



# ***Agile Transformation: Improving Performance in Complex Human Networks***

---

***Jose Azar, MD***

**Executive Vice President, Chief Quality Officer  
Hackensack Meridian Health, New Jersey**

**Co-founder, IU Center for Health Innovation &  
Implementation Science, Indiana**

**Co-founder, Blue Agilis, Indiana**

# Disclosures

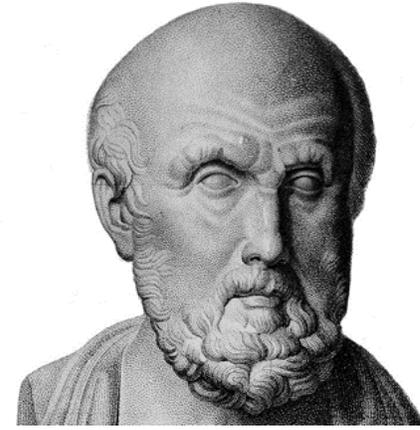
No relevant financial relationships to disclose  
Will not discuss off-label medication use

Passionate about eliminating suffering from Healthcare Delivery Systems

**Hippocrates:** aprox. 400 BC

“Practice two things in your dealings:

***Either help or do not harm the patient”***

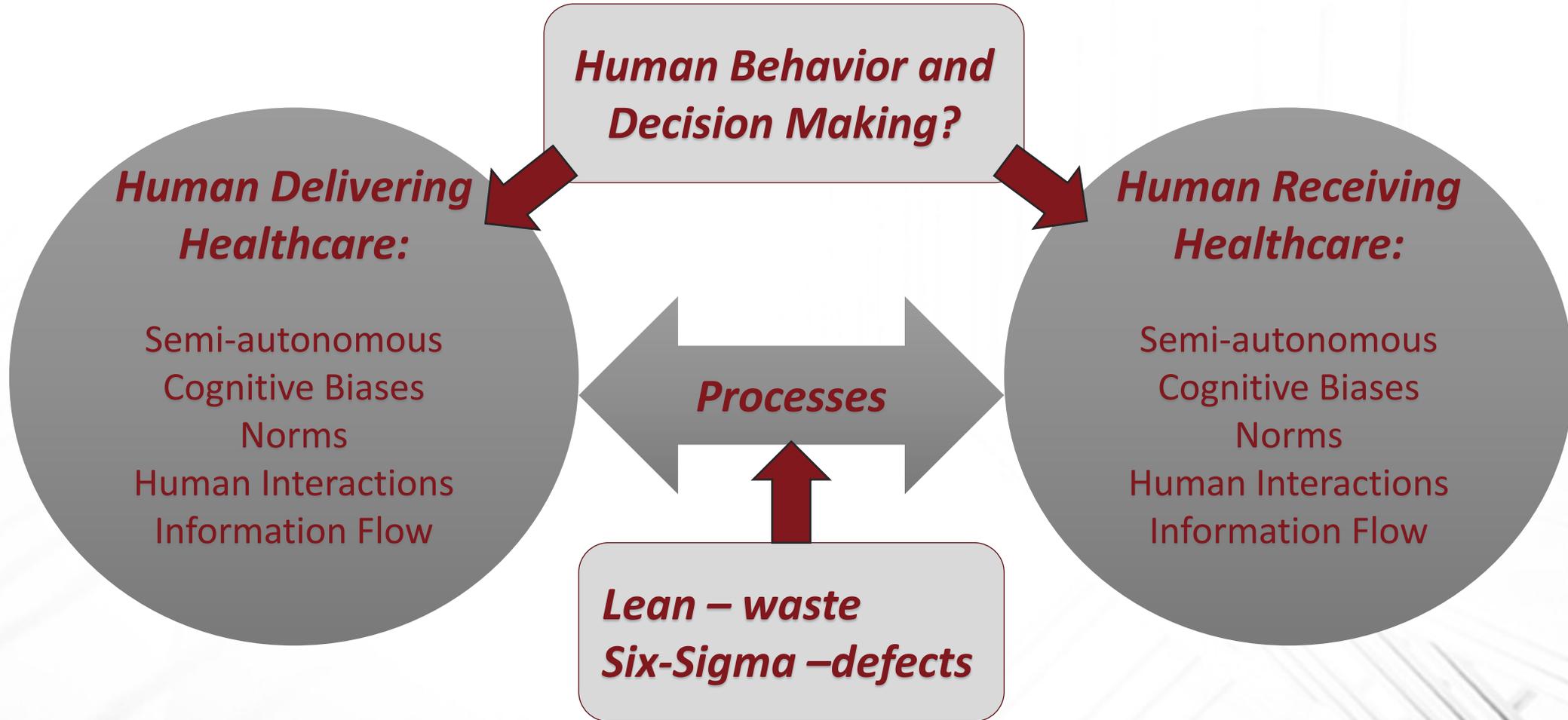


***Dr. Semmelweis:***

1840's-1850's reduced childbirth mortality from 15% to 1% with hand and instrument washing

# Why?

# Sources of Variation in Healthcare



# Our Journey

# GREAT LAKES PRACTICE TRANSFORMATION NETWORK (2015-2019)

- **33** Healthcare Partners
- **7** Universities
- **15,000+** Clinicians
- **62** on-site, on demand Quality Improvement Advisors



**Top performing network** of 29 in CMS program



**\$1B** in cost savings to CMS over 4 years



**Improvements of 10+ pts** in NPS



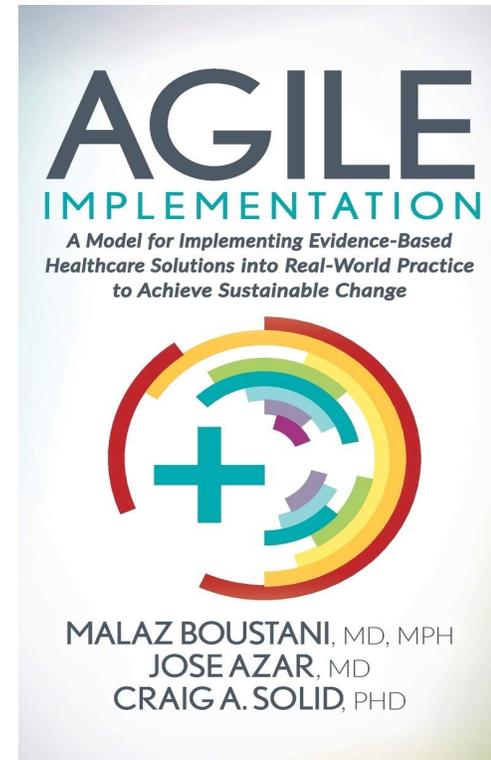
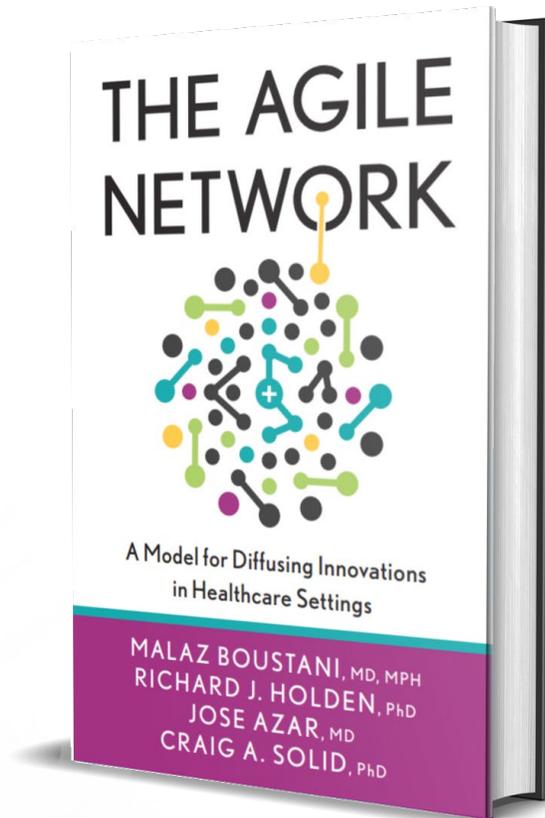
**Over 70%** improvement in patient harm events



**10 million+** lives impacted

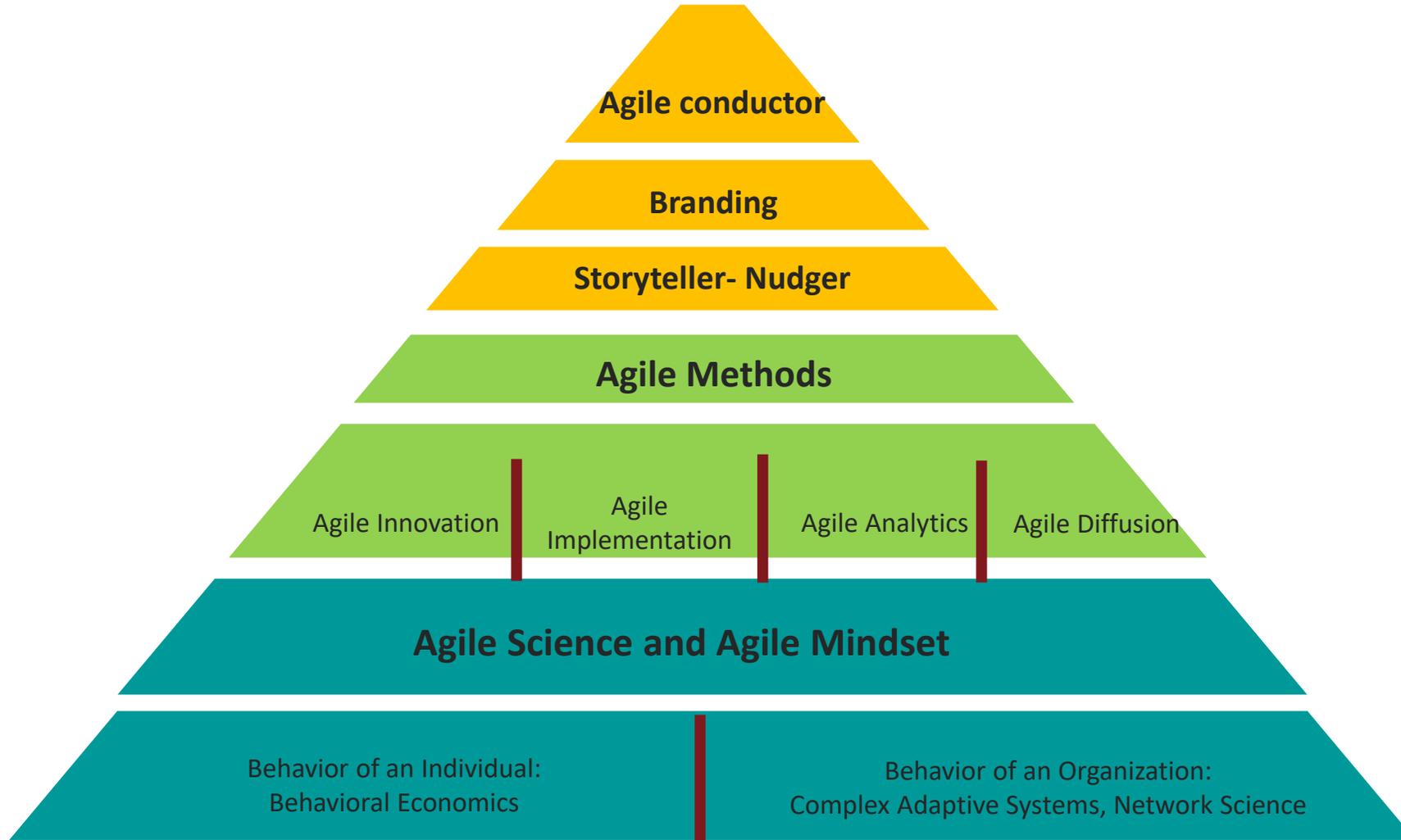
# What?

# Agile Transformation

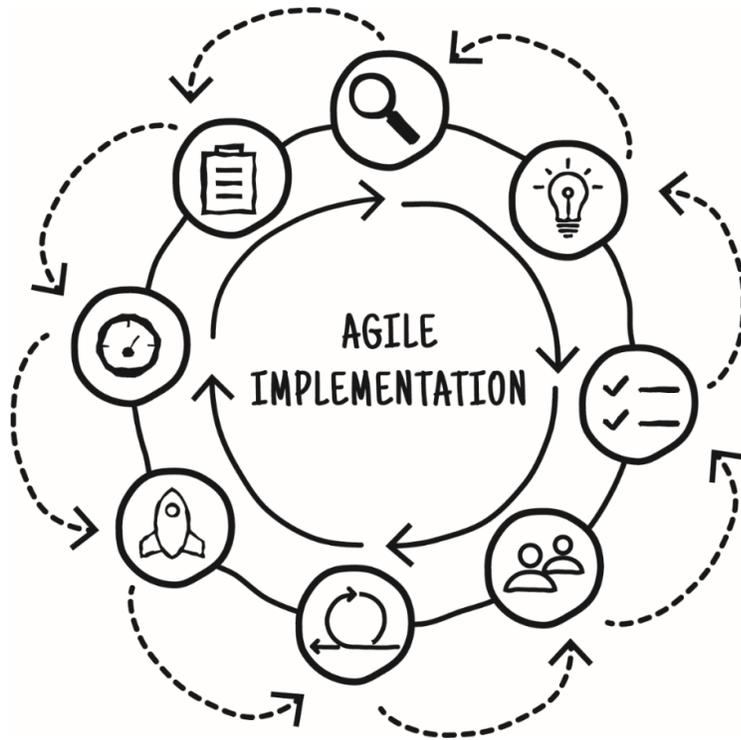


# HOW?

# Agile Transformation Building Blocks



# Agile Implementation Process



 Identify Opportunities

 Identify Evidence Based Healthcare Solutions

 Develop Evaluation & Termination Plan

 Assemble Team to Develop a Minimally Viable Service

 Perform Implementation Sprints

 Monitor Implementation Performance

 Monitor System Performance

 Develop a Minimally Standard Operating Procedure

# Agile Transformation: The Planning-Doing-Reflecting Cycle

# Scaling Agile Transformation: Digital Platform for Transformation in Complex

**Provider Practice Patterns\***

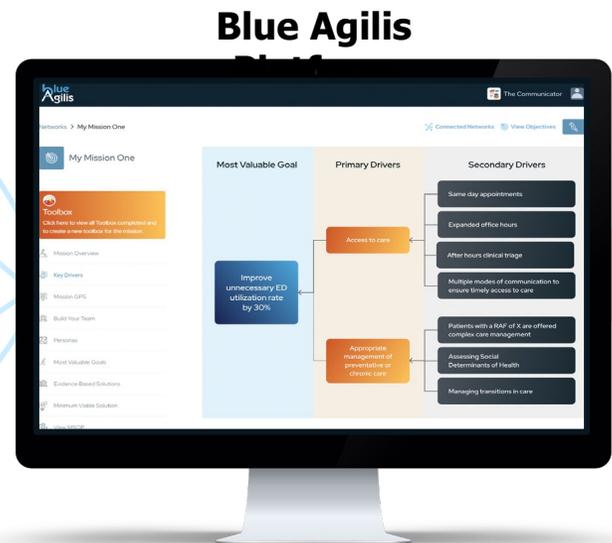
- Capability & capacity to transform
- Ability to use data-informed decisions
- Patient & caregiver engagement style
- Practice workflows
- Cost containment strategies

**Provider and Staff Habits**

**Practice Environmental Sensors**

**Growth Journey to VBC**

**Data Aggregated by Practice (Synthesis)**



**Insights**

**Actionable Data**  
*(for provider support staff)*

**Influenceable Key Drivers for High Value Opportunity Areas**

**Smart Solution Match**

**Localized Practice-Based Interventions**

**Early Indication for Course Corrections**

**Proven Solutions Packaged for Scaling**

**Actions**

*\*Blue Agilis has the only validated tool to capture and assess provider practice patterns*

# Engaging the Human Delivering Care: Creating Demand

## How to engage Humans delivering care?

- It's **NOT** all about Autonomy – but “planning without me is plotting”
- Doctors, Nurses, Pharmacists are human – Intuitive and Analytic mind
- ***They care deeply*** – they take deep personal pride and ownership in their performance (Hero mindset vs Systems mindset)

# How to engage Humans delivering care?

- Deeply understand the human delivering care:
  - biases, beliefs, attitudes, mind set
  
- Engage through:
  - Connecting to the problem not the solution
  - Diffusing Information → Story Telling → Minimal Viable Story
  - Changing Behavior → Designing → Minimal Viable Nudge
  - Early involvement → Co-design and Co-production → Minimal Viable Hierarchy

# How to engage Humans delivering care?

- Message
  - 0.01X (ROI power)
  
- Messenger
  - 1X (ROI power)
  
- Social Norms
  - 100X (ROI power)

# Who Is This?

On a cold January day, a 43 year old man was sworn as chief executive of his country.

By his side stood his predecessor, a famous general who had commanded his nation's armed forces in a war that resulted in the defeat of Germany.

The young leader was raised in the Roman Catholic faith.

He spent the next several hours watching parades in his honor and stayed up celebrating till early morning.