

September 25, 2013

The IHI Open School is an innovative learning community where you can take free courses, earn certificates, network with peers and experts, and gain confidence and skills in quality improvement and patient safety to change health care.

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## Join us at IHI's 25th Annual National Forum in December

Join us for IHI's [25th Annual National Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care](#), taking place December 8–11, 2013, in Orlando, Florida, USA. This inspiring and motivating event will unite thousands of health care leaders, visionaries, and front-line practitioners from around the world. It's a unique opportunity to not just listen and learn, but to be part of changes that will impact the future of health care. IHI's National Forum will reinvigorate you, expose you to new ways of thinking, and empower you to play an active role in what happens next.

You don't have to take our word for it — [watch this two-minute video](#) and hear from past National Forum attendees why this is the one conference you can't miss.



### Reasons to Attend the Forum

The National Forum is the most powerful event of the year for health professions students, residents, faculty, and deans who are passionate about improving care. Each year, the IHI Open School designs unique and specific programming for its members, and we'd love for you to join!

Here are just a few reasons why you should attend:

- **Student Events:** The IHI Open School has designed student-centered events, including the 6th Annual IHI Open School Chapter Congress and a Faculty and Student Reception that will allow students and residents to establish connections with other attendees and network.
- **Scholarships:** IHI is pleased to offer a limited amount of funding for scholarships and special discounts for students, residents, faculty, and alumni. The deadline to apply for a scholarship is November 15.
- **Storyboards:** Each year, we encourage students and residents to display storyboards about their Chapter successes, quality improvement projects, and personal improvement projects. Storyboards offer Students the chance to showcase their improvements and interact with like-minded individuals.
- **Workshop Sessions:** The National Forum offers two days of more than 100 workshop sessions, and for those who are new to quality improvement, we've selected a student track of sessions that will accelerate your capacity for quality improvement.



[Visit our website](#) to find more information on the opportunities for students, residents, and faculty at this year's National Forum. We hope to see you in Orlando in December!

### What We're Reading: Update on Just Culture

September's AHRQ WebM&M features an update on the ever controversial, inherently challenging concept of "[just culture](#)," including two great pieces we'd like to highlight.

First, Dr. Robert Wachter interviews Sidney Dekker, author of several bestselling books on system failure and human error, including *Just Culture: Balancing Safety and Accountability*. "Yes, we can swat the individual mosquitoes, but I'd rather turn the attention to the swamp that creates [them]," says Dekker. [Read or listen to more of Dekker's conversation with Wachter here.](#)

Second, Sara J. Singer, MBA, PhD, from the Harvard School of Public Health and Harvard Medical School, shares "What We've Learned About Leveraging Leadership and Culture to Affect Change and Improve Patient Safety." [Learn the six guiding principles she recommends for effective leadership here.](#)

### Community Updates



#### Welcome, New Chapters

Association of Critical Care Nephrologists, **Worcester, MA**  
Western University, **Canada**

### Why Our Community Manager Loves Working at IHI



*"On our own, we might get complacent, but together we are constantly challenging one another to think differently, work better, and, at the very least, learn."*

In a new post on the IHI Open School blog, Community Manager Jessica Perlo shares three personal stories about what community means to her — and why she loves working at IHI. While dealing with her dog's unanticipated health issues, training to run a half marathon, and volunteering, she learned how a community can be a source of support and a driver for personal improvement. [Read her blog post and tell us how you've found the meaning of community.](#)

Share with your colleagues:

