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Kirk Walters* (kwalters@air.org), 1000 Thomas Jefferson St. NW, Washington, DC 20007, and **Toni S. Smith**, 1000 Thomas Jefferson St. NW, Washington, DC 20007. *Forging Research and Practice with Improvement Science: Early Lessons from the Better Math Teaching Network*. Preliminary report.

The Better Math Teaching Network (BMTN) is a networked improvement community of researchers, teachers, and instructional leaders from New England who are using principles of improvement science to increase the number of students who are deeply and actively engaged in understanding algebra. The BMTN's quick-cycle testing involves refining and sharing student-centered instructional routines across the network. Presenters will discuss challenges and opportunities related to this collaborative model, and share emerging findings. These include: (1) BMTN members have demonstrated strong levels of buy-in and participation in the networked improvement community structure and quick-cycle testing procedures; (2) BMTN teachers have tested and refined a variety of student-centered instructional routines that will be shared throughout the network and beyond in 2017-18; (3) BMTN teachers' choice of tasks and use of scaffolds determined the depth and degree to which students took academic ownership of the learning environment; and (4) A majority of students in BMTN teachers' classrooms reported experiencing learning environments that closely aligned with the goals of the network, with statistically significant increasing levels from fall 2016 to spring 2017. (Received September 25, 2017)