

Implementation science is a rapidly evolving, relatively new discipline. In the last few years, focused and systematic approaches to developing and evaluating interventions to support implementation of evidence based practice, in health care and other sectors, have been published. While the evidence for systematic, theory-based approaches is still emerging, most implementation researchers agree that systematizing approaches makes sense, rather than continuing less systematic, scatter-shot approaches. In this talk, I will describe the emerging systematic approaches in implementation science, with examples in practice that illustrate how these approaches can be used in quality improvement and patient safety activities.

Dr. Anne Sales is a Professor in the Department of Learning Health Sciences, School of Medicine, University of Michigan, and Research Scientist at the Center for Clinical Management Research at the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System. Her training is in sociology, health economics, econometrics, and general health services research. Her current work involves understanding the way feedback reports affect provider behavior and through behavior change have an impact on patient outcomes, and the role of social networks in uptake of knowledge translation interventions. She has is co-Editor-in-Chief of Implementation Science, together with Michel Wensing of Radboud University in Nijmegen, the Netherlands. She has over 110 peer reviewed publications, and has previously served on the faculty of the School of Nursing at the University of Michigan, the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, and the Department of Health Services in the School of Public Health at the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington, USA. She has held a Canada Research Chair in Interdisciplinary Healthcare Teams, and a Chair in Primary Care.

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