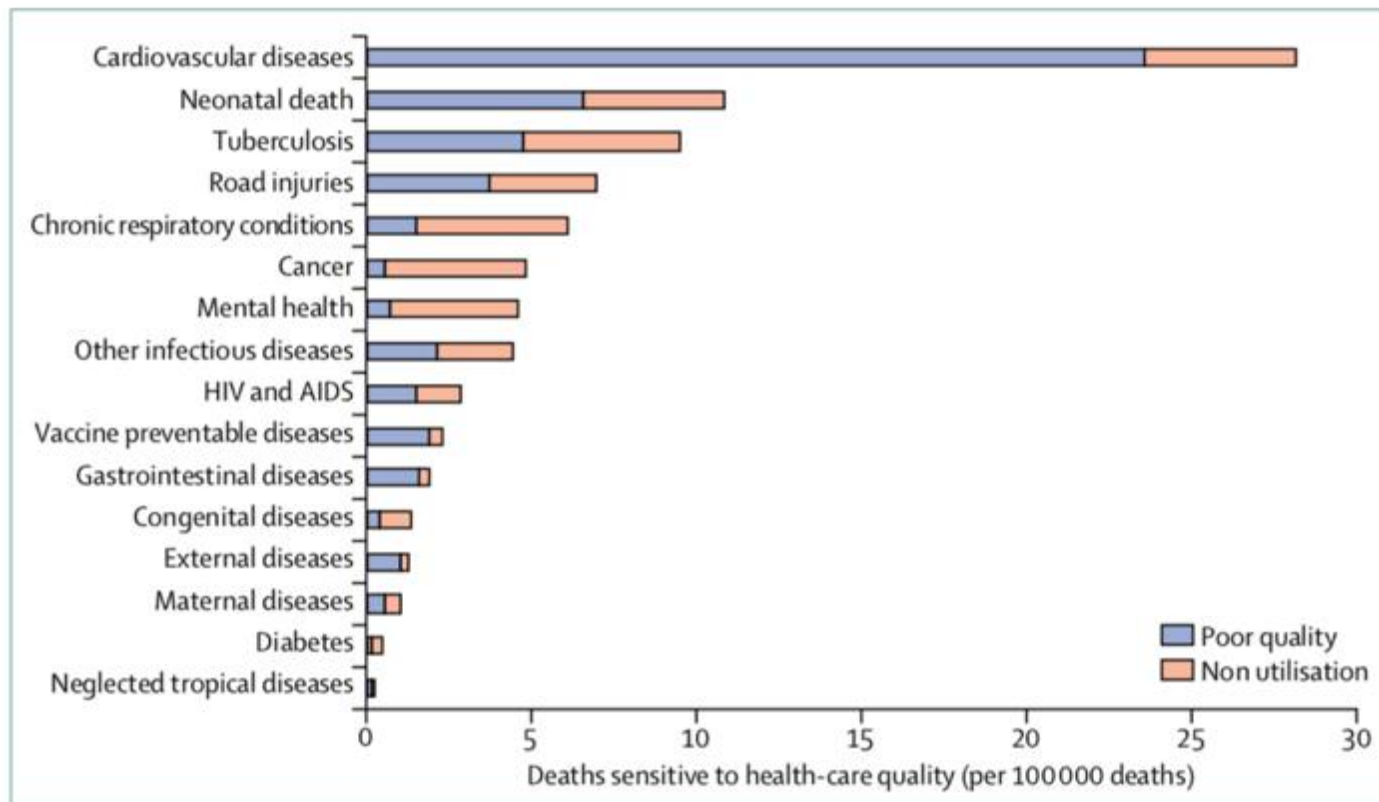
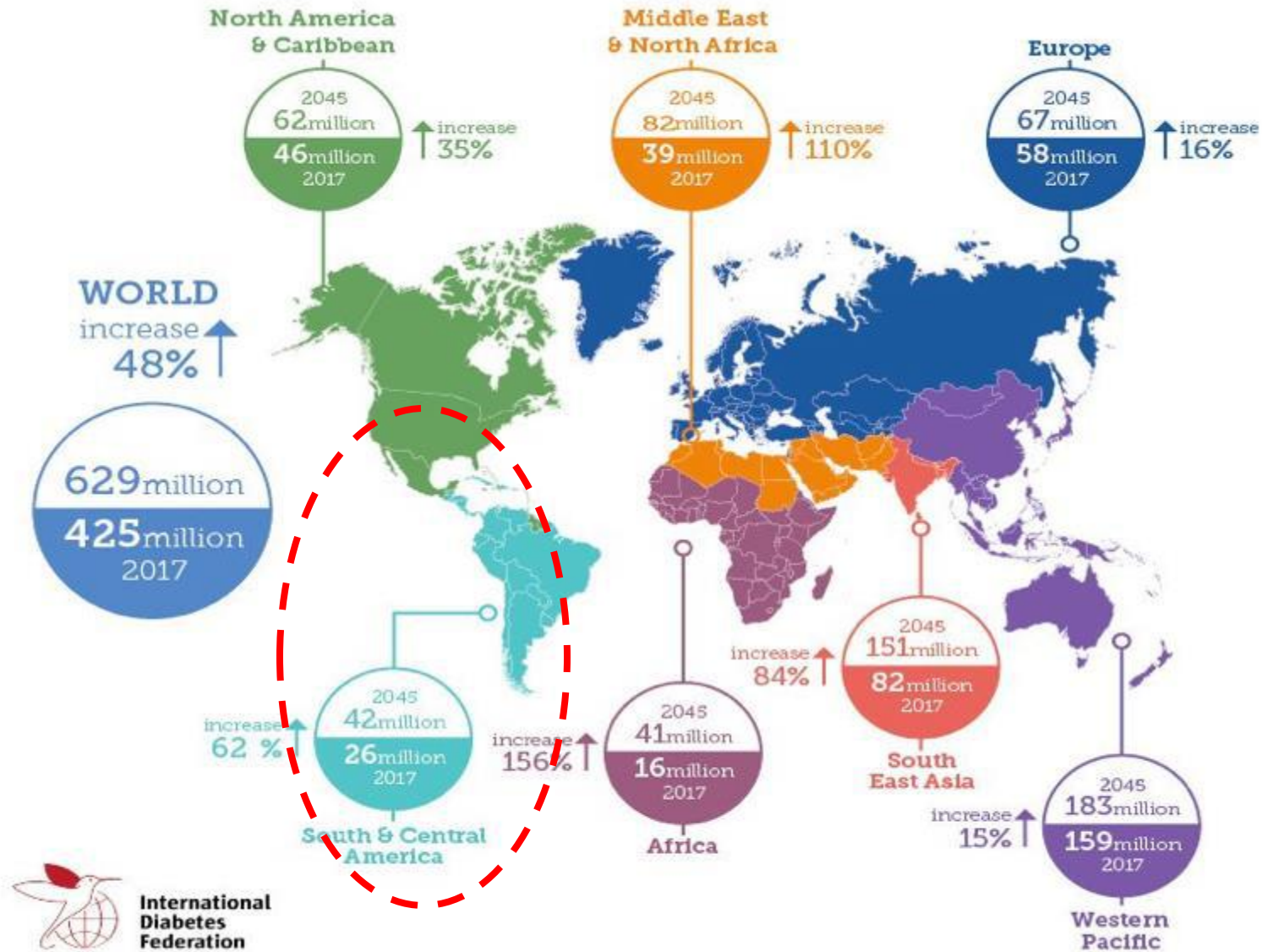


Figure 5: Deaths from Sustainable Development Goal conditions due to poor-quality care and non-utilisation in 137 low-income and middle-income countries⁹⁴

A growing epidemic of diabetes



Some numbers...

- 41 million adults are living with DM2 in Latin America
- 25-50% patients remain undiagnosed
- Only 60% of patients receive regular, long-term treatment
- Only 10-25% of patients receiving treatment are under clinical control



The Opportunity



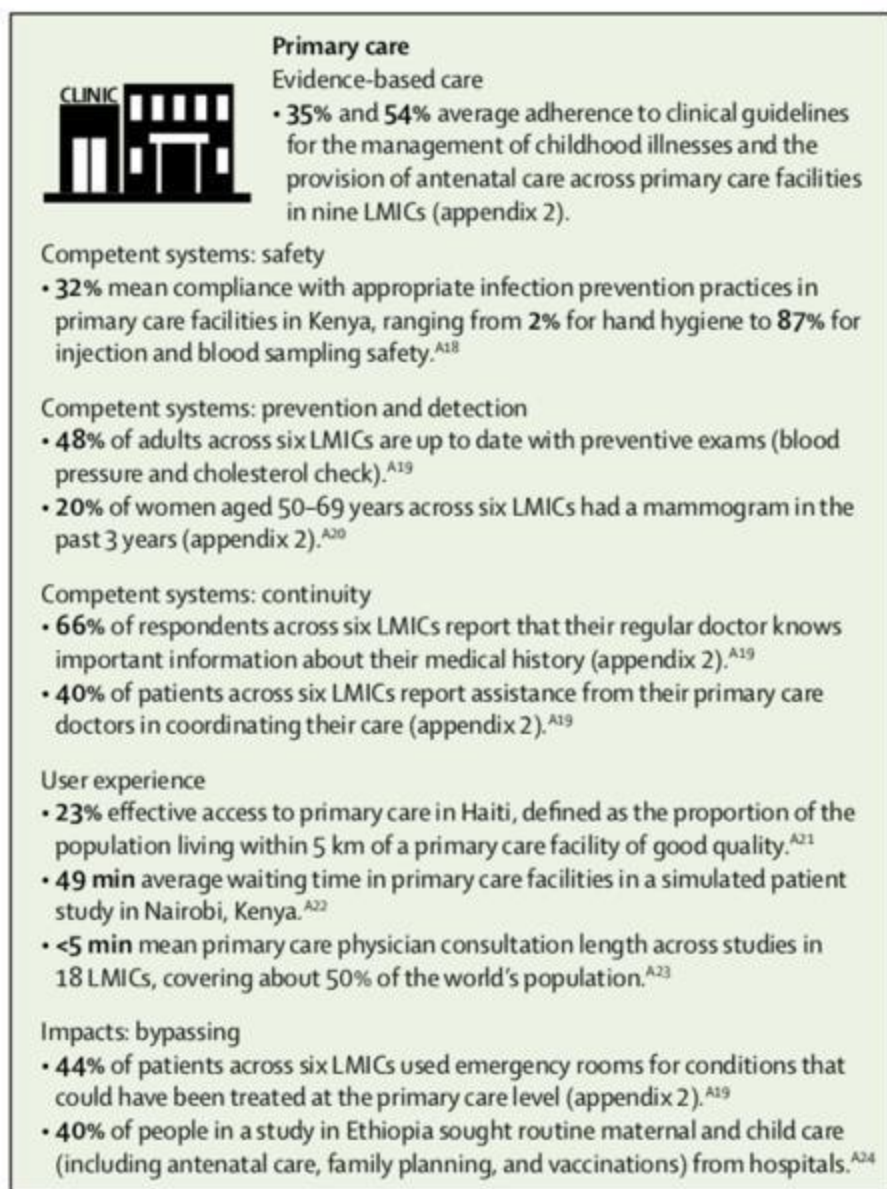


Figure 9: Quality of care across health system platforms in low-income and middle-income countries (LMICs)
DALYs=disability-adjusted life-years. HDI=Human Development Index. References can be found in appendix 1.

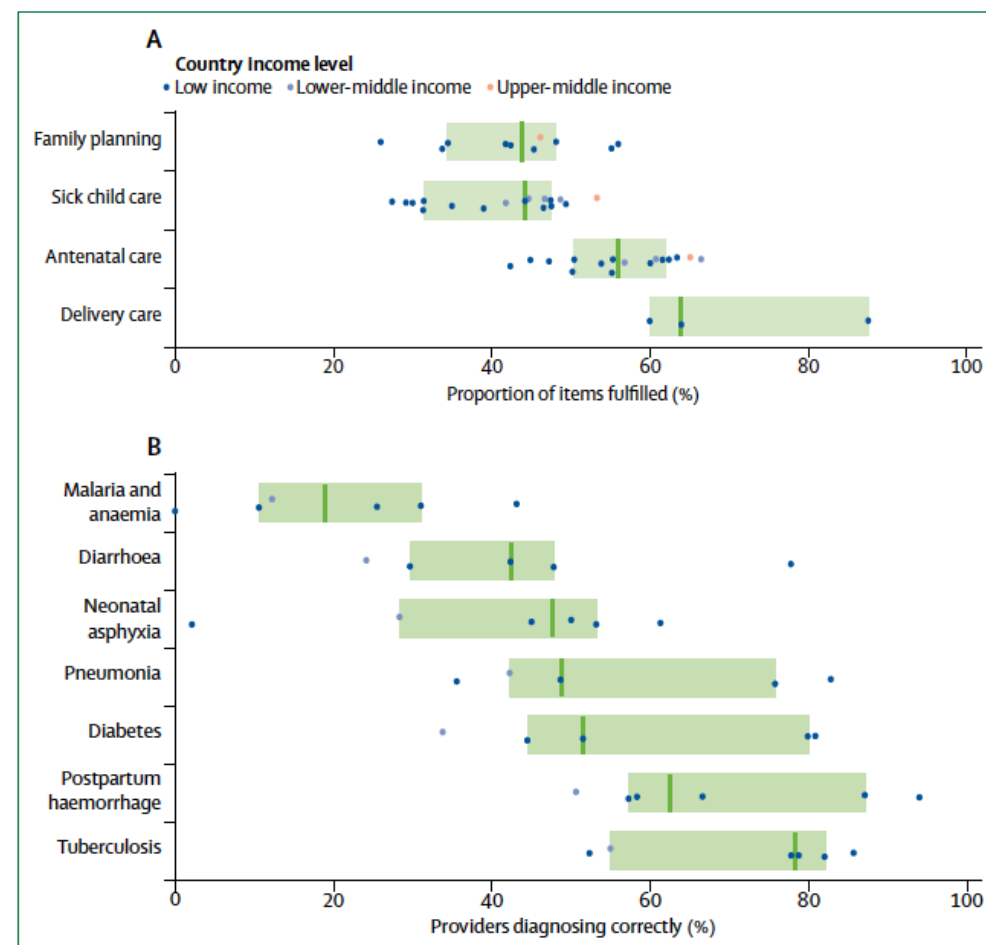


Figure 2: Adherence to evidence-based guidelines and diagnostic accuracy

Dots represent country-specific means, vertical bars indicate median performance across countries, and boxes delineate the IQR. Indicator definitions are shown in appendix 1, and country specific means are shown in appendix 2. (A) Data are from Service Provision Assessment (SPA) surveys done in ten countries (Ethiopia 2014, Haiti 2013, Kenya 2010, Malawi 2013, Namibia 2009, Nepal 2015, Rwanda 2007, Senegal 2015–16, Tanzania 2015, and Uganda 2007) and baseline facility surveys of Results-based Financing impact evaluations (RBF) in eight countries (Burkina Faso 2013, Central African Republic 2012, Cameroon 2011, Republic of the Congo 2014, Democratic Republic of the Congo 2015, Kyrgyzstan 2012–13, Nigeria 2013, and Tajikistan 2014–15). (B) Data are from clinical vignettes from the Service Delivery Indicators surveys done by the World Bank, in cooperation with the African Economic Research Consortium and the African Development Bank in Kenya (2012), Nigeria (2013), Tanzania (2014), Togo (2013), and Uganda (2013) and from the Service Provision Assessment survey in Ethiopia (2014).





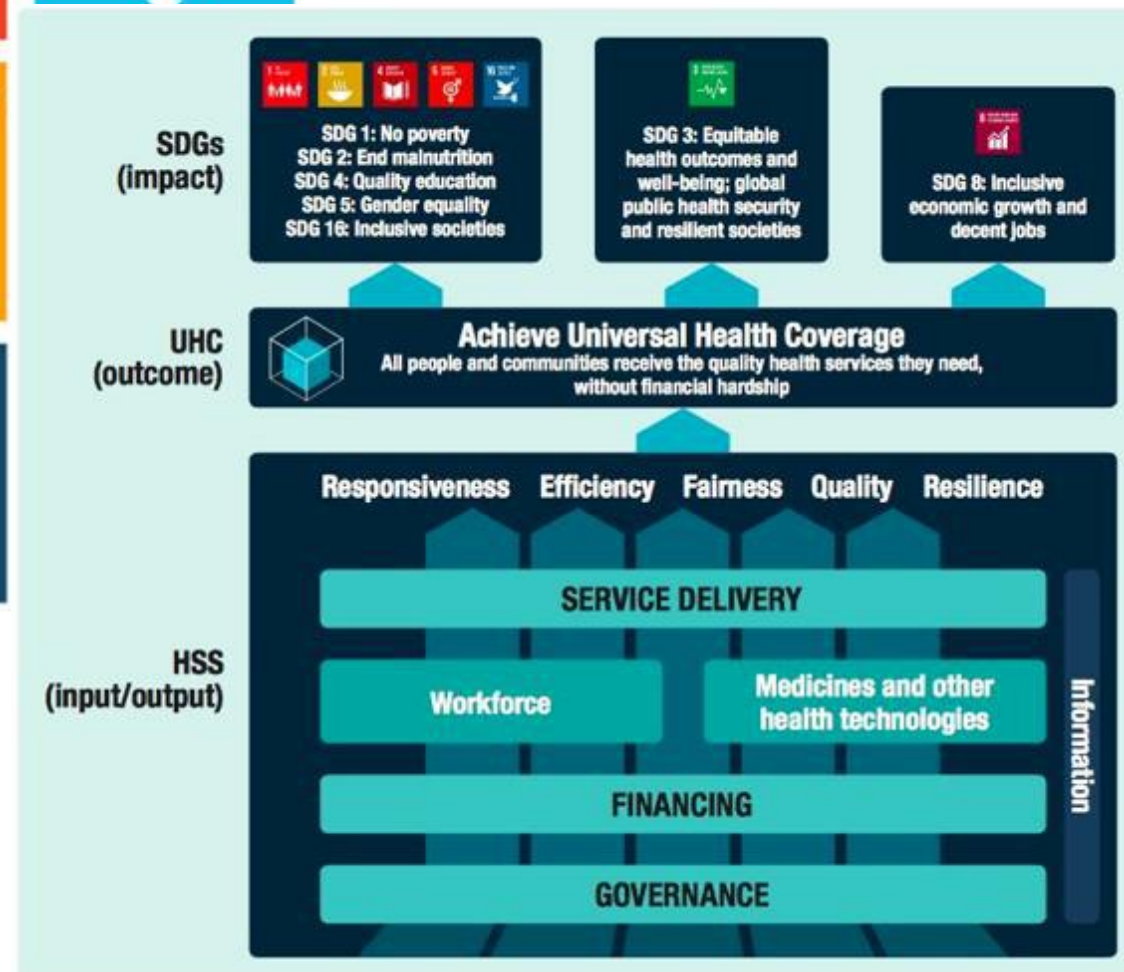
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



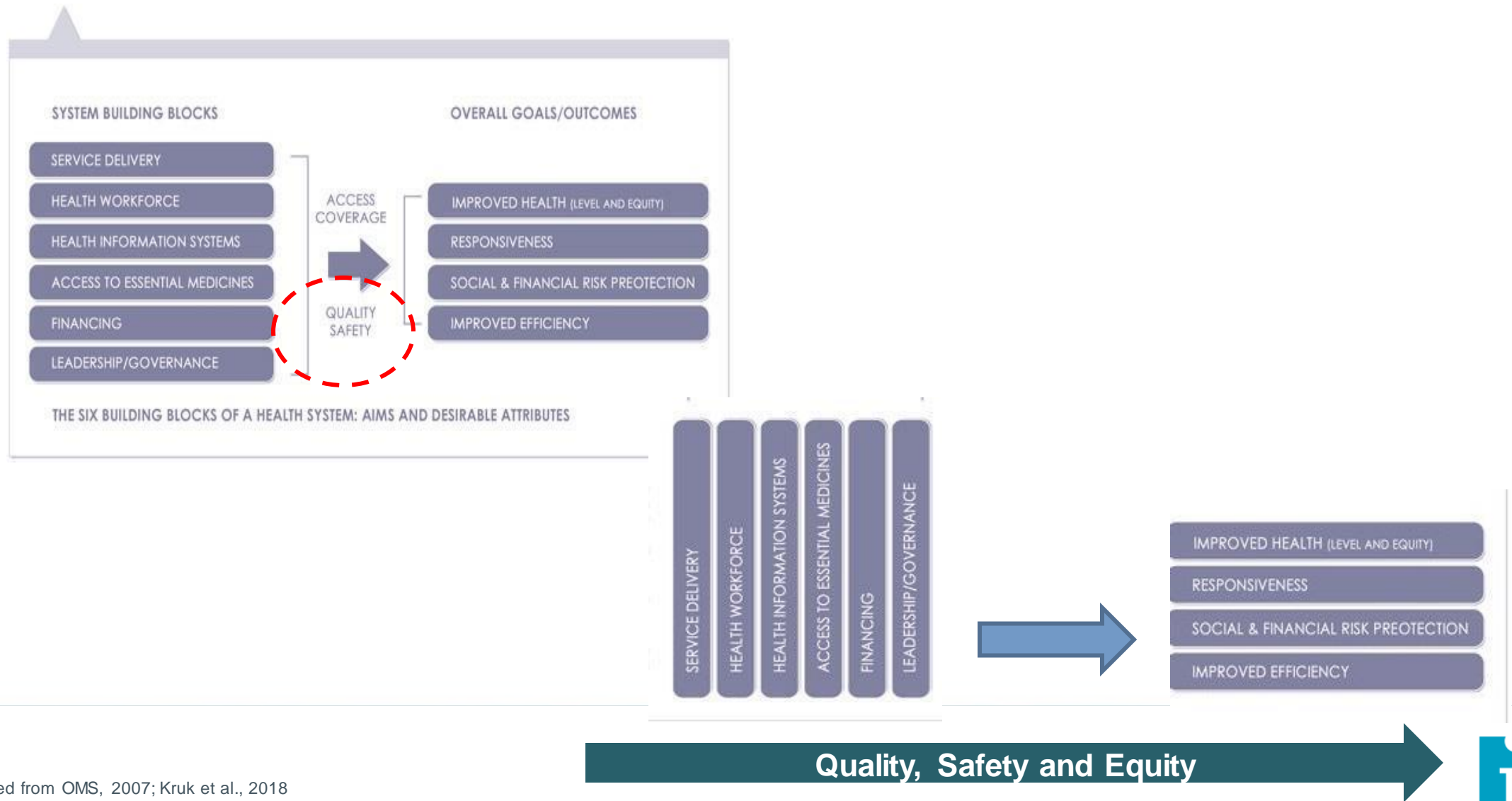
1978  2018

Primary Health Care

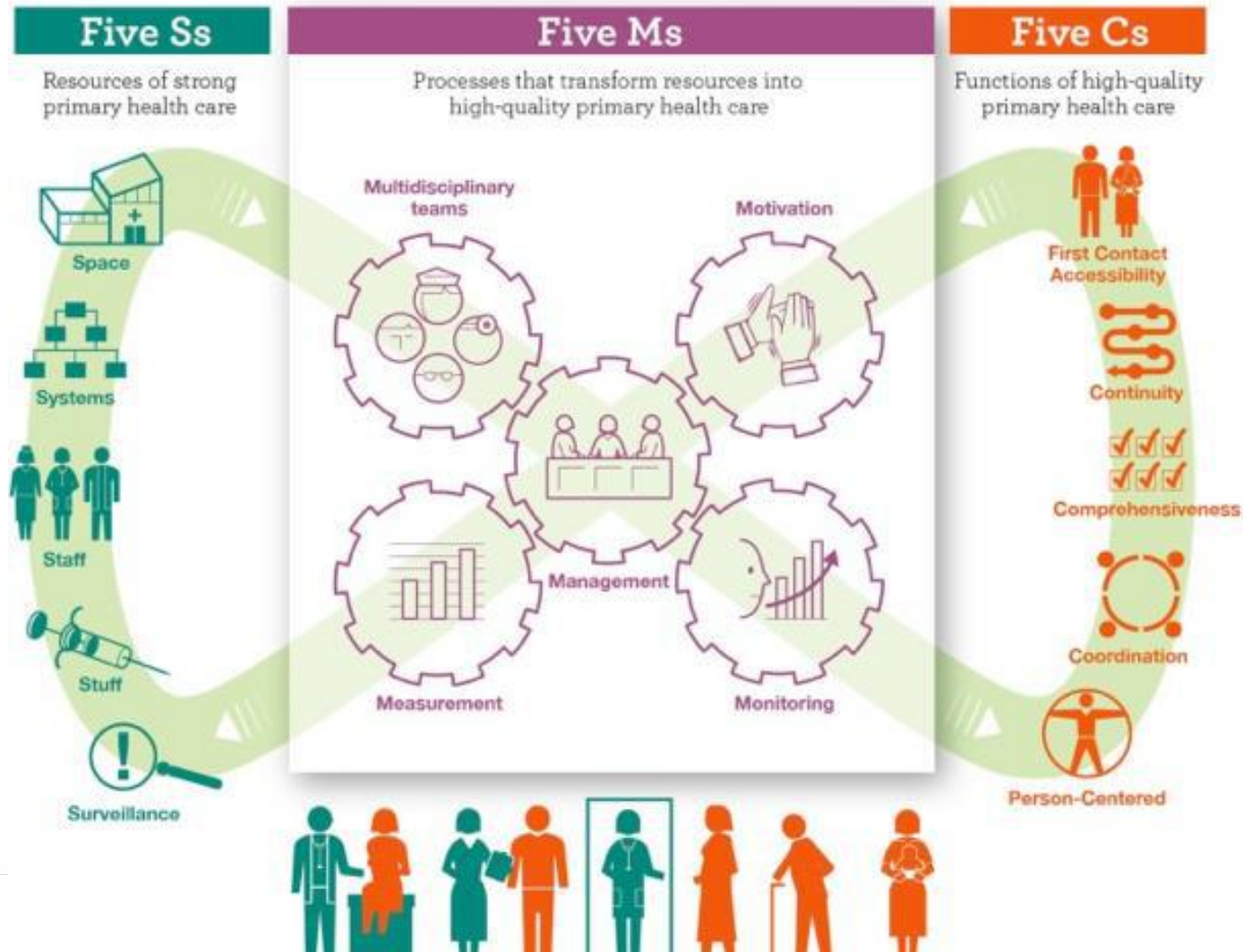
Health for All



Quality and Safety as a cross-cutting theme



High-Quality Primary Care Framework



The Opportunity



Implementing
Partners



15
Primary care clinics



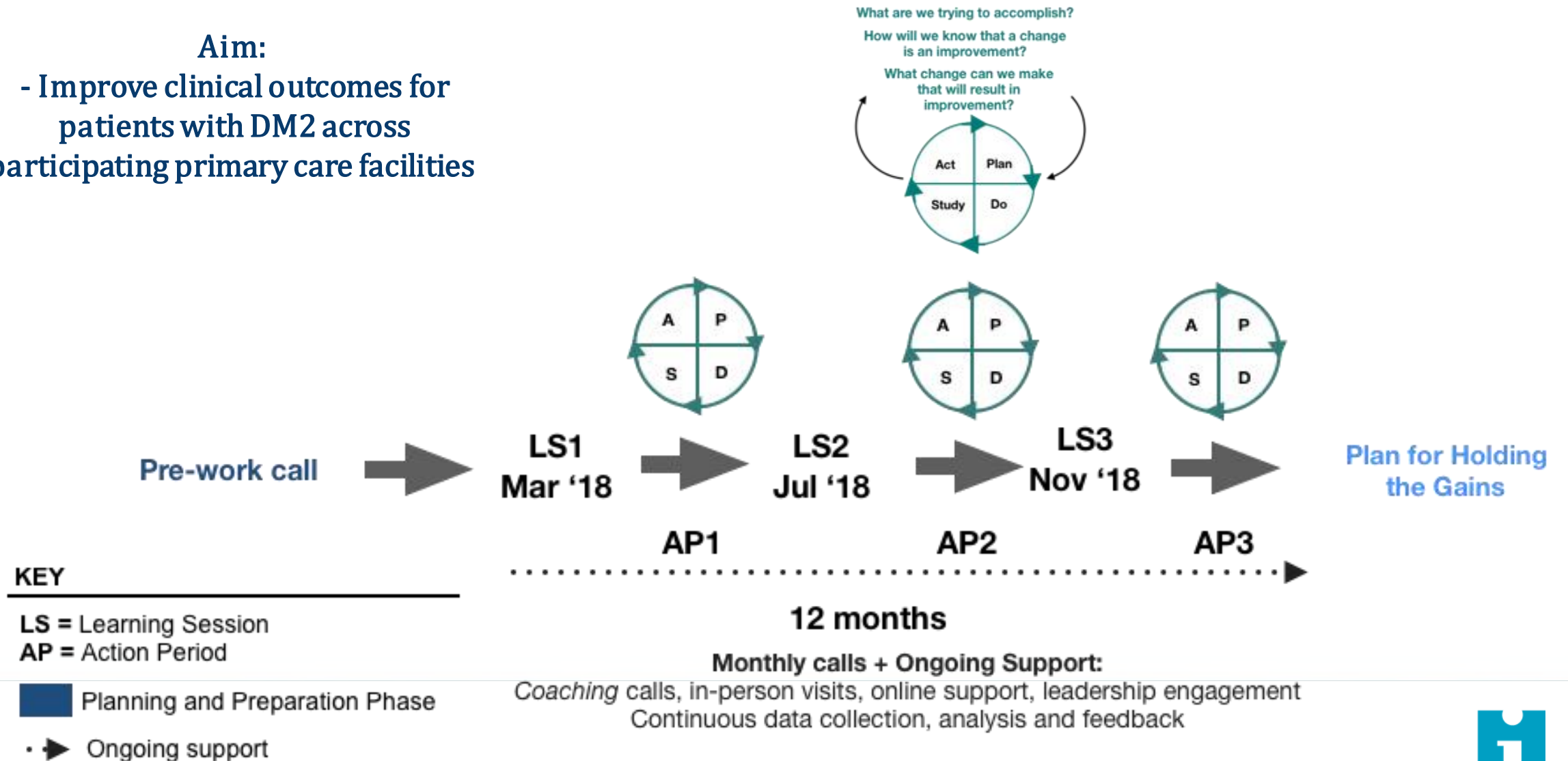
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Quality
Improvement Teams



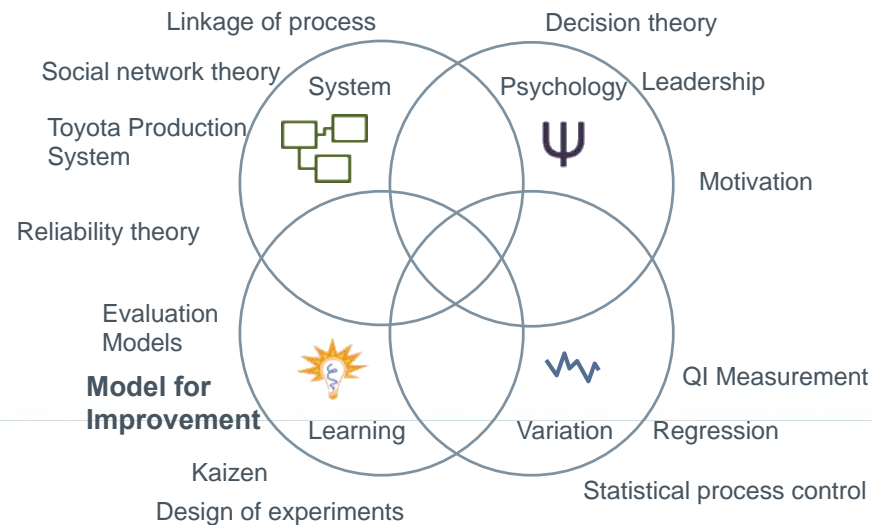
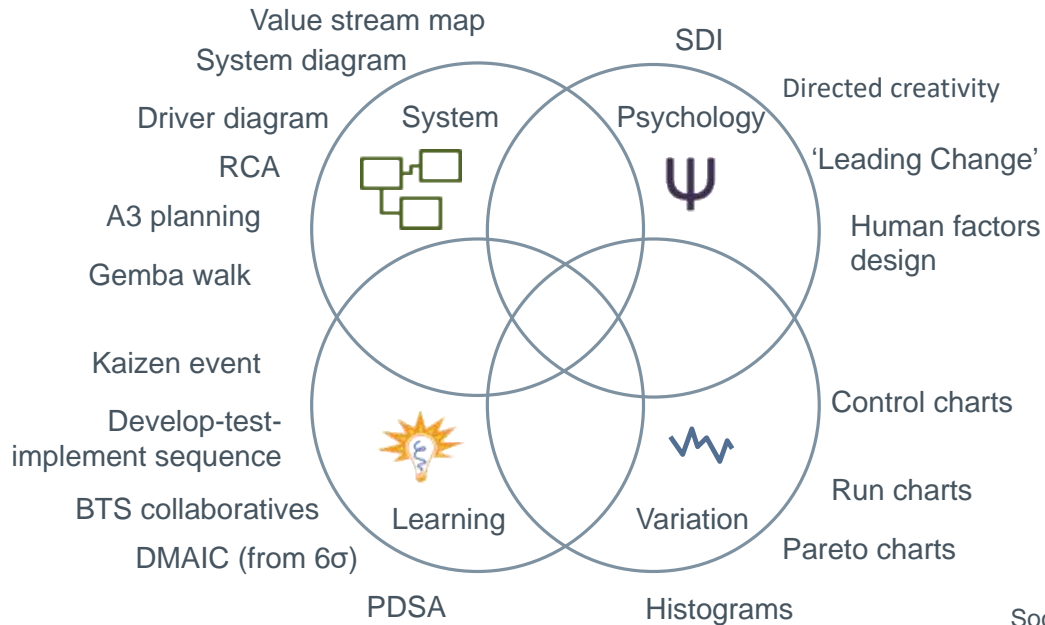
Our approach: Building QI capacity to strengthen systems

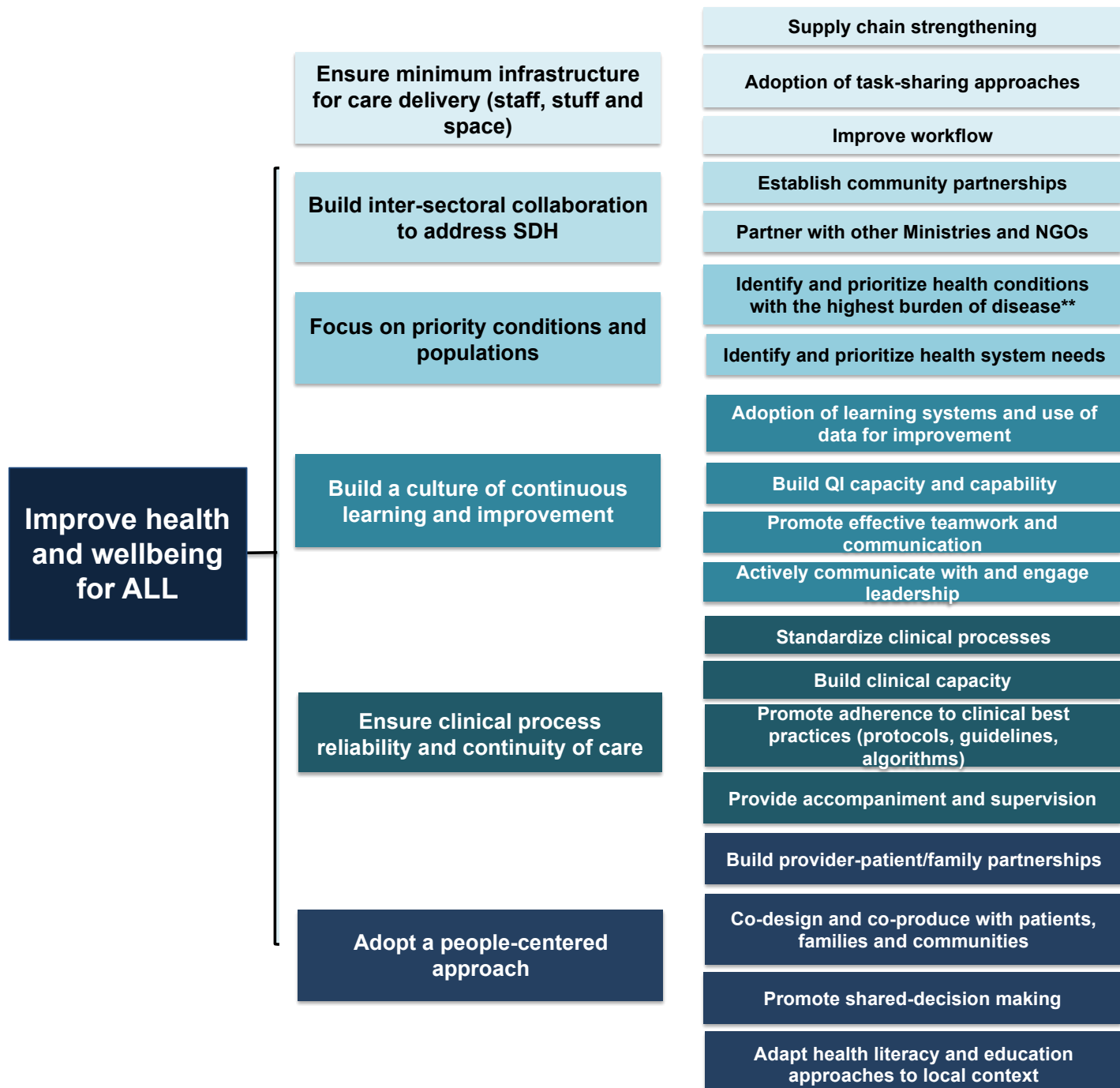
Aim:

- Improve clinical outcomes for patients with DM2 across participating primary care facilities



Enable people to change on "their own terms"





By December 2018, we will increase the percentage of patients with diabetes in clinical control (HbA1c <7) by 50% across 15 primary care clinics of Ecuador

Timely and convenient access to care

Diabetes screening

Linkage to care

Integration and coordination of services

Access to medications

Screening of at-risk population groups

Access to primary care, specialized care

Referral pathways

Follow-up with patients after clinical visit to review medications

Follow-up

Attendance to follow-up appointment

Treatment adherence

Call patients 24 hours before next appointment

Medication card, patient information leaflet, adherence aid

Provide group sessions

Patient self-management

Awareness

Increase health literacy

Support and accompaniment

Culturally sensitive and linguistically appropriate education programs

Multi-disciplinary teams and support

Development of self-management plans together with patients and their families

Identifying and addressing social determinants of health

Access to transportation

Access to healthy food

Linkage to transportation services (i.e. Lyft)

Partnership with local supermarkets

Active leadership involvement (i.e. regular huddles, meetings)

Quality Improvement infrastructure

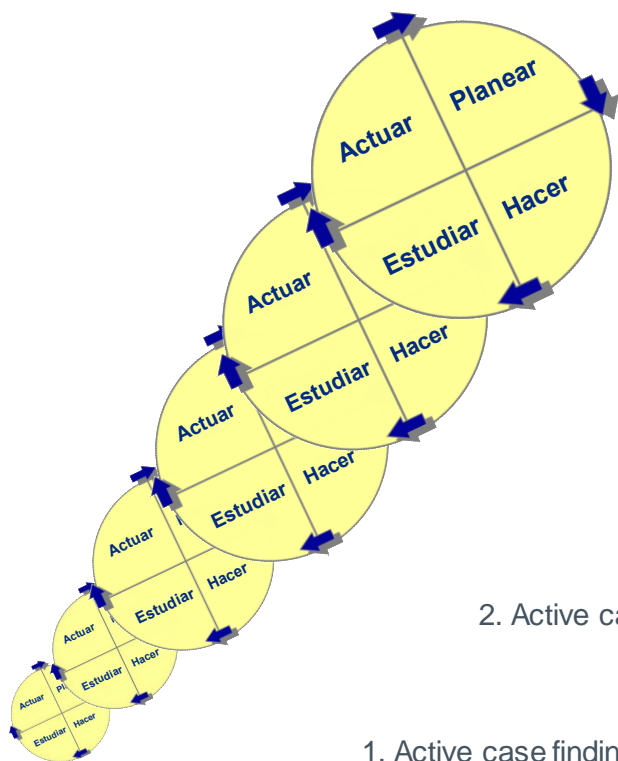
Leadership buy-in

Capability building

Quality improvement trainings

Access to subject-matter experts





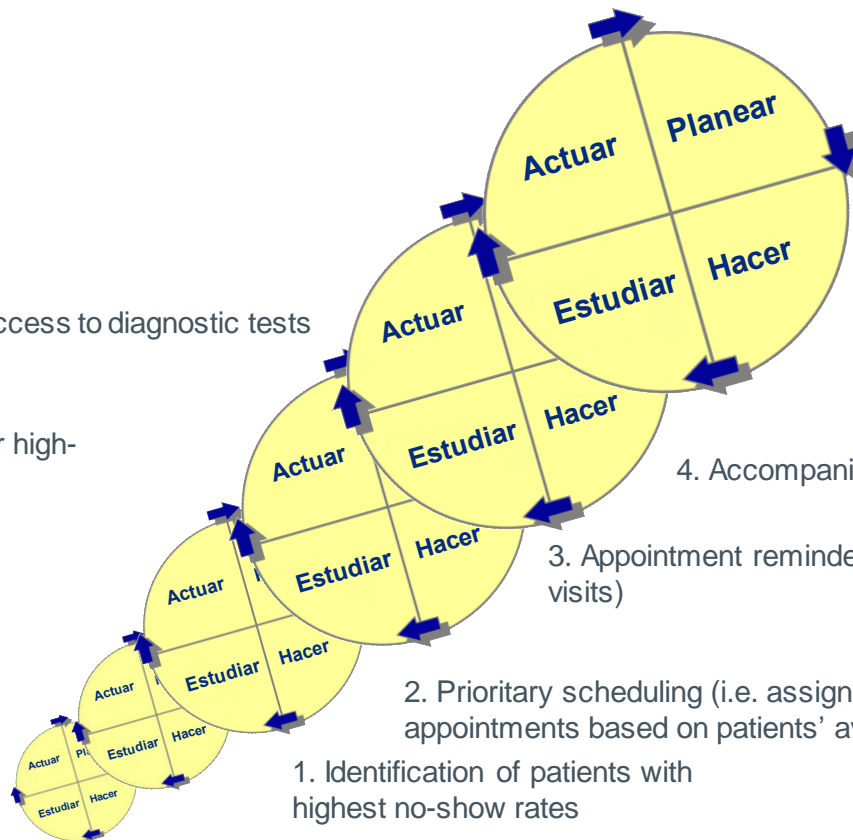
1. Active case finding in clinic

2. Active case finding in the community

3. Priority scheduling for high-risk/uncontrolled patient

4. Improved access to diagnostic tests

**Active screening
and early detection**



1. Identification of patients with highest no-show rates

2. Priority scheduling (i.e. assigning appointments based on patients' availability)

3. Appointment reminders (calls, texts, home visits)

4. Accompaniment through CHWs

**Attendance to follow up
visits**













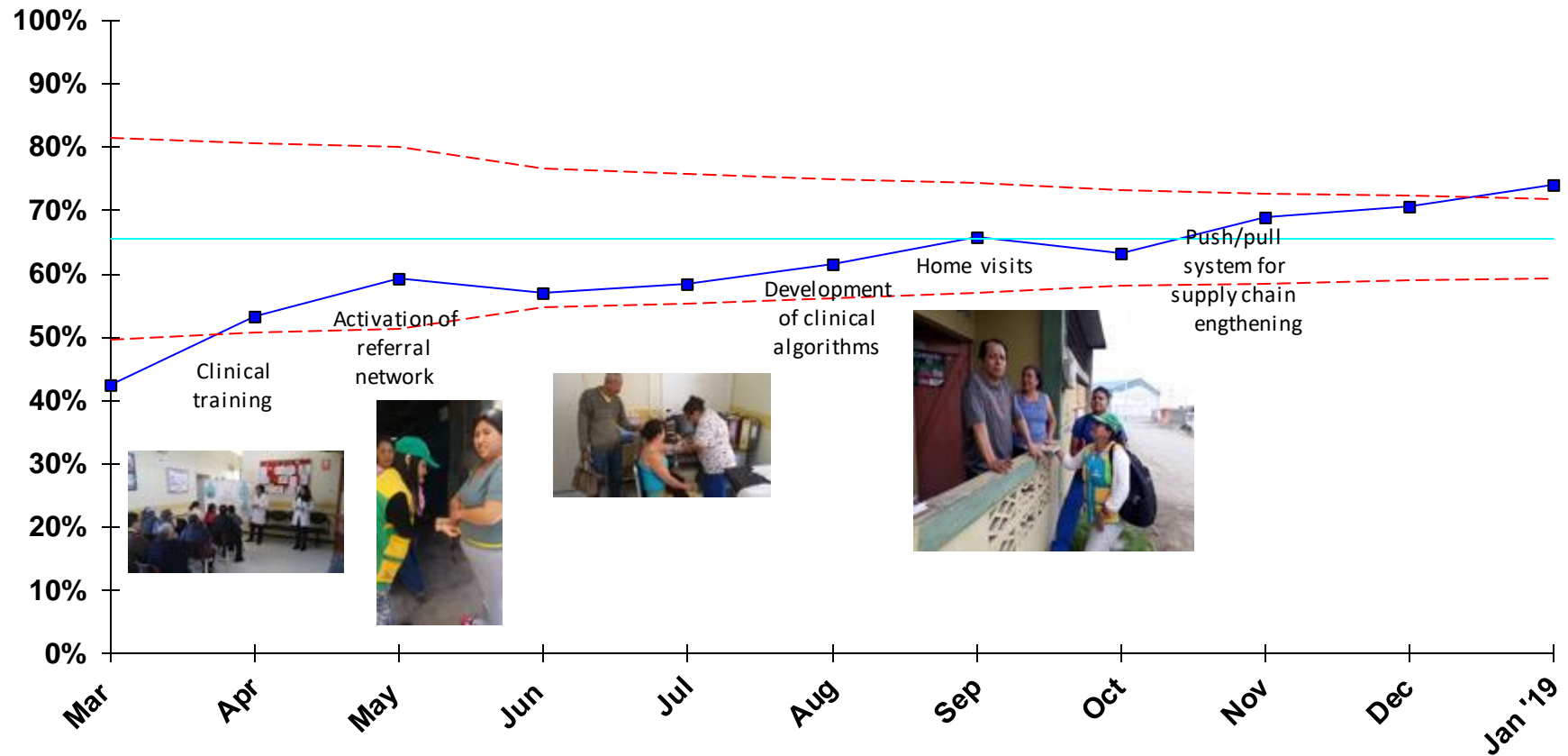




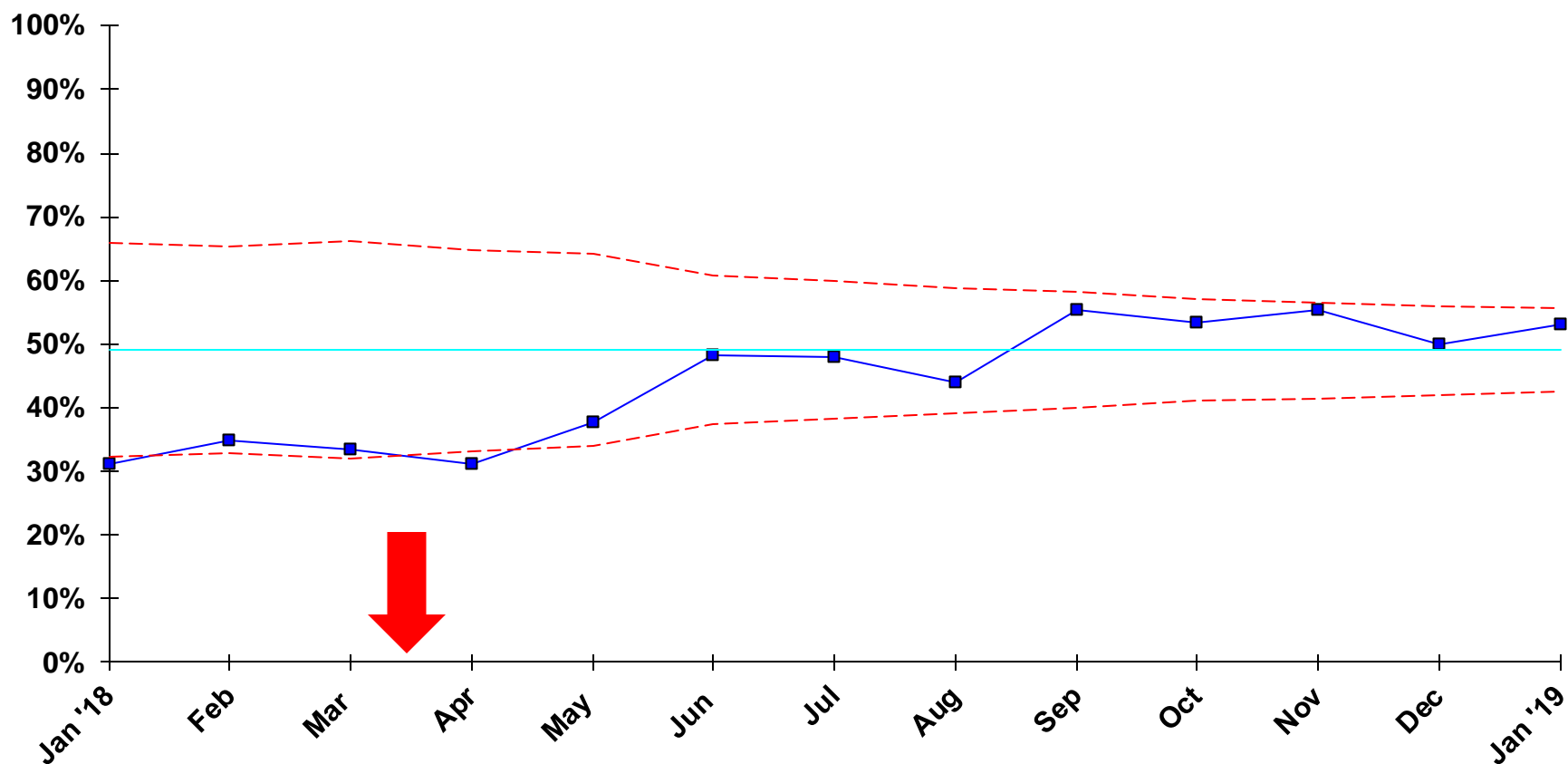




% patients with DM2 who receive effective* care



% patients with DM2 under clinical control (HbA1c ≤7)



Building QI capacity within systems provides an opportunity to help re-orient processes and to enable the effective use and optimization of limited resources to unlock the untapped potential of systems to achieve better care and better health for ALL.



Q&A



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