

David L. Knowlton
President and CEO
New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute



David Knowlton is New Jersey's preeminent expert on health care quality issues. He has been a leader on health care issues generally in New Jersey for the better part of four decades.

As President & CEO of the New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute for the past five years, he has led their advocacy on health care quality and the reduction of medical errors.

The Institute's advocacy, under Mr. Knowlton's guidance, has led to the enactment of numerous statutory improvements to ensure patient safety and transparency in health care quality and cost information, including the New Jersey Health Care Consumer Information Act in 2003, the Patient Safety Reporting Act in 2004, the Drug Price Registry Act in 2006 and the Hospital Acquired Infections Reporting Act in 2007.

Under Mr. Knowlton's leadership and guidance, the Institute created the "Mayors Wellness Campaign," which promotes local leaders as champions of community fitness and healthy lifestyles. In just its second full year in existence, the Mayors Wellness Campaign already counts nearly half the state's municipalities as active participants and holds the promise of making a real difference in the fight against childhood obesity.

At the request of the Chairman of the New Jersey Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee, Senator Joseph Vitale, Mr. Knowlton chaired an ad-hoc committee of stakeholders intent upon improving the state's health care access and affordability issues. The group's efforts were rewarded in July of 2008 when legislation it designed to make New Jersey one of the first states in the nation to provide affordable and accessible health care coverage to all its citizens was signed into law by Governor Jon S. Corzine.

In the early 1990's, Mr. Knowlton founded and served as Executive Director of the Health Care Payers Coalition of New Jersey, a non-profit corporation representing business and labor organizations who provide healthcare. He remains a member of the Coalition's Board and Executive Committee.

Mr. Knowlton is an officer and a director for The Leapfrog Group, a national group devoted to reducing medical errors, and directs New Jersey's Leapfrog program. He also serves as a director of the Healthwell Foundation, a national foundation that provides copayment relief to needy persons with chronic disease.

Mr. Knowlton has served as a member of numerous National Quality Forum Steering Committees as well. He is an advisor to the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services on quality and healthcare rationalization issues, currently serving on three advisory committees at the request of the Commissioner.

Mr. Knowlton was the Deputy Commissioner of Health for the State of New Jersey during the administration of Governor Tom Kean. He has served as a board member and officer of the Health Decisions Foundation and has been a principal presenter on the subject of Managed Care and HIV for the Kaiser Family Foundation AIDS Symposium. Mr. Knowlton has been published numerous times on issues dealing with health care quality and management.

Mr. Knowlton completed his undergraduate education in psychology at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst and was granted a Master's degree from Trinity College in Hartford.

Mr. Knowlton resides in Pennington, New Jersey and is married to Diane Zompa. He has two sons, Scott and Craig.