



Lean Enterprise Institute

*in
partnership
with*

THEDACARE™
CENTER FOR
HEALTHCARE VALUE

Healthcare Value Leaders Network™

The Lean Enterprise Institute (LEI) and the ThedaCare Center for Healthcare Value are pleased to announce the formation of the Healthcare Value Leaders Network. This network is one of the primary means through which LEI and the Center seek to spread lean principles in healthcare. It is focused on fundamentally improving the way healthcare is delivered in the U.S. by using the principles of continuous improvement and redesign to remove waste and to improve quality. The network will engage working groups of dedicated providers to connect with and learn from each other, thereby creating tangible momentum toward value in healthcare.

The network's goals for the healthcare industry as a whole are to:

- Improve safety, quality, and efficiency in the delivery of care
- Document best practices for lean transformation
- Create a common definition of value in healthcare
- Create common measures for performance comparison

This network can achieve the same kind of remarkable quality and productivity improvements that American manufacturers have produced over the last 30 years using lean methods. These network members are dedicated to applying similar continuous improvement techniques in their organizations.

The current organizations in the network are:

- Group Health Cooperative - Seattle, WA
- Gundersen Lutheran Health System - La Crosse, WI
- Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates - Boston, MA
- Hotel Dieu-Grace Hospital - Windsor, Ontario, Canada
- Iowa Health System - Des Moines, IA
- Johns Hopkins Medicine - Baltimore, MD
- Lawrence & Memorial Hospital - New London, CT
- Lehigh Valley Health Network - Allentown, PA
- McLeod Health - Florence, SC
- Mercy Medical Center - Cedar Rapids, IA
- Park Nicollet Health Services - Minneapolis, MN
- St. Boniface General Hospital - Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
- St. Joseph Health System - Orange, CA
- ThedaCare - Appleton, WI
- UCLA Health System - Los Angeles, CA
- University of Michigan Health System - Ann Arbor, MI

Network Resources and Benefits

The network will engage healthcare professionals in learning *how* to improve safety, quality, and efficiency. John Toussaint, MD, will spend part of his time communicating the activities and results of the network to policy makers in Washington, D.C.

Network participants also benefit from:

- Access to private resources on the network's Web site: www.healthcarevalueleadersnetwork.org
- A common assessment tool that helps track their improvement journey
- Education about leading an organizational transformation toward a culture of continuous improvement
- Accelerated learning with like-minded colleagues through deep-dive opportunities
- Intensive site visits
- A secure blog and collaboration platform for learning
- A yearly conference of sharing and regular virtual learning opportunities.

Becoming a Member of the Healthcare Value Leaders Network

In addition to the inaugural group of participants, multiple networks will be created with no more than 10-15 organizations — the optimal size for in-depth learning and dialogue among members. Although all networks will be connected for learning purposes, deep dive learning opportunities will occur within the smaller groups. In this way, the momentum can be sustained between organizations that know each other and are working together. Once a year, all the groups will come together to learn from colleagues in the entire network.

Other provider organizations committed to the transformational journey are invited to join the network. To learn more, go to the network Web site at www.healthcarevalueleaders.org and click on "Sign up for the Network."

The goal is to transform healthcare by lowering cost and improving quality in the delivery of patient care. This network of providers who are willing to think and act differently is where it starts.