Addressing the Challenges to Network Sustainability

Vermont Oxford Network

William H. Edwards, MD
VON Co-Director
Professor of Pediatrics
Goals

• Describe Vermont Oxford Network, focusing on quality improvement collaboratives
• Describe top 3 barriers to sustaining QI networks and successful solutions that VON has utilized
Vermont Oxford Network
1990 to 2011

VLBW Infants

NICUs
NICQ Collaboratives
1995 to 2011

NICQ
Intensive face to face
Identify, Test, Implement
7th in progress

iNICQ
Internet Based
Test, Implement
10th in progress

Over 300 teams since 1995
Vermont Oxford Network Vision

Establish a worldwide community of practice dedicated to providing all newborn infants and their families with the best possible perinatal and neonatal care.
Challenge #1

• How to organize and support the vision of a worldwide community of practice
  – Including diverse stakeholders
  – Across geographical, cultural and political boundaries
International Membership

28 Countries

Austria
Belgium
Brazil
Canada
Chile
China
Finland
Germany
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Kuwait
Malaysia
Namibia
Netherlands
Northern Ireland
Portugal
Romania
Saudi Arabia
Singapore
Slovenia
South Africa
Spain
Switzerland
Taiwan
Turkey
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
Challenge #1
Successful Strategies

• Support regional, organizational, state and national collaboratives
• Develop and freely share resources
  – InterNet based access to data
  – NICQpedia
• Sponsor improvement venues that can be accessed worldwide
  – iNICQ
Challenge #2

• Provide value and support to both individual centers and regional, organizational, state and national collaboratives
Collaborative Groups

**USA**
- CA, CPQCC
- Colorado
- Dallas/Ft Worth
- Florida
- Ill, PQCl
- Kentucky, PQCl
- MA, NeoQIC
- Michigan
- Mississippi
- NC, PQCNC
- New Jersey
- New York City
- OH, OPQC
- Oregon
- South Carolina
- TN, TIPQC
- Texas
- Washington
- Wisconsin

**International**
- England
- SW Peninsula
- N Ireland, NICORE
- Ireland
- Italy, INN
- South Africa
- Spain
- United Kingdom

**Other**
- CHCA
- CHNC
- HCA
- Intermountain Health
- Netcare
- Pediatrix
Challenge #2
Successful Strategies

• Provide special reports for established groups for comparative outcome data
• Demonstrate value of comparative data from a larger ‘universe’ of neonatal providers
• Invite leaders of collaboratives to participate (without charge) and freely use learning developed in NICQ improvement collaboratives
### Center 999 and Network Values

**Mortality/Survival - All VLBW Infants**

**Mortality**

**GA Category**

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Challenge #3

• Maintain resources sufficient to meet our vision
  – Financial
  – Organization structure and personnel
  – Technical
  – Intellectual—leadership, expert faculty
Challenge #3
Successful Strategies

• Provide value to participants
• Keep basic membership affordable
  – Database, annual meeting and quality congress
• Options for participation at various levels (costs)
  – iNICQ, NICQ initiatives
• Take advantage of synergy among initiatives
  – Annual meeting/quality congress/iNICQ/NICQ
Other Challenges

• Major outcomes for extreme prematurity have changed little over 2 decades
• Rigor in design and outcome measurement(s) of quality improvement projects
• Having QI projects meet MOC requirements
• Evaluating overall impact of QI Collaboratives on neonatal outcomes