The Problem: As the Leadership Saves Lives guiding coalitions began to try to understand and improve care for patients with AMI, they uncovered a problem. Although they were swimming in data, they needed better ways to integrate and communicate data across the care continuum to foster improvement.

The Response: Coalitions began to work together to develop processes and templates for synthesizing and communicating data for improvement projects, first in the root cause analysis stage, and then in the intervention/improvement stage. We present two case examples.

Case Study 1: Holistic mortality review
As one of their first activities together, guiding coalitions from LSL hospitals embarked upon a holistic root cause analysis to identify opportunities to improve outcomes for patients with AMI. Traditional approaches to mortality review provided little useful data to guide improvement. One LSL hospital set out to change this, adapting the Mayo Clinic Mortality Review System to systematically and proactively capture opportunities for improvement. We describe their rationale, the resulting approach, and lessons learned from the implementation experience.

Case Study 2: Case feedback to the full care team
High quality care for patients with AMI requires engagement of healthcare professionals from across the care continuum (from prehospital emergency providers to community based cardiac rehabilitation programs). Once a patient has moved to the next step, it can be difficult to systematically circle back to share outcomes or opportunities for improvement. Several LSL hospitals set out to improve case feedback loops, including more complete immediate feedback on patients with STEMI, and more comprehensive quarterly case review with all ACS care Providers.

In this toolkit
The toolkit includes an editable PowerPoint deck on each of the two case studies, including rationale for the approach, the resulting tool, reflections on implementation experience, and a note about the importance of tailoring this approach to your local hospital context.