

## QUALITY FORUM, 2014

### *"Harmonizing and Integrating Quality Improvement approaches in the context of health systems"*

The proliferation of different quality improvement (QI) approaches, and the need to adapt them into local country and organizational contexts, has been highlighted by several researchers (Atun 2012; Massoud et. al. 2012; Sax & Marx 2013). The need for clarifying differences and similarities in QI approaches, in order to maximize their benefits, is also a topic of debate in the literature (Walsche 2009, Tawfik 2010) and in various countries (Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Tanzania). But what mechanisms exist to drive this harmonization, and what is the experience of attempts at harmonization and integration of QI initiatives? Would improved harmonization of QI approaches have the potential to increase sustainability and strengthen health systems?

The goal of our forum is to use country examples to explore harmonization and integration of quality improvement initiatives and the link to health systems strengthening.

**Dates:** Thursday June 19<sup>th</sup> (12:00 – 17:30) and Friday June 20<sup>th</sup> (09:00 – 16:00).

**Venue:** Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum (DKFZ) Kommunikationszentrum (Communication Center), Im Neuenheimer Feld 280, 69120 Heidelberg, First floor, rooms K1 and K2.

**Registration:** The registration fee is 50 EUR.

**\*Payment:** *Bank transfer to:*

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\*For participants and interested persons outside Europe there is an *option to pay the registration fee on place* in order to save bank fees. In this case, please confirm your participation at latest on 10th June to the following e-mail: [quality-forum@evaplan.org](mailto:quality-forum@evaplan.org). The number of participants is limited to 70.

### **References:**

Atun R, 2012. Health systems, systems thinking and innovation. *Health Policy and Planning*, 27 (suppl 4): iv4-iv8. doi:10.1093/heapol/czs088.

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Massoud R, Mensah-Abrampah N, Sax S, Leatherman S, Agins B, Barker P, Kelley E, Heiby J., Lotheringston J, 2012. Charting the way forward to better quality health care: how do we get there and what are the next steps? Recommendations from the Salzburg Global Seminar on making health care better in low-and middle-income economies. *International Journal of Quality in Health Care*, Dec;24(6):558-63. doi: 10.1093/intqhc/mzs062

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Szecsényi, J; Campbell, S; Broge, B; Laux, G; Willms, S; Wensing, M; et al. (2011). Effectiveness of a quality-improvement program in improving management of primary care practices. *CMAJ* 183(18): E1326-1333.

Tawfik Y, Segall M, Necochea E, and Jacobs T, 2010. Finding Common Ground: Harmonizing the Application of Different Quality Improvement Models in Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health Programs. *Technical Report, USAID Health Care Improvement Project*. Bethesda, MD: University Research Co., LLC (URC).

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**Quality Forum: Harmonizing and Integrating Quality Improvement approaches in the local context**

| Thursday, June 19, 2014 |  |   |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| 12:00 – 13:00           | Registration and lunch   |   |
| 13:00 – 13:15           | Welcome (Rainer Sauerborn), schedule overview, announcements   | Sylvia Sax  |
| 13:15 – 13:45           | The importance of quality improvement initiatives in Global Health   | Charles Shaw  |
| 13:45 – 15:15           | <i>Harmonizing and Integrating Quality Improvement approaches – what’s the problem?</i><br>(20 minute presentations with 5 minute question periods after each and 15 min. plenary session at end)  | Joachim Szecsenyi<br><br>Michael Marx<br><br>Rashad Massoud |
| 15:15 – 15:45           | <i>Coffee</i>  |   |
| 15:45 – 17:30           | <i>Country Case Studies</i> - 2/3 case studies per room in 2 different rooms (30 min. presentations with 5 minutes for questions for each case study; followed by 20 minutes facilitated discussion on both case studies; participants choose 1 room)    | Kenya & Yemen<br><br>Germany & Great Britain<br><br>Algeria |
| 17:30                   | Cocktails  |   |
| Friday, June 20, 2014   |  |   |
| 09:00 – 09:05           | <i>Welcome</i>   |   |
| 09:05 – 10:30           | <i>Health System Strengthening &amp; link to Healthcare Quality/Quality Management</i> Key note speakers and plenary discussion  | Rashad Massoud<br><br>M.L. Dramé                            |
| 10:30 – 11:00           | <i>Coffee</i>  |   |
| 11:00 – 12:30           | <i>Four Country Case Studies</i> - 2 case studies per room in 2 different rooms (30 min. presentations with 5 minutes for questions for each case study; followed by 20 minutes facilitated discussion on both case studies; participants choose 1 room) | Tanzania & Pakistan<br><br>Afghanistan & Bangladesh         |
| 12:30 – 13:30           | <i>Lunch</i>   |   |
| 13:30 – 14:30           | <i>Challenges and solutions for harmonization?</i><br>Rotating small group discussions<br><i>Coffee available in room</i>  | Svetla Loukanova<br><br>Sandy Kubaj<br><br>Sylvia Sax       |
| 14:30 – 15:00           | Reporting back on group results  | Group leaders   |
| 15:00 – 16:00           | <i>Facilitated Panel Discussion:</i> How would harmonization of QI approaches increase sustainability and strengthen health systems?   | Sylvia Sax and<br>Panel members                             |