

Della M. Lin, M.D.

As a physician with leadership experience for over 25 years, Dr. Lin brings clarity, inspiration, and provocative challenges to her audiences by integrating practical clinical experience, systems thinking around organizational resilience, and essential information of the current patient safety and quality landscape. She is known for her engaging balance of science and storytelling and is a frequently sought after speaker.

Dr. Lin is a Senior Fellow in Patient Safety and Health Systems Engineering with the Estes Park Institute and is an inaugural National Patient Safety Foundation/Health Forums Patient Safety Leadership Fellow (2002).

Dr. Lin is also faculty with the Jefferson School of Population Health Quality Safety Leadership Series (QSLs), and has been adjunct faculty with the Institute for Health care Improvement (IHI).

As a HRET Senior Fellow, she was faculty for 12 years with the Patient Safety Leadership Fellowship. As the Hawaii Physician Lead for the CUSP: STOP BSI collaborative, the state sustained an 81% statewide reduction below national benchmarks in central line infections with 100% statewide ICU participation (Adult, Pediatric and Neonatal). Those results gave the state the lowest ICU CLABSI SIR in the nation for three consecutive years. She also led the statewide CUSP Surgical Safety program in Hawaii with a 66% reduction in colorectal surgical site infections while measurably improving safety culture in the operating room teams.

Dr. Lin enjoys challenges that motivate multi-stakeholder groups through shared goals and innovation; implementing from prototype to scale through culture, leadership, innovation and design. Her books have included "Rapid Response Teams: Proven Strategies for Successful Implementation (HcPro. 2005, 2008), "Surgical Care Improvement Project: Improve Performance, Reduce Complications and Comply with CMS (HcPro 2007) and "Sedation, Anesthesia and JCAHO" (2005).

Dr. Lin is a board member at several health care entities. Dr. Lin works with physician groups, organizations, hospitals and communities on issues relating to physician, executive leadership and board engagement around quality; patient safety and patient-centered care; organizational and safety culture; surgical safety; and multidisciplinary simulation/near miss debriefing.

Dr. Lin continues an active practice in anesthesiology, receiving her training from the University of California, San Diego. She has several committee appointments with the American Society of Anesthesiology, and has been a board examiner for the American Board of Anesthesiology.