Reducing Day of Surgery Cancellations in a Large Hospital System

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Declaration of Interest

- Who had paid us to give talks?
- NA
- Who had paid us for our advice?
- NA
- Who has funded our research?
 - NA
- Who has paid for us to attend conferences?
- NA
- Any other interests that could relate to our work?
 - NA



Key Take Aways



It takes a whole team



Follow the data



Independently measurable tests of change



PDCA cycles



Trust the process



Background

Baseline: 7.35% Day of Surgery Cancellation Rate

- Insurance Denials
- Patient No Show/No Ride
- Weather Delays
- Clearance Issues
- Scheduling Issues

- Blood Sugar/Potassium/Drugs
- Surgeon was Sick
- Equipment Issues
- NPO Compliance
- Patient Illnesses



Lean Six Sigma Approach

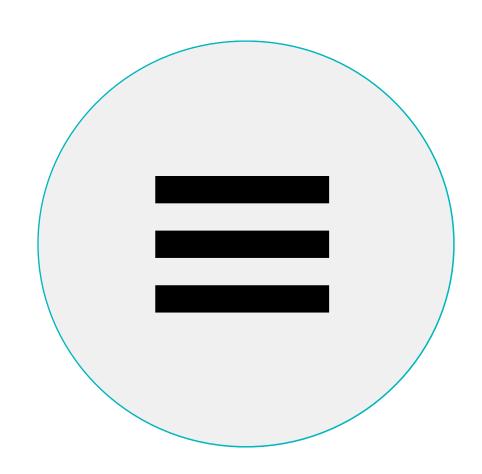




Define

Define Phase Goals:

• Define is the "contract" phase of the project. We are determining exactly what we intend to work on and estimating the impact to the business



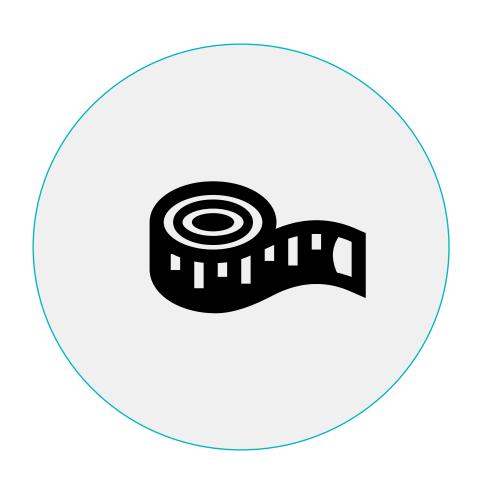


Measure

Measure Phase Goals:

- Define the Current State
- •Define, explore, and classify "X" variables using a variety of tools

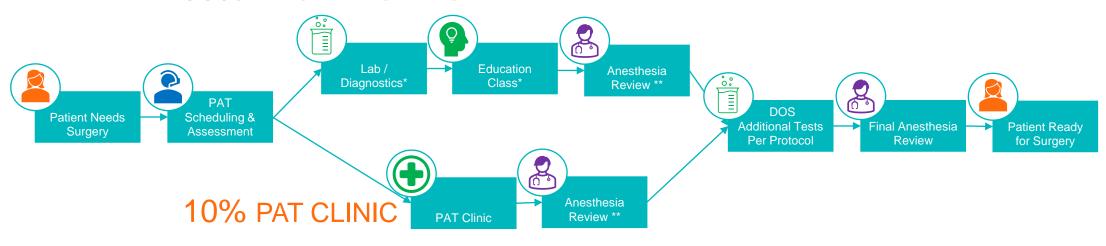
$$Y = f(X_i)$$





PAT Process Map Beginning State (High Level)

90% - NO PAT CLINIC



PAT CLINIC:

- Labs
- Diagnostics
- Education
- Hospitalist Optimization



Analyze

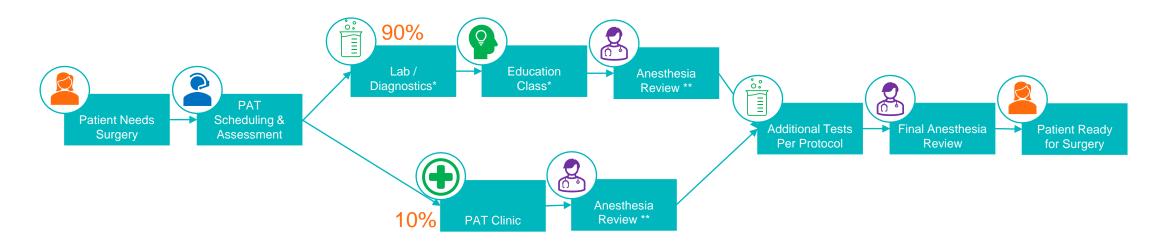
Analyze Phase Goals:

- •Analyze:
 - Causes of variation
 - •Statistical impact
 - Potential interventions





Analysis Findings



Ruled Out:

- Wrong Order Set
- Surgical Order Delays
- Anesthesia Flagging
- Timely Patient Contact
- Lab Results
- Surgeon Cancelations
- Insurance Delays

Opportunities:

- PAT Clinic Utilization
- Hospitalist Consultation Notes <72 Hours
- Anesthesia Review <2/4 Days

Critical Variation:

PAT Protocol



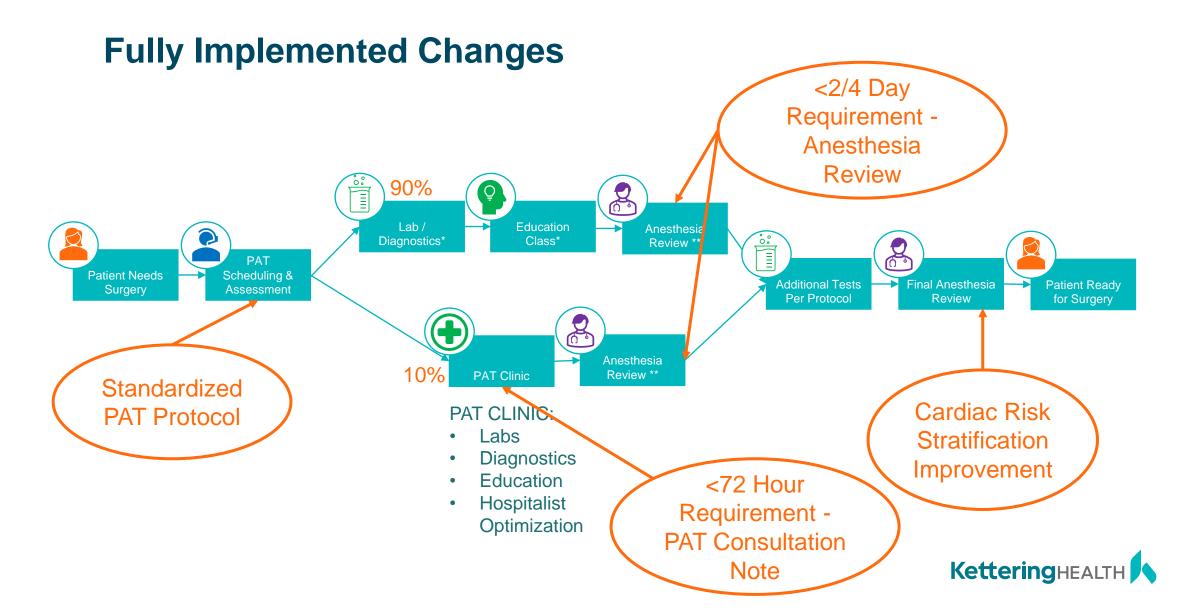
Improve

Improve Phase Goals:

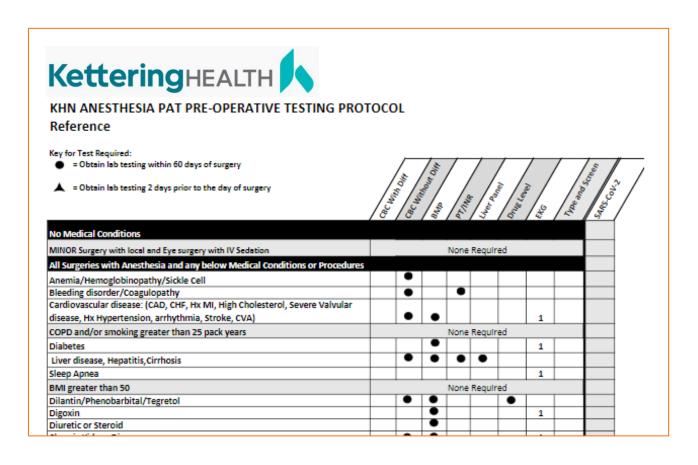
- •Structured tests of change that can be measured independently for affect
- PDCA cycles







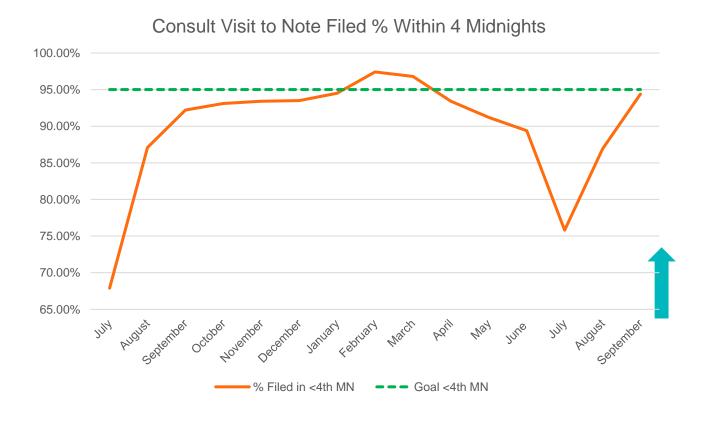
Singular PAT Protocol



- Everyone follows the protocol
- Limits over/under ordering
- Can be updated when new information is available



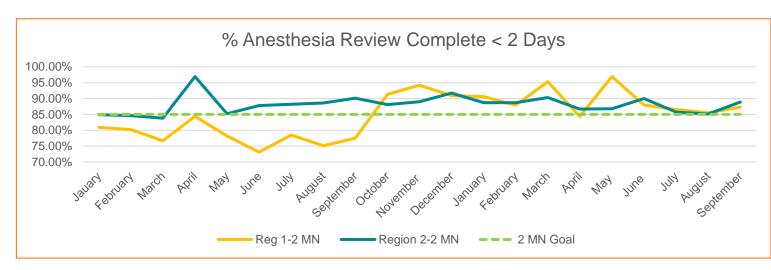
Consultation Note Requirements

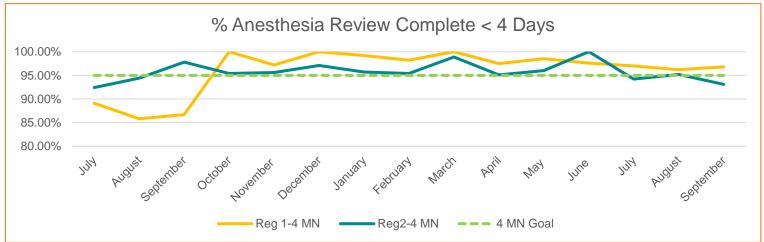


- Everyone held to the same standard expectations
- Implemented accountability through our Medical Records charting requirements
- Susceptible to suspension and revocation of privileges



Anesthesia Review Requirements

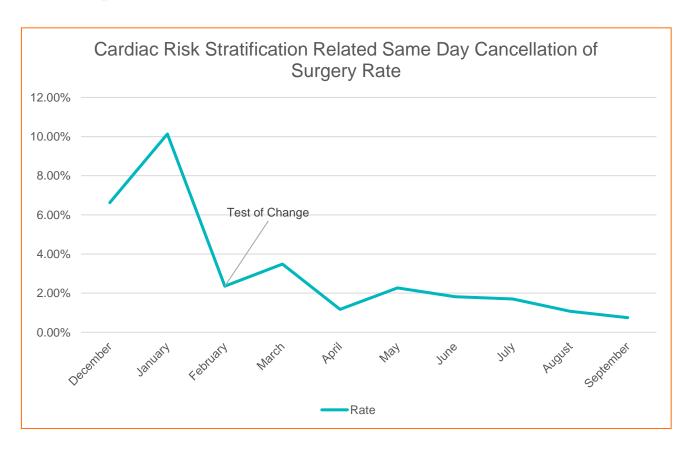




- Everyone held to the same standard expectations
- Implemented accountability through our standard evaluation of contracts cycles



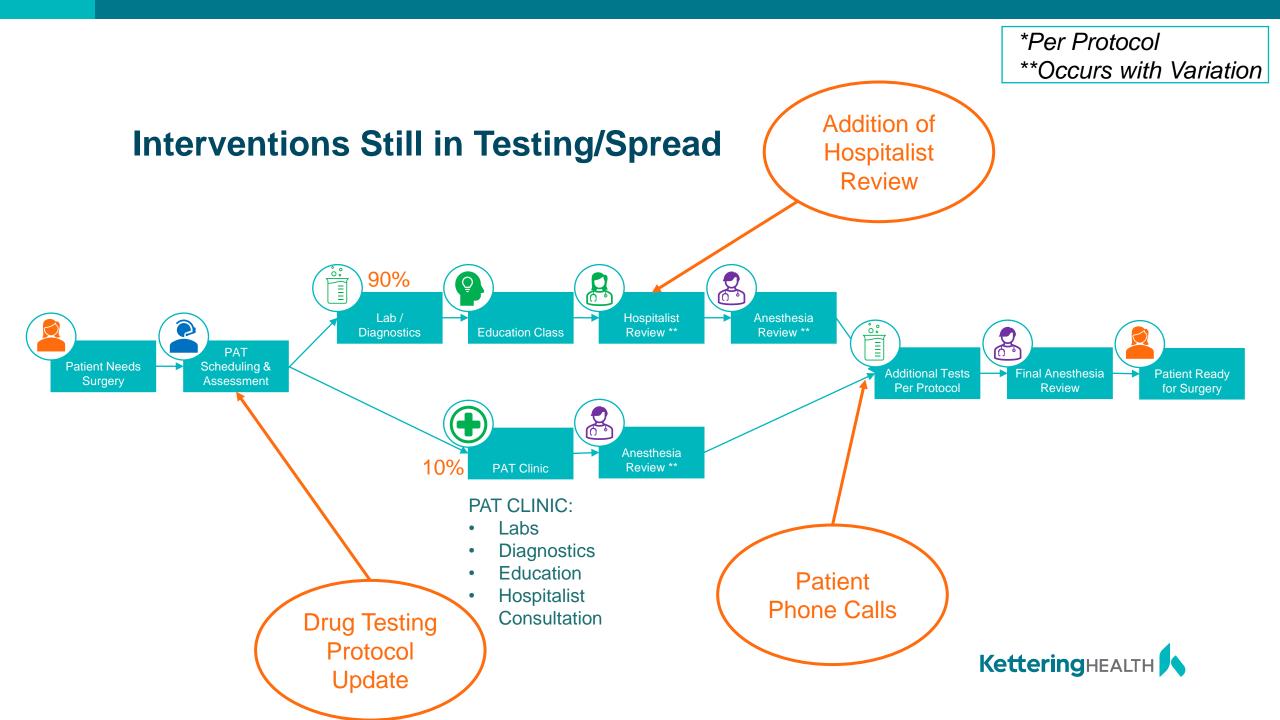
Cardiac Risk Stratification Improvement



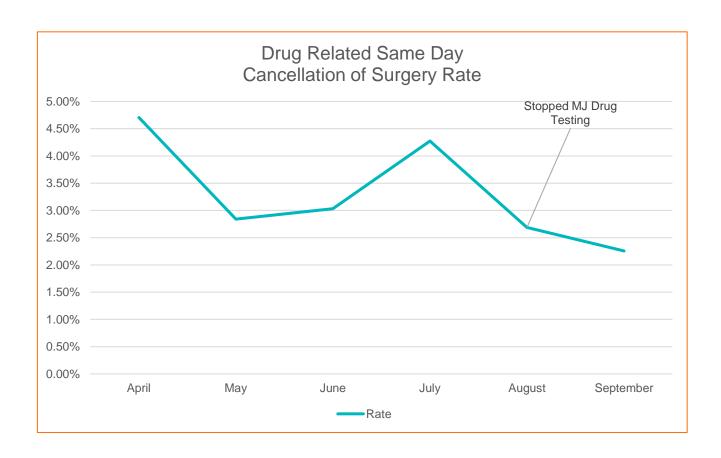
Decreased Variation:

- Methods of Request
- Methods of Acceptance
- Location in EMR





Drug Testing Protocol Update

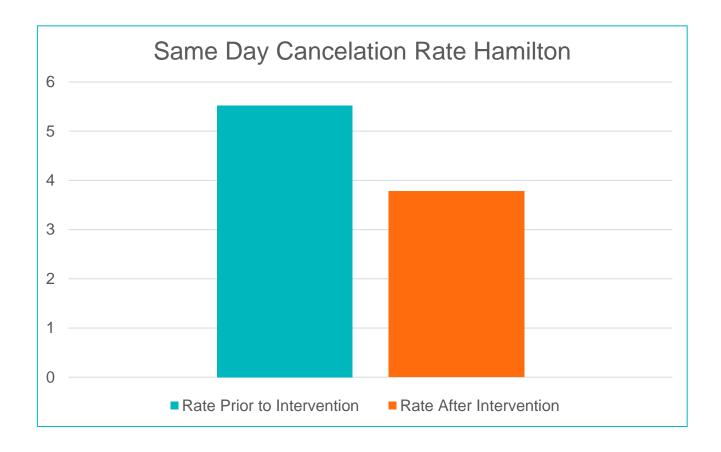


Updating PAT Protocol

 Eliminating non-value-added lab order for Marijuana testing



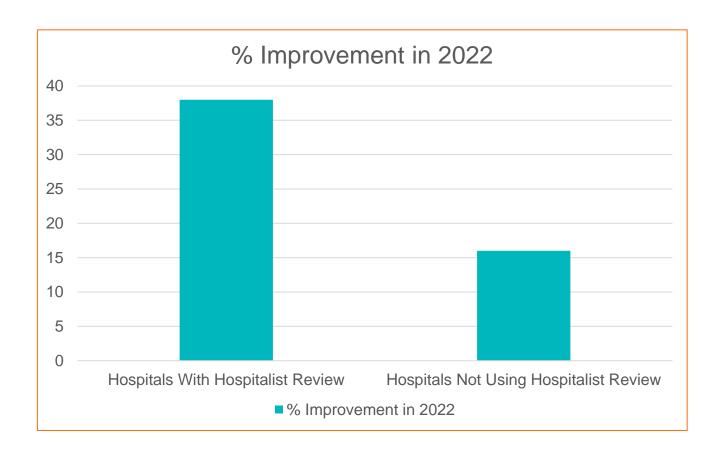
Patient Phone Calls



- Pitched to us as "best practice" in other systems
- Phone Call Script:
 - Reminder of location
 - Confirmation of time
 - Sick?
 - Questions?



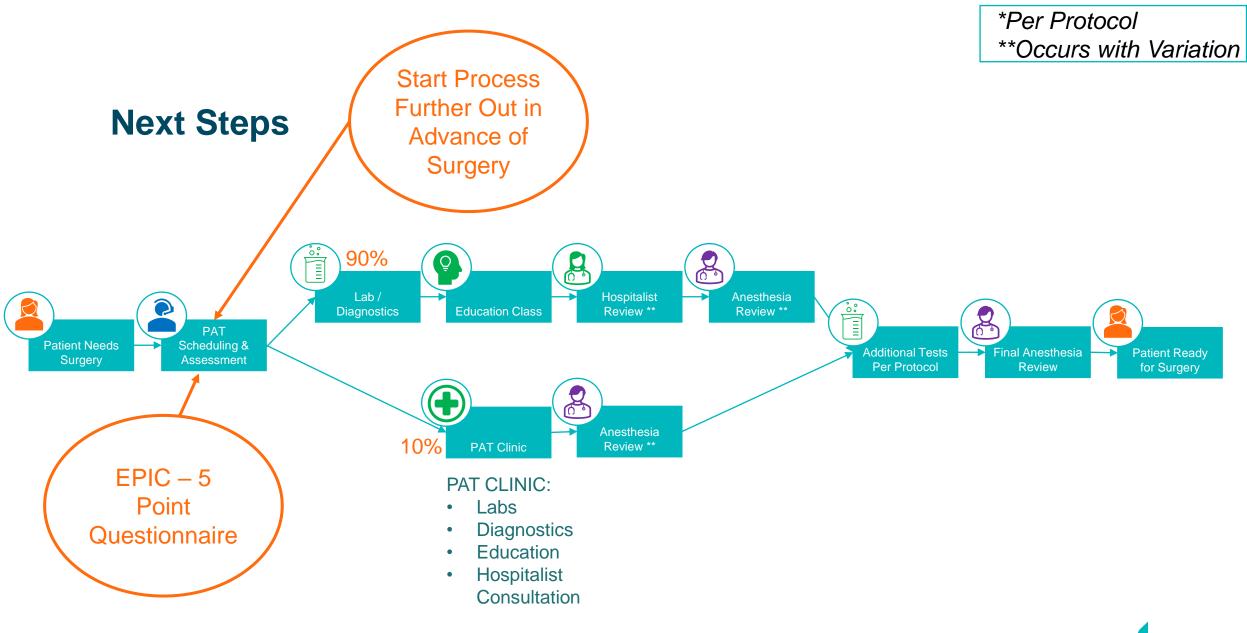
Hospitalist Review Addition



Elimination of Waste

- Only reviewing labs and diagnostics with critical findings
- Hospitalist following up on critical findings >24 hours from surgery
- Anesthesia following up on critical findings with <24 hours to surgery







Project Overview



Project Title: Reducing Day of Surgery Cancellations



Achievement: We successfully reduced day-of-surgery cancelations 48% from a baseline mean of 7.35% to a new mean of 3.90%



Approach: We adopted the Define-Measure-Analyze-Improve-Control (DMAIC) approach which guided us through the project phases.

Key Interventions:

- Standardizing the Pre-Admission Testing (PAT) protocol
- Establishing clear documentation requirements for anesthesia and PAT providers
- 3. Standardizing and enhancing the cardiac risk stratification processes
- 4. Involving hospitalists to review the critical findings in PAT protocol orders
- 5. Minimizing drug testing requirements
- 6. Implementing a proactive approach of calling patient the day before surgery to ensure readiness



Questions

