While growth in healthcare knowledge and technology is significant, the National Institutes of Health identifies spread of best practices as a key issue in medicine. Studies show that it takes 17 years on average for research findings to be fully implemented into clinical practice.

Cardinal Health is a healthcare services company with deep supply chain experience and innovative process improvement resources. From data analytics to formulary development to implementation and compliance support, Cardinal Health helps healthcare companies discover new ways of improving quality and satisfaction while lowering costs.

In 2008, 3 networks were established focused on improving patient outcomes: Ohio Children’s Hospital Solutions for Patient Safety (OCHSPS), Healthcare Value Network (HVN), and the Patient Safety and Clinical Pharmacy Services Collaborative supported by the Alliance for Integrated Medication Management (AIMM).

The Cardinal Health Foundation, focused on increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of healthcare, was the founding sponsor of OCHSPS and provides support for HVN and AIMM.

While each of the networks has slightly different frames of reference — high reliability vs. lean methodology vs. team-based medication management — each shares common strategies to improve patient outcomes and accelerate change.

Engage leadership through formal professional development and informal networking at the C-suite and board level.

Focus board meetings on patient outcomes rather than financials.

Start small with pilots and spread best practices.

Assure all voices are heard and respected.

Provide robust training programs with branded messaging to embed new thinking.

Include the patient and their families as a critical component of care.

Be informed by best practices and protocols.

Continuously track both processes and outcomes. Measure and share not only rates but the number of people affected, as well.

Let the data drive and inform the work.

Work transparently, sharing data broadly both internally and across the networks.

Use an all-teach, all-learn method where each institution plays a role in the network’s success.

Learn by experiencing.

Focus on continuous improvement.

Stay focused on the patient and patient outcomes with a goal of providing better patient care in the most efficient manner. Although the bottom line is important, the patient is the center of all decisions.
Ohio Children’s Hospital Solutions for Patient Safety represents a comprehensive effort to eliminate serious harm in children’s hospitals. What started as a collaboration of 8 children’s hospitals in Ohio now spans nearly 80 children’s hospitals across the U.S. – all working together to reduce specific hospital-acquired conditions by 40%, readmissions by 20% and serious safety events (SSEs) by 25%.

- Early Ohio work achieved a 60% reduction in surgical site infections and a 34.5% reduction in adverse drug events, saving more than 7,700 children from harm and avoiding $11.8 million in unnecessary healthcare costs;
- Since 2011, Ohio children’s hospitals have cut the incidence of SSEs in half;
- The national network has developed pediatric-specific measures and established shared national harm reduction goals.

The Alliance for Integrated Medication Management works with federal agencies, 400 community-based healthcare teams and 900 partners to integrate team-based medication management to care for high-risk, high-cost patients with multiple chronic health conditions.

- Teams focused on diabetic medication management bring 35% of patients with persistently high A1c levels to goal within 6 to 12 months;
- Teams focused on improving care to patients with blood pressure consistently above desired levels report that 43% achieve desired levels in less than 1 year.

The Healthcare Value Network includes healthcare leaders from 60 health systems in the U.S. and Canada focused on providing high-quality, cost-effective care through the application of lean concepts.

- Network providers have reduced patient falls with injury by more than 60%;
- Total parenteral nutrition (TPN) medication error rate has been reduced by more than 65% over 3 years.

Value

- Participating in networks of healthcare institutions that are focused on improved patient outcomes appears to be a very good value for time invested. Such networks have the ability to accelerate change, improve patient outcomes, and significantly reduce healthcare costs.
The Cardinal Health Foundation has a unique mission, strategy and target audience. In addition to our work preventing prescription drug abuse and improving community health, the Foundation provides financial support to healthcare organizations that want to hit the daily double of cost effectiveness: improving quality and controlling costs—at the same time.

Think it can’t be done? We know it can. After investing more than $16 million in healthcare improvement grants since 2008, we have documented results that prove adoption of best practices can transform the quality and cost of medicine. The Foundation has supported not only the spread of evidence-based medicine but also lean methodologies, leadership engagement and culture change resulting in days, dollars and, most importantly, lives saved.

Our view is simple: efficient systems and clinical effectiveness go hand-in-hand. The result is medical excellence, the best patient outcomes, at a more affordable price.

“We strategically target our philanthropic support to results-oriented programs and partnerships that help improve the way healthcare is delivered and that promote healthy lifestyles.”

George Barrett, CEO, Cardinal Health

The Foundation is unusual in its breadth and depth. We provide grants big and small, in farm towns and big cities, to small non-profits and big university hospital systems. We’re known for our multi-year commitment to the Ohio children’s hospitals that are working to eliminate all harm – a program the federal government is now helping take nationwide. And we understand the importance of good management, so we provide substantial support to Lean Six Sigma and other effective management techniques.

Does someone in your hospital, pharmacy or healthcare system have an idea that can “save days, dollars and lives?” We hope so. Cardinal Health, the company, specializes in delivering cost-effective products and solutions. The Cardinal Health Foundation, the company’s charitable arm, assists non-profit institutions and healthcare alliances in their efforts to apply proven practices that make healthcare as efficient, effective and excellent as we know it can be.
The Foundation supports healthcare in three ways:

• E3 Patient Safety Grants. The Foundation invests $1 million annually to support implementation of evidence-based best practices through grants, ranging from $7,500 to $35,000.

• Healthcare networks. Accelerating the rate of change in healthcare — speeding the time it takes for new medical knowledge to become standard clinical practice — is key to cost-effective medicine. The Foundation supports Solutions for Patient Safety, the children’s hospitals work to eliminate all harm; the Healthcare Value Network, a leader in lean management methodologies; and the Alliance for Integrated Medication Management, which improves medication safety in clinics and out-patient settings.

• Professional development and recognition. The Foundation sponsors the Award for Excellence in Medication-Use Safety in partnership with the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, and the Pharmacy Leadership Institute at Boston University as well as professional development efforts by the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses.

The future

These are challenging and disruptive times for the healthcare industry. We embrace this change. The Cardinal Health Foundation will continue to support efforts to improve the quality of care and affordability of healthcare.

Join us in this revolutionary change. Our financial resources plus the amazing know-how of today’s healthcare professionals can transform the nation’s healthcare system into a model of quality and efficiency.

For more information about the work of the Cardinal Health Foundation please contact Dianne Radigan, Vice President of Community Relations at Dianne.Radigan@CardinalHealth.com or visit CardinalHealth.com/Community
SAVING DAYS, DOLLARS & LIVES

Since 2008, the Cardinal Health Foundation has contributed more than $115 million to programs that save days, dollars and lives.

WE FOCUS ON...

SAVING LIVES FROM ERRORS
An estimated 200,000 TO 400,000 people die each year from errors in healthcare.

ACCELERATING THE RATE OF CHANGE
Reducing the estimated 17 years for implementation of best practices.

IMPLEMENTING BEST PRACTICES

In the last seven years, we have awarded $6.15 million in E3 PATIENT SAFETY GRANTS to more than 200 hospitals and hospital systems— all working to improve patient care and reduce errors and readmissions.

SUPPORTING NETWORKS TO ACCELERATE CHANGE

75+

Ohio Children’s Hospitals
Solutions for Patient Safety
Every patient. Every day.

Solutions for Patient Safety is working to eliminate harm in 79+ hospitals. Ohio children’s hospitals have already reduced harm by half.

HEALTHCARE VALUE NETWORK

Healthcare Value Network is focused on providing high-quality; cost-effective care through lean methods in 60 health systems in the U.S. and Canada.

Alliance for Integrated Medication Management

Alliance for Integrated Medication Management improves medication safety in more than 900 healthcare organizations. In one study, they brought 70% OF HIGH-RISK PATIENTS TO THEIR CLINICAL GOALS.

Recent grantees report the E3 Grant Program resulted in $11 MILLION in cost savings.

Turn over for more info ➥
RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE

We recognize excellence supporting the ASHP FOUNDATION AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN MEDICATION-USE SAFETY which has recognized 30 hospitals in the last 10 years.

BJC, our most recent honoree, has AVOIDED AN ESTIMATED 8,100 INPATIENT DAYS and saved more than $7 million in hospital costs.

SUPPORTING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

We are transforming careers in healthcare with the Pharmacy Leadership Institute reaching more than 350 pharmacists.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE?
Visit cardinalhealth.com/community

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Powerful work that makes a difference

idea + impact = scale

YEARS TO IMPLEMENT

17
It is never acceptable to harm a child.
60 percent surgical site infections

40 percent adverse drug events

Saved more than 77,000 children from unnecessary harm

Avoided $11.8 million in unnecessary healthcare costs
Serious Safety Event Rate
Rolling 12 Month Average per 10,000 Adjusted Patient Days

2009-2011

2012

2014
Other networks?

idea + impact = scale

Lessons Learned
Strong organizational lead

Engage leadership

Concrete deliverables

Share data
Transparency and sharing

Group accountability

Practices and protocols

everyone is trained
daily briefings
ALL TEACH + ALL LEARN

Convene

Not just educate, but energize

INVEST THE TIME
The Power of Networks
Dianne Radigan  
Vice President  
Community Relations