

**Veith Symposium**

**VQI Participation:  
Better Care and  
Decreased Costs**  
*Better Care through Better Data*

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No disclosures

VQI Participation

**3 Reasons Why**

- Improve Care (Quality improvement)
- Save money
- Scholarly activity

4

Regional/National Quality Improvement Projects

**1. Improve Quality**

- Increase use of antiplatelet and statin meds
- Increase smoking cessation
- Decrease MI after arterial procedures
- Reduce hematoma with U/S puncture
- Reduce SSI
- Reduce length of stay after operation
- Improve long term follow up
- Reduce readmissions
- Prevent contrast-induced nephropathy

VQI – QI Charters

**Quality improvement:**

- Reports provide focus for QI
- VQI provides templates
- VQI QI conference calls
- Collaborate with colleagues
- Reduce complications

"If you can't measure it, you can't improve it."



Peter Decker  
—  
Management Guru

**VQI – Improving care**

Vascular surgeons say: *"I follow all of my patients"*

VQI says: 40% of providers see less than ½ their patients at 1 year including EVAR patients

Follow up allows identification of problems, proper medications (ASA/statin), tobacco cessation, and secondary prevention

**One Year Followup Data – VQI**

LTFU (%)	Centers (n)	Centers (%)
< 25	34	22
25-50	28	18
51-80	41	26
> 80	54	34

**VQI – Improving care**

All cardiologists say they never met a vascular surgeon who didn't say:  
*"My stroke rate is just under 1%"*

VQI says: post-CEA **stroke rate varies from <1 to 15%**

The value of data and benchmarking  
*"If you can't measure it, you can't improve it."*  
Peter Drucker, Management Consultant

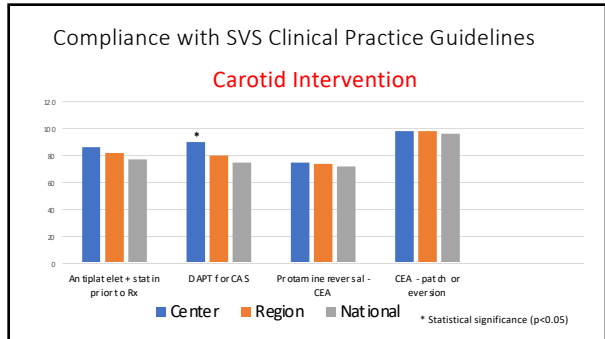
**VQI**

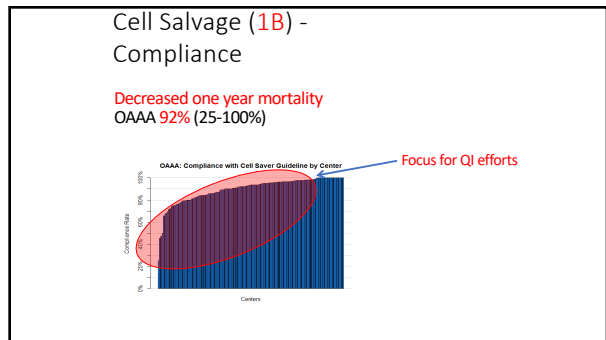
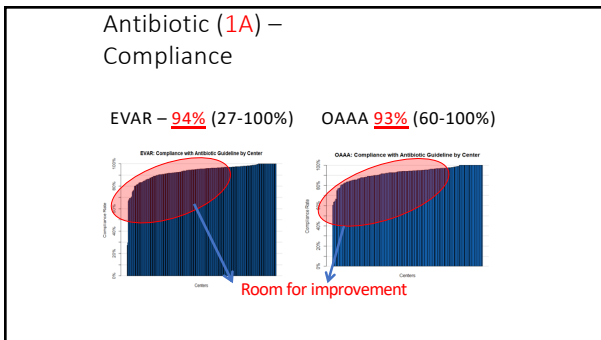
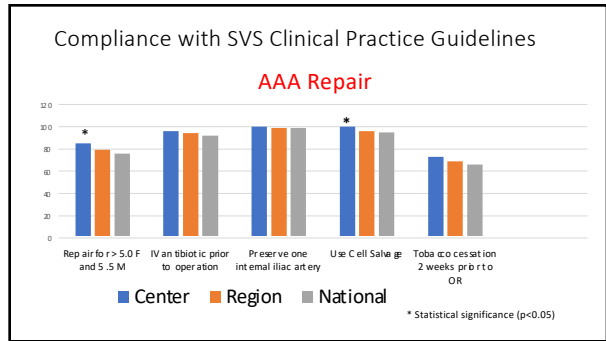
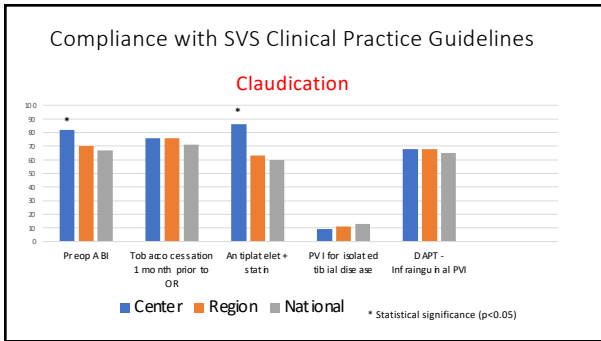
All vascular surgeons say:  
*I practice evidence based medicine*

Do you? VQI can help

**SVS Clinical Practice Guidelines**

- Are they being followed?
- Do they influence outcomes?
- VQI help answer these questions.
- btw – yes and yes

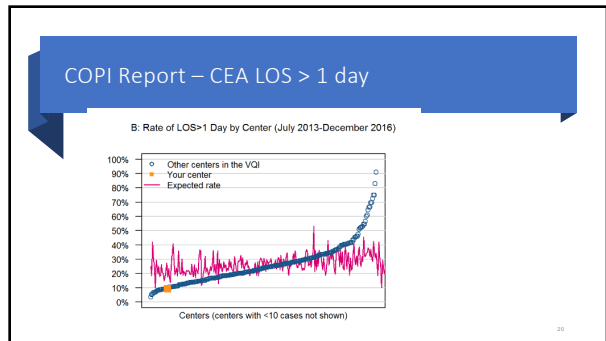




### VQI – Reduce expenses

#### Decrease resource utilization

- Reduce LOS
- Focus QA/QI efforts
- Reduce complications



## VQI – Robust source of data for analysis

Academic productivity

Almost 1000 presentations at professional forums

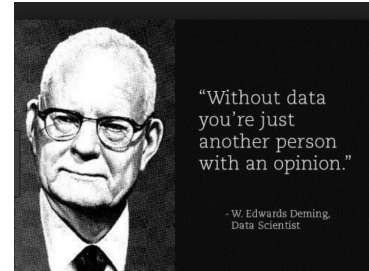
More than 800 scientific publications

JVS has 5 or 6 articles per issue based on VQI

Improved care and changed practice

Participate in clinical trials

Without data  
.....  
you're just  
another person  
with an opinion



Thank you

Questions?

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