

Title:

The Outcomes Gap: Where We Are and Where We Need to Be

Conference:

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Objectives:

At the completion of this session, participants should be able to (1) identify strengths and limitations of current outcomes reports; (2) list strategies to minimize the cumulative opportunity loss that arises from suboptimal outcome reports; and (3) create a plan to enhance outcomes reporting to demonstrate impact of education to relevant stakeholders.

Key Points:

Educational activity evaluation has the potential to provide information regarding the effectiveness of education and to identify further educational needs. However, unless outcomes data is thoroughly analyzed as opposed to simply summarized, the intellectual investment is not fully realized. Retrospective analyses of educational program evaluation and outcomes reports identified a number of areas for improvement as relates to the collection, analysis, reporting, and use of available data. Strategies that have been implemented to minimize the cumulative opportunity loss within one organization will be described.