What is health care sustainability?

- Sustainability is an ecological term:
  - Refers to how biological systems remain diverse and productive
- Indicates the need for a health care system that is adaptive to change
- Our health system requires a steady stream of sick people to maintain it
  - This creates a focus on activity rather than reinvention
Would we design it this way if we were starting afresh???
Sustainable Health Care – Gabriella Prada

Six key elements considered essential to support sustainable health and health care:

1. Effective disease prevention and health promotion strategies and programs
2. Effective health care system management structures, processes, and approaches
3. Affordable financial resources and investments and innovative funding models
4. Leveraging innovation and innovative technologies
5. Optimal development and alignment of human resources
6. Effective government policies outside of health care that protect the health of Canadians
Critical Sustainability Elements

Gabriella Prada (2012)

• Designed to meet health & health care needs
• Leads to optimal outcomes
• Responds to cultural, social and economic demands
• Does not compromise future generations
Critical Sustainability Issues

• Vested Interests & poor clinical leadership

• Waste – 20-40% of resources wasted
  • Operational Inefficiency
  • Clinically inappropriate care

• Limited citizen involvement – how is the system best oriented for their needs

• Poor use of innovative technologies to transform care
Where might we focus our efforts?

- What are we currently doing that we could stop?
  - ASCO top 5 in 2012 & 2013

- What can be moved to the home or primary care setting if the right tools were available?

- Do we have variations in costs for the same outcome? How might we learn from those that are doing this more effectively at lower costs?

- Where is there duplication of effort that could be better served through collaboration e.g. eviQ