

Background

- Our Operating Room (OR) has 15 OR suites and 2 cystoscopy procedure rooms. One of our operational efficiency goals is to improve our First Case Start Time (FCOT). We do an average of 600-650 cases/month.
- FCOT from January to August 2021 ranges from 36-48%.
- A deep dive on the processes of room readiness and patient preparation was done to understand challenges and barriers in bringing the patient in the room on time.
- Our team includes frontline Registered Nurses, Surgical Technologist and Perioperative leadership team.

Methods

- The OR leadership team enlisted the help of the frontline staff to determine challenges, look at the literature on evidence based practices and best practices that can improve workflow, and be the champion for initiatives to improve FCOT.
- Assess current workflow and identify variabilities in processes.
- Utilize the RISK management model to shift from reactive to proactive and predictive in case and room preparation.
- Apply the Change Theory to get a buy-in from key stakeholders.

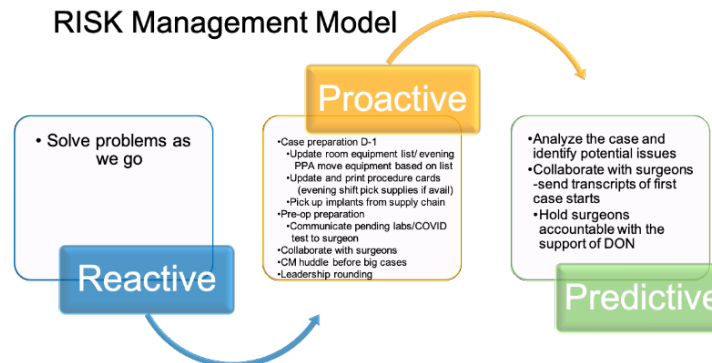


Findings

- Infrastructure with limited space
 - Built in the 1930's
 - Small size with no central core
 - Supplies scattered in various storage locations
 - Non-functional room fixtures (booms on top of sterile set-up and anesthesia machines)
- OR rooms not equipped with equipment (everything has to be brought in the room).
 - All equipment is mobile, no built in equipment
 - Kstorz Towers, suction machines, bovie move from room to room daily
- Inexperienced staff/New graduate staff
 - Lack of expertise in specialty cases
 - Many are Periop 101 participants

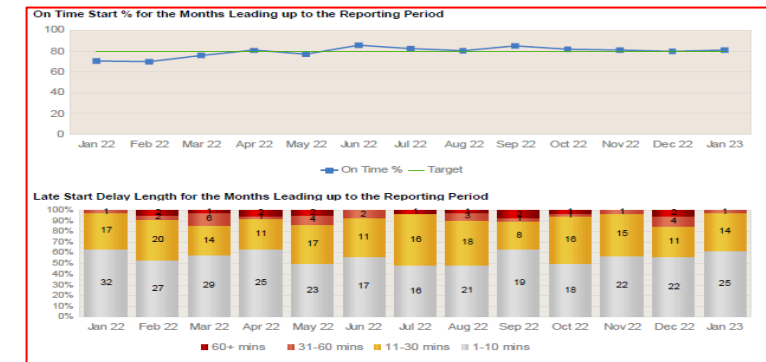
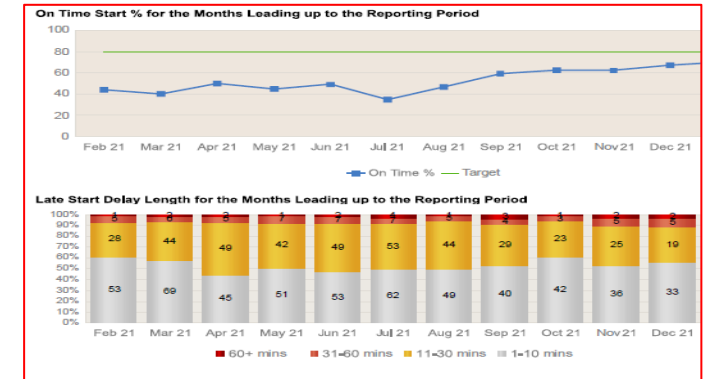
Interventions

RISK Management Model



For more information, please contact:
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Results



Discussion

- As a result from February 2021 to April 2022 our FCOT increased from below 40% to sustaining at 80% or higher.
- Starting the first case on time is essential to efficiency, reduces overtime, and increases staff and patient satisfaction.
- The most important nursing implications are getting the staff to buy in to the process. Taking our time to make sure our staff understands and participate on our practice changes to improve our first case starts. We allow frontline staff to re-assess and improve our current practices and most importantly celebrate our team's accomplishment.