

Emerging Themes from Science Symposium Stream

1. Data Use for Improvement

Data Availability, including AI and other emerging technology opportunities

- Danish system has rich clinical registries (public), used to guide national QI initiatives
- "Data needs to be liberated" – opportunity to link with electronic medical record and other databases (local, regional, national), for QI, rapid evaluation, to guide policy
- Still insufficient evidence around emerging technologies and cost-effectiveness. New research methods needed.

Data Integrity & Rigour

- "We need to avoid bluntly aggregating data sets, as race-related outcomes can be lost through aggregation. The population becomes a homogenous group, and we lose the potential for learning how to support the groups with poorer outcomes"
- "Use solid data and replicable methods to assess change" – rigour in methodology and reporting

2. Scalability of QI

One of the challenges of rigorous QI is scale

- And leaving out essential elements of QI intervention at scale (e.g., EPOCH trial)

"Think big, start small." -Kedar Mate's keynote

- Start small and deliberately, but keep sight of large-scale opportunities and "blue sky" goals
- Importance of both types of thinking (small and big) AND the transition from small to big
- "Once you have the support....give yourself time to be prepared....Take your time and don't be pressured to make progress more quickly than you are ready for" – doing so can compromise important aspects of the work

Share methods and best practices for QI and QI research, including via publication or other dissemination venues

3. Embracing a broader range of methodologies to support rigorous QI

Collaborate across disciplines

- Opportunity for QI researchers & practitioners to partner with health economists (or similar) when making cost predictions
- Apply design thinking

Expand study designs for QI research

- Better account for bias, counterfactuals, comparison groups
- "Randomised controlled trials are possible in medical education. Both quantitative and qualitative techniques are necessary"

Balancing QI in practice

- Is QI an academic or a vocational (e.g., sushi chef, carpenter) discipline? Are we practitioners or researchers? We can be both and our field needs both
- Practice-based learning: "Don't *just* teach improvement. Without the opportunity to practice, the skill will not be learned."

"Upping the rigour" while keeping the science accessible & inclusive

- "The science needs to keep developing to push Improvement forward. However, not at the expense of it being accessible to staff. Develop the science and avoid exclusion."