BLOCK BUSTERS!

PROBLEM: Order entry for outside (i.e. transfer and consultation) cases occurs in multiple sites (i.e. hospital and medical sciences building). Management and transportation of blocks for outside (i.e. transfer and consultation cases) is inefficient. Electronic orders are not linked to physical assets (i.e. blocks) for outside cases.

CONSEQUENCES: Lost specimens
Prolonged turnaround time
Reduced staffing flexibility for accessioning areas
Lack of standardized processes
Lost productivity
Lost assets (medicolegal action, lapses in care)
Incomplete orders
Mental anguish

GOAL: Assess current system, including process for order entry (“accessioning”) as well as logistics for managing and transporting blocks from transfer and consultation cases. Develop a new process and workflow that significantly improves safety, quality and efficiency of order entry for transfer and consultation cases. Develop a new process and workflow that significantly improves efficiency and safety for requesting, receiving, managing and returning slides and blocks received for transfer and consultation cases.

TEAM:

Faculty members
Charlie Ross (team leader)
Dave Lucas (team co-leader)

Administrative Assistant
Linda O’Brien

Fellow
Maria Braman

Accessioner
Nicole Ahrens

Slide librarian
Chad Derdowski

Administrator
Craig Newman

Process design/analysis
Mike McVicker (lean coach and facilitator)

Histology lab/IHC
Tina Fields

PDS
Ul Balis

Anticipated project completion date: January 1, 2008