

# The Governance Institute

## STEEEP

The Institute of Medicine defines quality of care using the STEEEP acronym:

- **S**afe: the patient's safety comes first.
- **T**imely: care should be delivered in the timeliest manner possible.
- **E**ffective: care is based on the best scientific knowledge currently available.
- **E**fficient: care is not wasteful of time, money, and resources.
- **E**quitable: care does not vary in quality because of patient characteristics, such as ethnicity, ability to pay, or geographic location.
- **P**atient-centered: care is respectful and responsive to individual preferences, needs, and values