

# **Fostering the Scholarship of Improving Health, Health Care:**

## ***Training the Workforce in QI and QI Research***

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**If you have built castles in the air  
your work need not be lost: that is  
where they should be.  
Now put the foundation under  
them.**

**Henry David Thoreau**

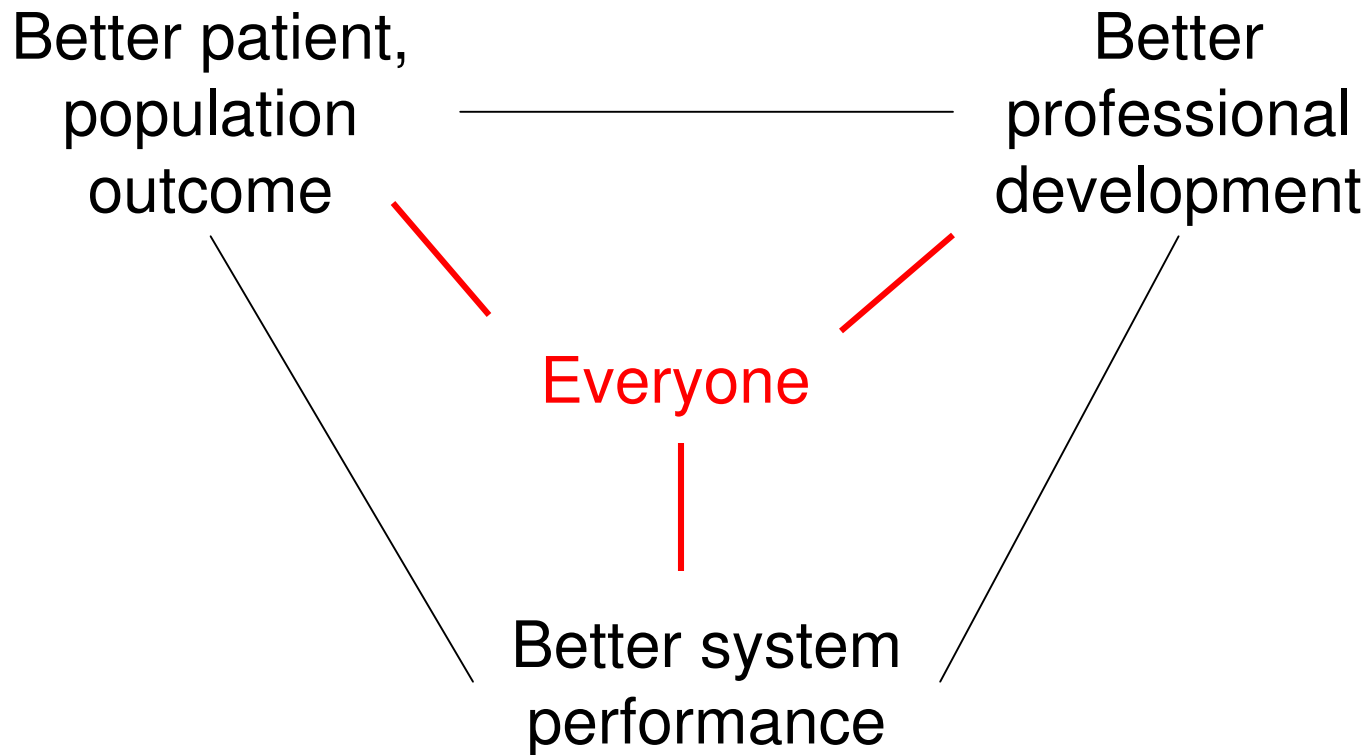
# Background

- **The infrastructure to better understand quality improvement and implementation research should be strengthened.**
- **A conversation about the various theories behind developing better research, and more productive scholarship of the improvement of health and health care is needed and might help.**

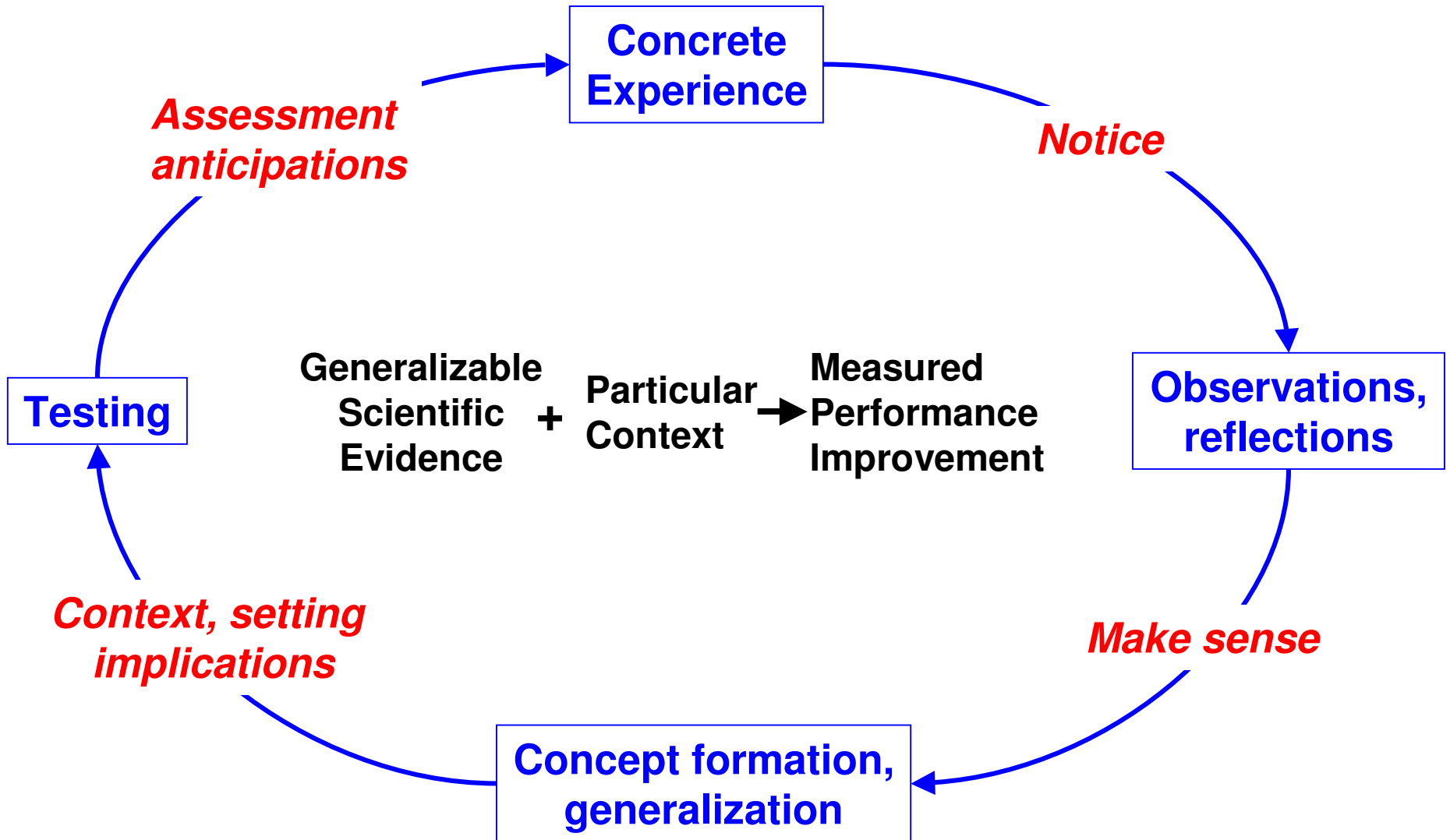
# **At this workshop, participants will:**

- **Examine three successful training programs**
- **Identify the major approaches to research training**
- **Discuss how these approaches can best work together**
- **Explore methods to advance QI and QI research training at the national level**

# Inextricably linked aims for sustainable improvement



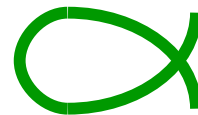
# Basic local work: experiential learning



# How is good evidence about the improvement of health care obtained?

- Evidence re: intended effect

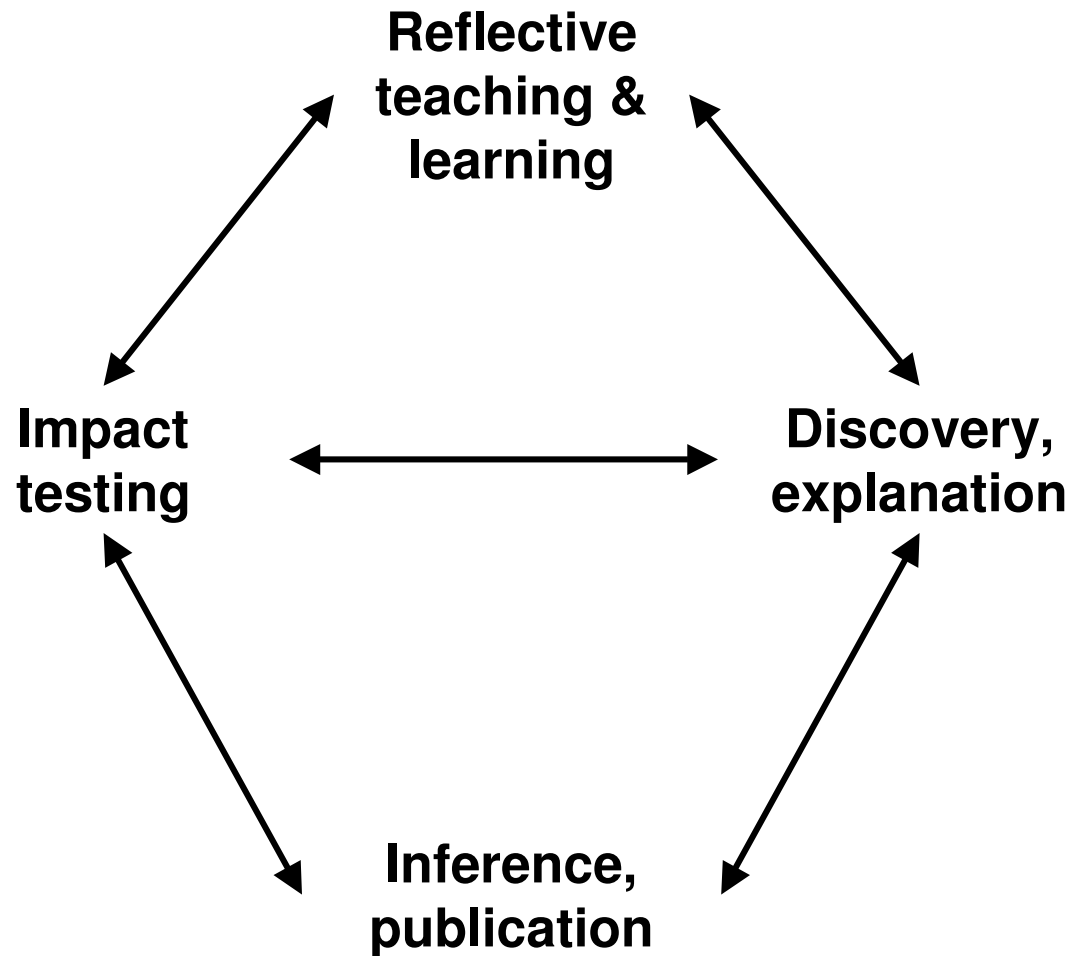
1. Randomized controlled trials
2. Prospective f/u studies
3. Retrospective f/u studies
4. Case-control studies
5. Anecdotal: case report and series



- Evidence re: discovery, explanation

1. Anecdotal: case reports & series, findings in data, literature
2. Case-control studies
3. Retrospective f/u studies
4. Prospective f/u studies
5. Randomised controlled trials

# Fostering Scholarship of Improvement



# Veteran Administration Quality Scholar Program

- **Aims:**
  - Apply HC improvement knowledge/methods to veteran care.
  - Innovate/continually improve health care.
  - Teach health professionals about HC improvement.
  - Research/develop new knowledge re:ongoing HC quality/value improvement.
  - Enrich VHA's workforce with experts in research & application of HC QI skills.
- **VAMC sites: Birmingham, Cleveland, Iowa City, Nashville, San Francisco, White River Junction, VT**
- **Distance + In-person learning**
  - 25 two-way interactive video sessions per year
  - 3 face-to-face meetings per year
- **First fellows in July, 1999**
- **64 graduates**
  - 42 in academic/VA academic positions
  - 51 involved in QI clinical or research work
  - 110 scholarly publications in peer-reviewed journals in 2006-2008

**More: <http://vaqs.dartmouth.edu:81>**

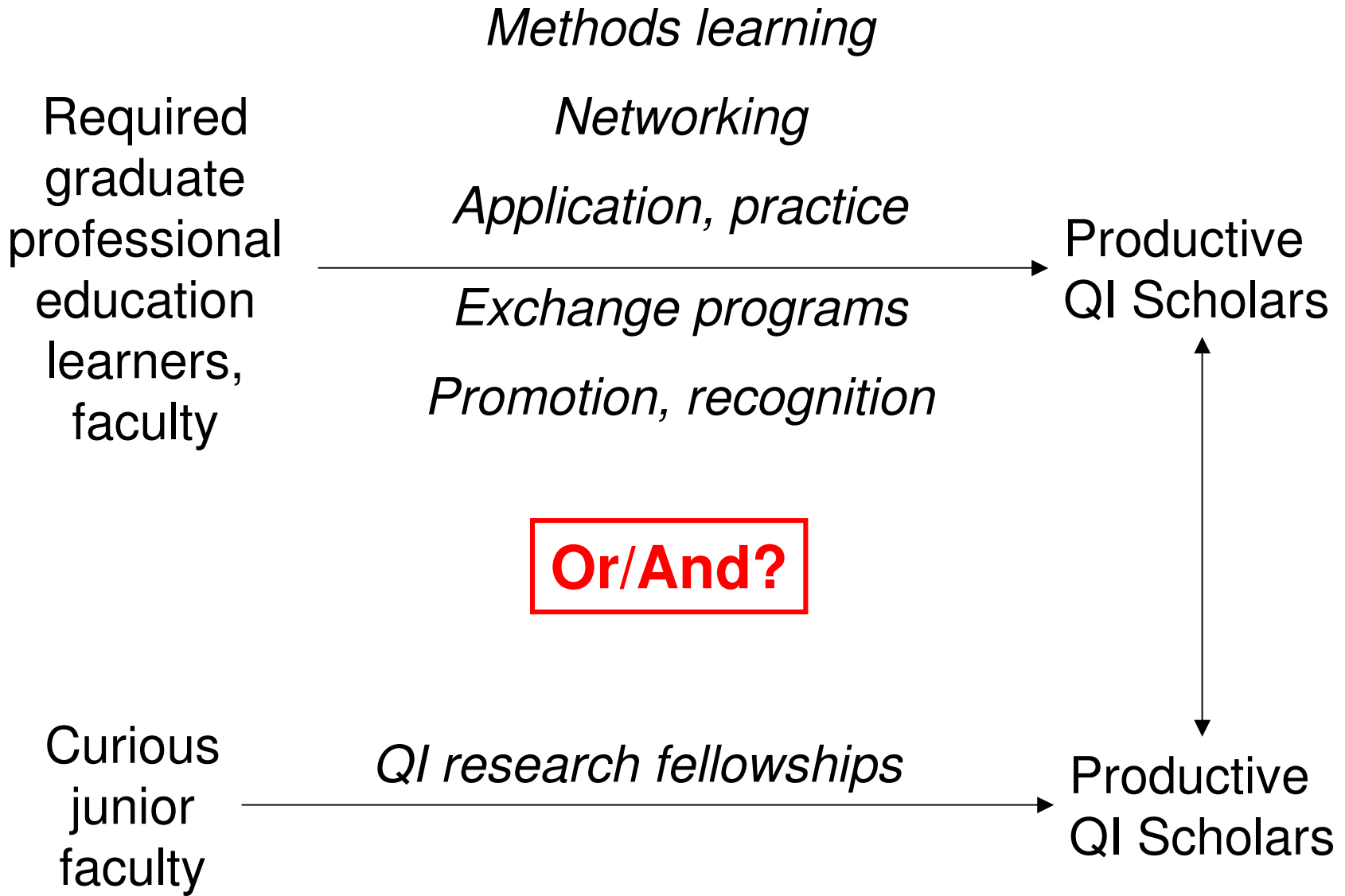
# **General competencies in the medical specialties**

- **Patient care**
- **Medical knowledge**
- **Practice-based learning & improvement**
- **Professionalism**
- **Interpersonal & communication skill**
- **Systems-based practice**

# Sources of faculty

- **Specialized fellowships**
- **Required graduate professional educational programs**
- **Both**

# So what?



## **And so today,**

- **Listen to the details of both types of programs.**
- **Have conversation about their implications for the development of our national resources for enhancing the scholarship of health care QI.**