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Risk Management Cycle





Problem Identification

- Specimens tested reports held if discordant information present
- No definitive lab policy for reporting results with discordant information
- Regulatory deficiency reports held past established TAT



Brainstorm: Define Scope of the Problem

Define type of discordant information
What type of error will suppress reports?





Type of Mismatches

- Missing information
- Discrepancy between specimen & requisition
- Wrong or no specimen received
- Unauthorized specimen received
- Test not available
- Specimen improperly submitted or leaking



Will report be suppressed?

- Missing information (YES)
- Discrepancy between specimen & requisition (YES)
- Wrong or no specimen received (NO)
- Unauthorized specimen received (NO)
- Test not available (NO)
- Specimen improperly submitted or leaking (NO)



Define Current Process

Error identification during specimen triage

- Day 1: fax correction form
- Day7: initial follow-up via fax
- Day 14: telephone follow-up via phone
- Day 30: final follow-up
- Day 30: report unsatisfactory if not resolved



Define Future State

- Day 1: DASH detects error during specimen triage
- Day 1: DASH calls submitter to resolve. Release specimen for testing/reporting if resolved.
 - Fax requisition if change must be made in writing.
- Day 2: If unresolved, DASH makes repeat contact.
- Day 5: If still unresolved, manager contacts submitter to resolve.



If still unresolved, manager reports with disclaimer or reports as unsatisfactory.







Pilot Study

One week period, document: # and type of mismatches # resolved at Day 1 # resolved at Day 2 # resolved by Manager # unresolved & reported with disclaimer # unresolved & reported as unsatisfactory



Assessment of Effectiveness (following implementation)



Bureau of Laboratories

Risk Management Cycle

- 1. Define the context
- 2. Identify potential risk
- 3. Assess & analyze risk
- 4. Develop alternatives
- 5. Decide & implement
- 6. Evaluate & monitor





Lessons Learned

- Understand current process before implementing a change
- Get input from staff doing the work before implementing a change
- Communication essential
 - Get input
 - Share ideas
 - Convey results & educate



Lean is Great When it Works, What Could Possibly Go Wrong?????



Problems

• Make changes without prior planning or establishing a foundation of quality





Questions???



