

# Development and Quality Improvement from the ground up

Pathology Department NHS Forth Valley





## TOP DOWN MANAGEMENT



## BOTTOM UP MANAGEMENT

- Sets clear goals and expectations
- Weak or dictatorial leader

Motivates everyone by giving them a voice

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Too many voices can slow progress





## **Bottom Up Management**

"Progressing from small or subordinate units to larger or more important units, as in an organisation or process."

- Improved flexibility
- emphasizes patient focus
- Promotes Teamwork
- Project is team driven
- High level of team motivation
- Employees feel valued
- Managers provide support for staff to perform at their best
- Combined with top down management allows organisation to thrive.
- Staff suggestion process used locally to trial ideas



## FVRH Pathology Background rth Valley





NHS





## **Working Practices**

- Overnight processing
  - non specialist reporting
  - no rapid cycle
- Large batch working









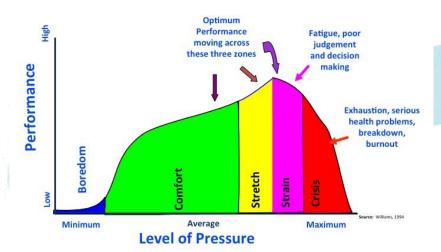




- Musculoskeletal issues
  - Over 2018 the sickness absence rate for the department was 9.5% which was higher than 2017 (4.4%)
  - 17.3% of sickness was attributed to musculoskeletal problems

#### Staff morale

#### **Pressure Performance Curve**







## **Drivers for change**

- TATs
  - In-house targets which were not being met
- Demoralised staff
  - Large batch working, musculoskeletal issues, staff sickness levels.
- New way of working needed LEAN





#### What is LEAN?

- Devised by car manufacturer Toyota
- Improves quality, efficiency and lowers costs while using no more resources.
- Identifies wasteful processes
- Requires buy-in by management and staff – change not always easy to implement.





#### **Workflow Improvements**



- 2 batches of processing overnight
- 2 batches of embedding various times





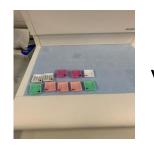






## **Workflow Improvements**

Microtomy – smaller batch working





Continuous staining

Continuous correlating





## **Workflow Improvements**

Same day processing with extended working pattern







## **Data Analysis-Load Book**

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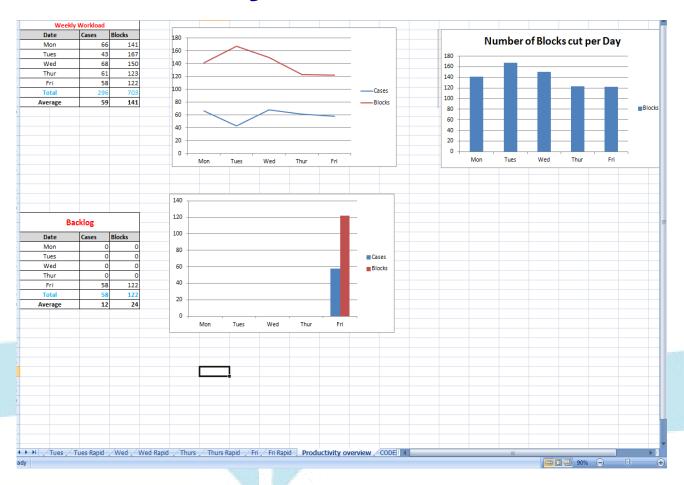


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#### **Data Analysis-Load Book**

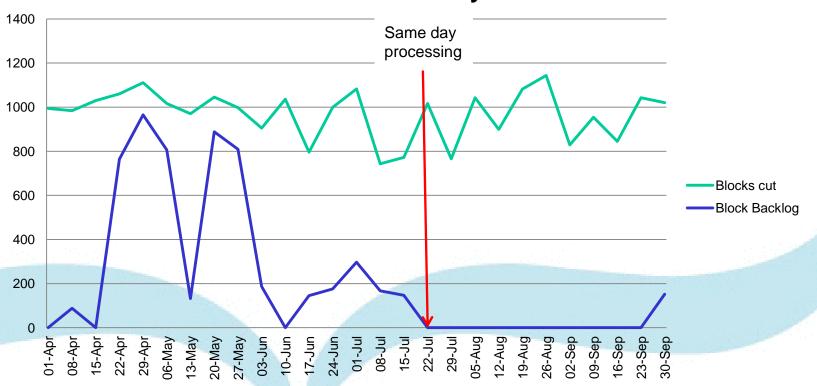






#### Data analysis-workflow

#### **Block Activity**







## **Data Analysis-Staffing**

#### Pathology Sickness Absence Rate April-September 2019







#### **Evaluation**

#### Advantages

- Improved workflow
- Reduced turnaround time for patients
- Improved productivity
- Reduced risk of musculoskeletal injury
- Increased staff rotation
- Structured work pattern
- Increased morale

#### Disadvantages

- Requires extended working pattern
- Requires minimum staff number present







- Implement across other services areas;
  - ICC
  - Cytology
  - Andrology
  - Mortuary
- Develop performance management:
  - Productivity against deployable hours
  - Target setting
- Improved staff development :
  - Use improved efficiency for further development of staff







#### **Questions?**

