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BREAKING THE RULES AND SHAPING THE FUTURE OF HEALTH CARE

IHI's Leadership Alliance begins a new year of raising a collective voice to advance health care quality

Cambridge, Massachusetts – September 11, 2017 – Few industries have faced as much uncertainty this year as has health care. Yet members of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) [Leadership Alliance](#) are convinced that with or without formal changes in federal law, health care organizations must act to improve care and reduce health care costs. That's why leaders from more than 40 health systems across the US and Canada have been working together to develop fresh ideas and to keep the momentum going on improving quality in health care.

Now entering its fourth year, the IHI Leadership Alliance is inviting new members to join this effort. Prospective members are welcome to learn more about the opportunity on an informational call with Don Berwick, MD, MPP, IHI President Emeritus and Senior Fellow, on September 13 from 11:00 AM–12:00 PM Eastern Time. Health care leaders interested in joining the call may [register online](#) at no charge.

Berwick and IHI President and CEO Derek Feeley serve as advisors to the Leadership Alliance, which Feeley characterizes as “a dynamic collaboration of leaders united by a common mission: to partner with one another, with patients, with the workforce, and with communities, to design and test new and better ways of delivering health care.”

Through in-person meetings, monthly leadership roundtables, workgroups, and other activities, members of the Leadership Alliance have access to leading thinkers and a creative learning network in which to harvest insights to support the mission and goals of their organizations. In this work, the Alliance also provides opportunities for members to advance a collective voice to guide change for national impact.

The “Breaking the Rules for Better Care” initiative was developed by the IHI Leadership Alliance in 2016 as a way to identify health care “rules” that may actually be getting in the way of improving the care experience for patients and staff. Based on Alliance member innovation and input, IHI created the Breaking the Rules for Better Care [Resource Guide](#) this year to encourage health care professionals to revisit rules, practices, policies, or procedures that have unintended impacts. A [recent commentary](#) by Leadership Alliance members highlights why, especially in today's political climate, organizations must take action to improve care and reduce costs.

Mark Jarrett, MD, MBA, MS, CPPS, Senior Vice President and Chief Quality Officer at Northwell Health in New York, has participated in the Leadership Alliance since its formation. “We as leaders see that our obligation is not just to our own hospitals or health systems or care centers, but to communities throughout the US,” he says. “The Leadership Alliance allows us the opportunity to start to take control of things.”

(more)

Previous program years covered topics such as joy in work, [radical redesign](#), and how to make electronic health records as smart as today's average mobile phone. The program commencing in October will address critical topics such as health equity, opioids, safety 2.0, and waste and overuse. IHI's Triple Aim — achieving better health for populations, better care for patients, and lower costs of health care — remains a guiding principle of the Leadership Alliance's activities.

Health leaders interested in joining the Alliance are encouraged to take part in the informational call, view the [2017-2018 prospectus](#), or contact Senior Project Manager Alyssa Saraswat at 617-301-4896 or asaraswat@ihi.org.

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About the Institute for Healthcare Improvement

IHI is a leader in health and health care improvement worldwide. For more than 25 years, IHI has partnered with visionaries, leaders, and frontline practitioners around the globe to spark bold, inventive ways to improve the health of individuals and populations. Recognized as an innovator, convener, trustworthy partner, and driver of results, IHI is the first place to turn for expertise, help, and encouragement for anyone, anywhere who wants to change health and health care profoundly for the better. Learn more at ihi.org.