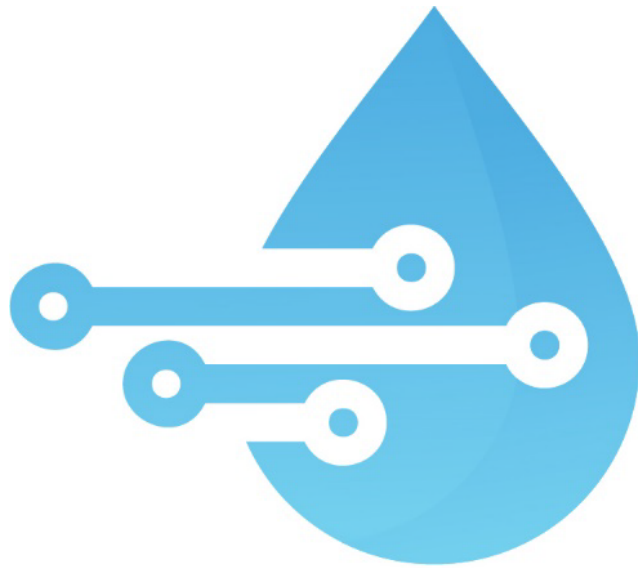


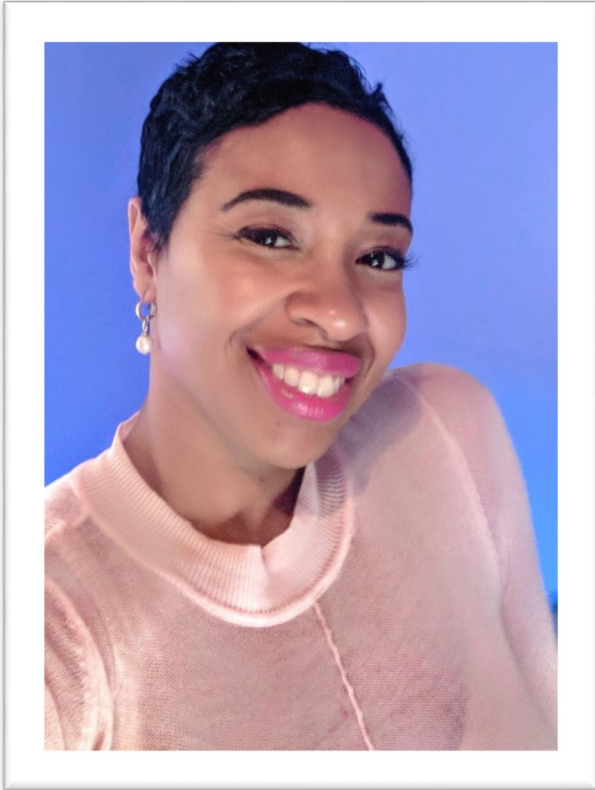
Panel: Understanding Race & Ethnicity in Health Data



FINGER LAKES HEALTH DATA CONFERENCE

Presented by the ROCHESTER **RHIO**

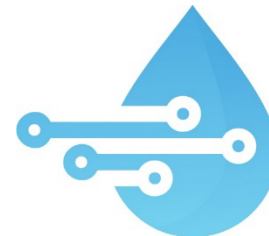
Panelist: Shaquana Divers, M.H.A.



Executive Program Manager

Population Health

Excellus BCBS



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Panel: Understanding Race & Ethnicity in Health Data

Finger Lakes Health Data Conference

November 10, 2020



Shaquana P. Divers, MHA
Executive Program Manager
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Excellus BCBS

Data Illuminating the Need for Change

- Deep data dive in Florida revealed startling findings about black births (September 2020)



- Researchers analyzed 1.8 million hospital births in Florida from 1992 to 2015
- Deaths were fewer by 257 in 100 000 among black newborns under the care of black doctors, when compared with care by white doctors.

Data Illuminating the Need for Change

- **KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- The United States has a higher infant mortality rate than most other developed countries
- When black neonates are cared for by black physicians as opposed to white physicians, their in-hospital death rate is a third lower, recent research shows.
- The extent of the mortality rate reduction when black physicians care for black babies would correspond to preventing the in-hospital deaths of about 1,400 black newborns nationally each year, according to the research.



Credit: Unsplash/CC0 Public Domain

Unwarranted Clinical Variation in American Health-care is linked to Health-care Disparities



"What this research calls for is getting into the primary setting and saying, 'What is it that these doctors, teams, and organizations are doing differently in higher and lower quality locations, and promulgating the successful behaviors from the high-quality locations to those that are struggling,' said Brad Greenwood, PhD, MBA, MIT, associate professor of information systems and operations management sciences at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia

A Path Forward for Reducing Unwarranted Clinical Variation: Collaborative Quality Initiatives



Collaborative Quality Initiatives (CQIs) Overview

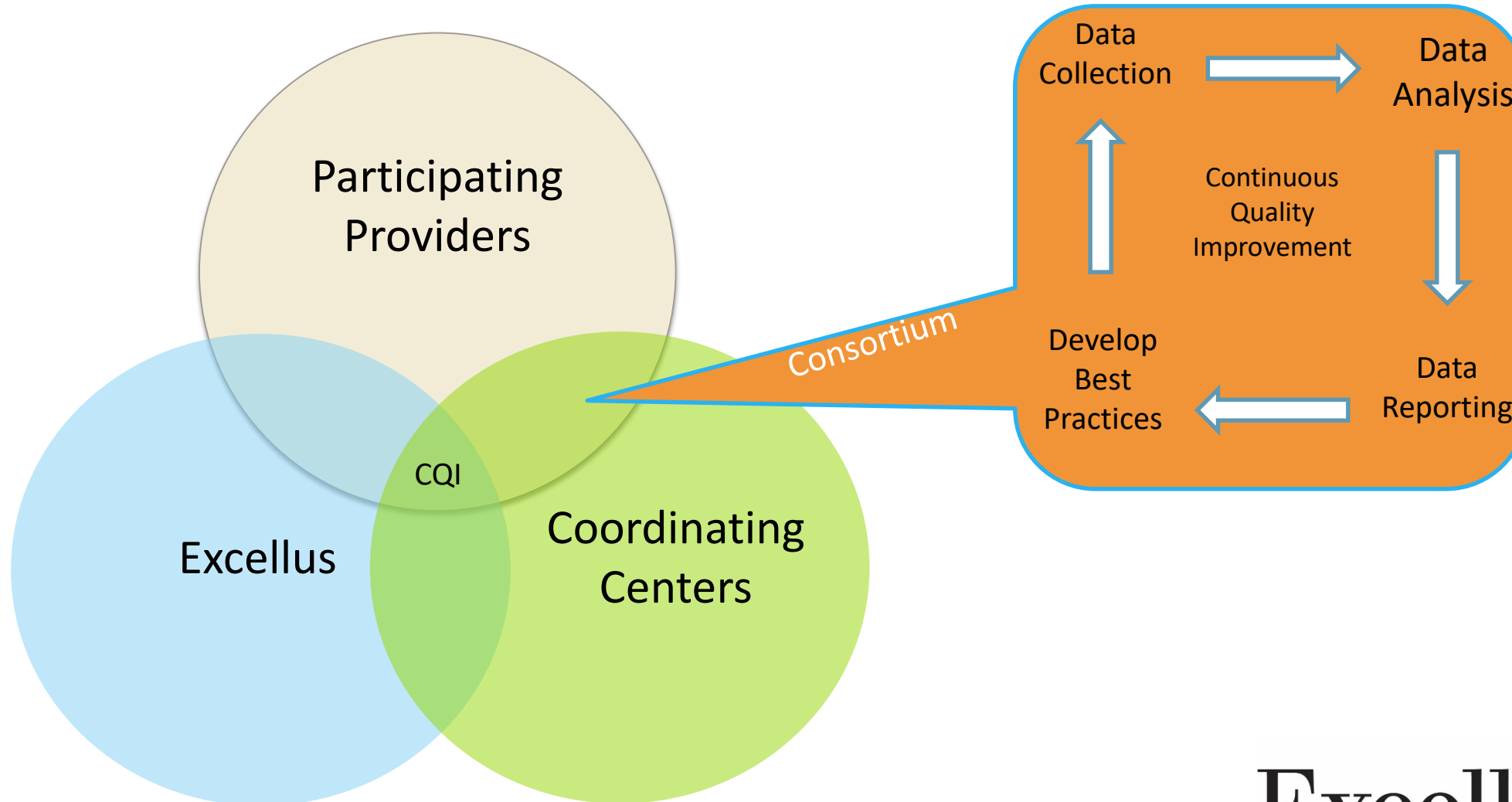
- CQIs are statewide or regional quality improvement initiatives developed and executed by NY physicians and hospital partners with funding and support from BCBS
 - They use comprehensive clinical registries which involves patient risk factors, processes of care and outcomes of care
- CQIs are used to address areas of care which are highly technical, rapidly evolving and associated with scientific uncertainty
- Physicians, hospitals, and health systems collect data while collaborating to measure and improve the standard of care in Western New York focusing on reduction of errors, prevention of complications, and improvement of patient outcomes
 - Patient involvement is also key for success they help define measures
 - Be intentional about inclusion from under-representing populations for measure defining

Identifying the Clinical area of Focus

- CQI should primarily deal with areas of focus where:
 - Care is technically complex and rapidly changing technologies
 - Medical uncertainty exists regarding optimal practices of care
 - Existing patient registry or the potential to develop one
 - Clear practice, process and outcomes variations
 - Potential to positively influence outcomes



CQI Program Framework



Improving health-care quality and affordability



- A separate coordinating center serves as a data warehouse, conducts data audits, performs data analyses, generates comparative performance reports, and convenes participant meetings.
- Participants work together by sharing data and developing and implementing best practices to improve patient care throughout the state of Michigan.
- This award-winning model is the first of its kind, nationally, and is internationally recognized as an innovative approach to improving health care quality and value. The CQI program has been profiled in presentations in over 30 countries on five continents.
 - decreased complications and improved patient outcomes.

Road Map

- An important initiative of Excellus BCBS is to invest in the establishment of successful NY based CQIs over the next five years by partnering with physicians, hospitals and health care organizations.
- We are aiming to grow at a pace of 1-2 CQIs per year based on lessons learned from Michigan BCBS
- Aligns with our ever increasing focus on improving health equity and reducing health-care disparities

Recommendations and Call to Action for our Region

- Health systems, health plans, and self-funded organizations collect REAL Data
REAL=(Race, Ethnicity and Language)
- Health systems, hospitals, physicians and patients/health plan members should get engaged in the development of Collaborative Quality Initiatives (each sector plays a different role!)
 - Integrate REAL data into CQI projects to further drill down on health disparities in various areas of healthcare
- Act on findings through QI projects with courage and vigor

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