THE ACCREDITATION PROCESS DRIVES RAPID QUALITY IMPROVEMENT – CONTINUED REVIEW IS CRITICAL

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Background Accreditation for Cardiovascular Excellence (ACE) has reviewed over 100 organizations and 7023 cardiac catheterization cases. The review process includes identifying organizational characteristics relative to standards. The impact of accreditation on improving quality through corrective action plans and then reassessment through reaccreditation.

Objectives To review the impact accreditation has on quality and its maintenance and recognize the value of internally developed corrective action plans and their impact on sustainability of accreditation.

Methods Organizations that have experienced both an initial accreditation and then a reaccreditation were reviewed. Researchers reviewed accreditation reports (n=32), comparing the percentage of facilities meeting accreditation standards for initial and second reviews. Corrective action plans were coded to provide an overview of areas for improvement and then were assessed against their reaccreditation review.

Results For 25/60 standards examined there was a significant difference in achievement between 1st and 2nd accreditation. Those organizations addressing standards that required improvement in their corrective action plans were sustained in their reaccreditation review. Of the 25, all but one saw improvement between the 2 reviews. ‘Does not meet’ was less commonly observed in 23/25 between reviews. 7 standards saw changes in the number of ‘NA’ from 1st to 2nd accreditation suggesting changed organizational structures to meet requirements.

Conclusions Qualitative factors for organizational change indicate ‘quality’ as do clinical outcomes. These change-processes are unique, and must account for organizational capacity, context, and individualized systems. Accreditation should be understood as an ongoing process in the pursuit of quality, rather than a ‘stamp of approval,’ or one-time certification. The accreditation process results in organizational responses immediately in the form of corrective action plans which are then sustained through reaccreditation.

IMPLEMENTING OF WSM 1.0 IN 160 HEALTH FACILITIES ACROSS KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

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Background As part of its Vision 2030, the Kingdom’s Ministry of Health (MOH) has undertaken a transformational initiative to achieve triple aim objectives (improve health outcomes, enhance the quality of care and reduce the cost of care). IHI’s Whole Systems Measures approach to performance measurement aligns with all three objectives and, therefore, was selected by the Statistics and Information Management Department to assist health decision-makers to monitor and improve health outcomes and quality of care.

Objectives This WSM implementation was focused on developing internal capabilities at the facility-level to collect and report data, enabling the MOH’s Statistics and Information Management Department to analyze and report the data using interactive dashboards to facilitate strategic decision making, benchmark and compare the performance of health facilities and health clusters locally and internationally, identify areas of improvement, and provide the necessary support to improve health outcomes.

Methods As a pilot, this initiative was implemented in 80 hospitals and 80 PHCs. The facilities were purposely selected to represent all regions and sizes of healthcare facilities (based on the number of beds). Hospital-staff was trained on data collection, while directorate-staff was trained on supervision and data validation. Data were collected over ten months from May ’19 to Feb ’20 and was reported monthly.

Results 83% of hospitals and 73% of PHCs have participated and shared reliable data for WSM indicators monthly. Throughout this period, indicators such as ‘rate of adverse events,’ and ‘reported patient satisfaction scores,’ have displayed improvement, while others were broadly consistent.

Conclusions By implementing the WSM approach, the MOH has provided experiential learning for its staff at the facility, directorate, and central levels. Data were regularly analyzed, reported, and used for strategic decision making and supporting evidence-based health practices.