The Case for Implementation Science Research
Closing the Evidence to Practice Gap

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Disclosures

- Nothing to Disclose

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Mission of the ACS Cancer Programs

Founding Principle

…to reduce the suffering and mortality from cancer by an organized application of **knowledge that is already available**

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Mission of the ACS Cancer Programs

...to help reduce quality gaps by promoting the **uptake** of **evidence-based practices**

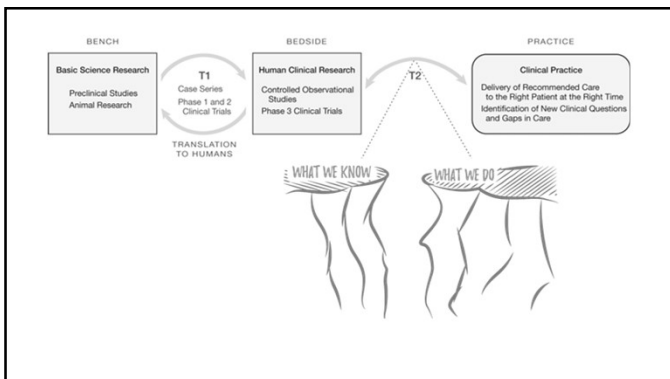...from bedside to practice **faster and smarter**

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What is Implementation Science?

Methods to promote **uptake** of **evidence-based practices** to improve **quality and effectiveness**

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The Quality Improvement Model

B Colorectal cancer screening among enrollees

JAMA Oncology | Original Investigation
Association of Cancer Screening Deficit in the United States
With the COVID-19 Pandemic

Ronald C. Chen, MD, MPH; Kevin Haynes, PharmD, MSCE; Simo Du, MBBS, MHS; John Barron, PharmD; Aaron J. Katz, PharmD, PhD

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Increase Community Demand	Increase Provider Delivery	Increase Community Access
reminders	education	reduce structural barriers
media & messaging	alerts	socio-economic barriers

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Primary outcome:
How many centers reached target?

79% of participating sites reached the target goal within 6-month period

Secondary outcome:
What was the overall impact?

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79% of participating sites reached target goal within 6-month period → **21% of *participating* sites did not reach goal**

Return to Screening
749   Programs Enrolled
814   PDSA Projects
>700,000 Additional Screens →

Uncertain of which projects worked or didn't
Generalizability unknown
Cost unknown
Sustainability unknown
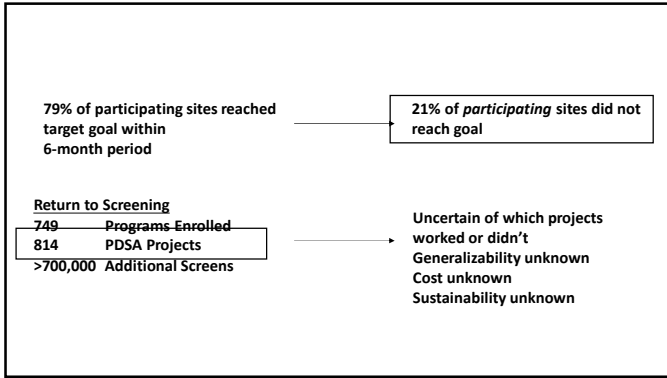
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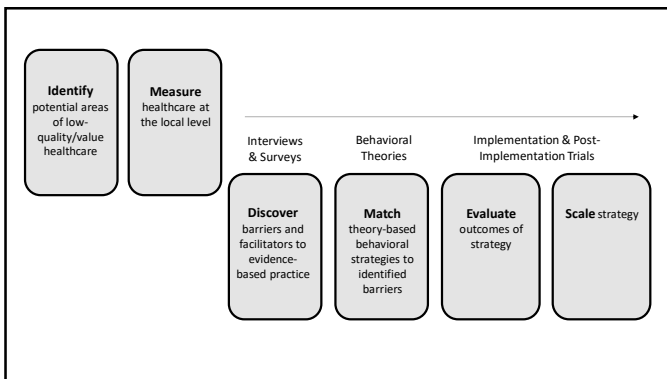# When can implementation science support QI?

PERFORMANCE GAP

…many (if not most) of the QI challenges we face every day

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Identify potential areas of low-quality/value healthcare

Measure healthcare at the local level

Interviews & Surveys

Behavioral Theories

Implementation & Post-Implementation Trials

Discover barriers and facilitators to evidence-based practice

Match theory-based behavioral strategies to identified barriers

Evaluate outcomes of strategy

Scale strategy

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Implementation Research Committee

- Develop the process/infrastructure to support implementation projects/trials throughout the ACS Cancer Programs.
- Execute/oversee priority implementation projects for the ACS CRP.
- Educate the Cancer Program community on the role of implementation science research.
- Build a community of cancer-focused IS researchers.

...from bedside to practice **faster and smarter**

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Key Takeaways

- Implementation science research is consistent with the mission of the ACS Cancer Programs.
- An IS approach can help support many, if not most, of our QI projects.
- The ACS Cancer Program is ideally suited to leverage IS methods to enhance current QI efforts.

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Thank you

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