

The Series

"Improving the quality of the care hospitals deliver is not a project or a campaign...it is the fabric and fiber of how doctors, nurses and other caregivers must approach their work every day, patient by patient. It is creating the kind of systems that not only changes what is done and how it's done, but involves patients, families and the community at large. It is work that never ends."

-- Dick Davidson, president
American Hospital Association



Remaking American Medicine ... Health Care for the 21st Century is ambitious in scope, journeying across the nation to

follow an array of pioneering individuals and institutions as they work to bridge the "quality chasm." The series is being produced by Crosskeys Media, the award-winning filmmaking company, and will focus on advances in improving the quality of health care. The series is intended to empower viewers to become advocates for better care for themselves, their loved ones and for the communities in which they live.

Major themes that will be explored in the series include: providing chronic disease care that is efficient, effective and centered on the needs of the patient; transforming acute care to ensure patient safety; involving local communities in efforts to improve medical care for everyone; and adopting new technologies that ensure the delivery of safer and more effective care.

Working Titles

The Hospital begins by introducing viewers to health care as it actually is, not as they believe it to be. The program then profiles acute care facilities that are struggling to deliver care that is safer, more effective and more efficient, and ultimately yields dramatic improvements in patients' lives.

Chronic Disease reveals the enormous challenges facing a health care system largely unprepared to address the needs of the nearly 100 million Americans now suffering from chronic illnesses. The program will explore innovative models of care that not only save resources and improve the health of those with chronic illnesses, but also are fundamentally transforming the relationship between patients and their providers.

Community by Community examines how models of excellence in acute care and chronic disease management are being expanded to entire communities. This program will look at efforts to improve health care within a local region, while at the same time exploring the economic, political and social forces that often stand in the way of such reform efforts.

Creating Change looks at the challenges facing those attempting to improve the quality of the entire health care system. The program examines three levers of change that have the potential to drive improvement efforts: innovative education programs; patient advocates working both inside and outside the system; and collaborative efforts among the major stakeholders in health care.

The series is being produced in consultation with an independent panel of leading health care experts and presented on PBS by public television station, KQED/San Francisco.