Storyboards

Storyboards are a useful tool for effectively presenting a team's work to a variety of audiences — to other groups within the organization, to other organizations, and to the larger community. The aim of a storyboard is to create an attractive display that will draw observers to your storyboard and communicate clearly the main points of your display. Creativity should be used in poster design, but care must be taken to make the display understandable in a brief period of time. Complex charts or tables will diminish the viewer's ability to rapidly comprehend your work and should be avoided. Likewise, presenting too much information overwhelms the reader and diminishes the impact of the display.

This tool contains:
- Directions for Creating Storyboards
- Sample Storyboard Formats

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Directions

- Design for ease of comprehension and readability.

- Include only critical information.

- Keep it simple.

- Make the purpose of the project readily apparent.

- Concisely describe the changes that are being tested.

- Display data over time using run charts. Remember to label graph axes (with the units of the data being measured) and minimize uninformative information. It is often very helpful to include brief annotations on the graph to indicate when specific changes were tested or implemented.

- Outline conclusions based upon data.

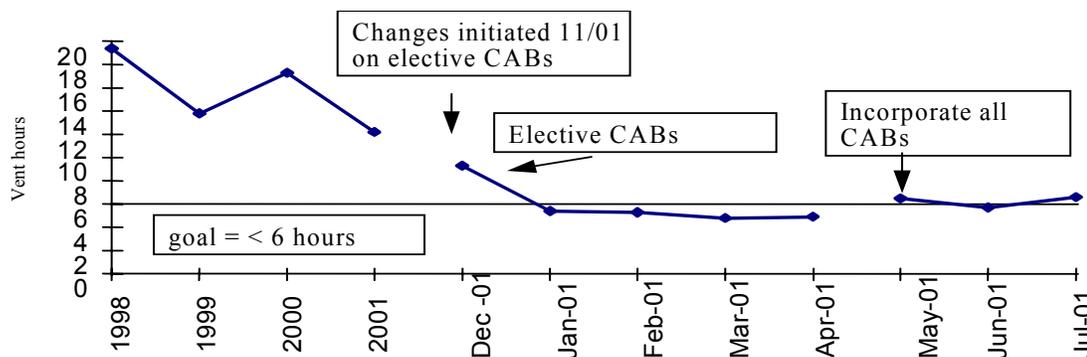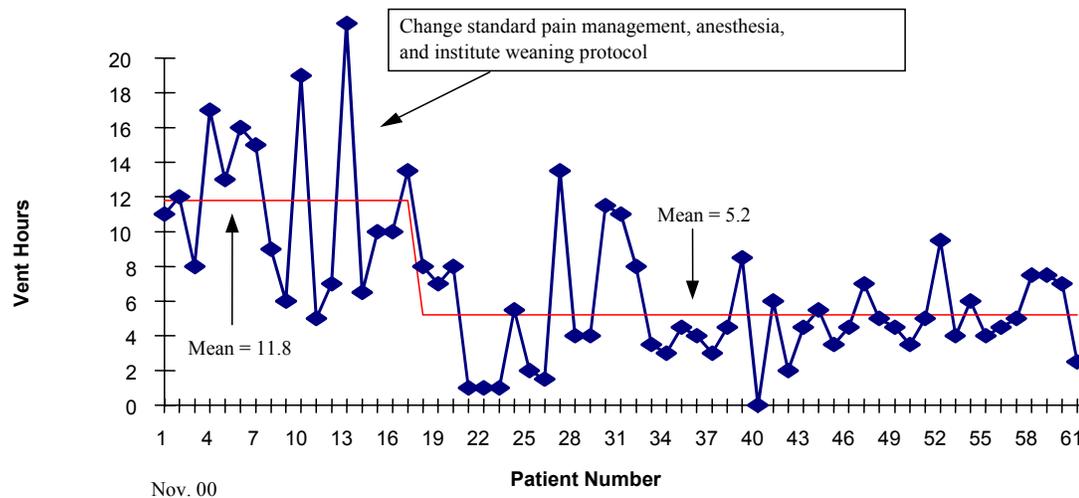- Present plans for implementation or further investigation.

Sample Storyboard Format

[Organization Name, City, State, Country]
[Project Name]

Aim: (Put aim statement here.)
Measures: (List 3 to 5 key measures.)
Results: (Include one or two of the key graphs — be sure that sample size and goals are on the graphs and that they are annotated.)

Changes Being Tested

- Pain management: Revise standards for post-operative pain management. Have ICU nurses administer smaller, more frequent doses of narcotics to avoid oversedation.
- Anesthesia management: Standardize anesthesia protocol and sequencing.
- Standardize extubation process: Establish nurse- and Respiratory Therapist-run rapid weaning and extubation protocol
- Data display: Post data in Open Heart Unit.
- Spread of change: Spread changes to regional medical center with same results.
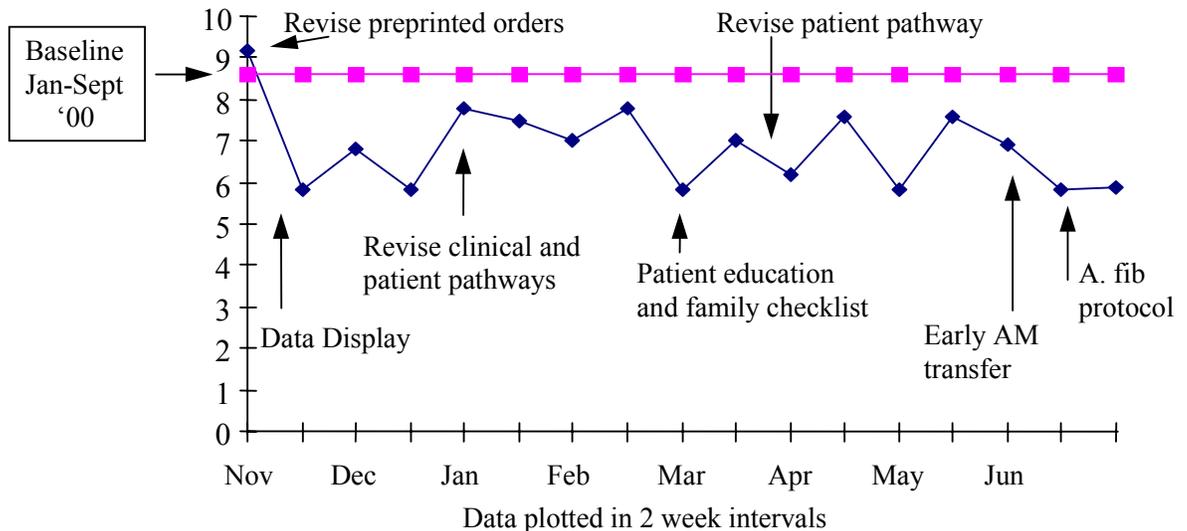
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Average LOS for DRGs 104-108 (2000-2001)

Changes Being Tested

- Revised process of post-operative weaning to achieve median extubation times of <6 hours.
- ICU to floor transfer criteria placed in pre-printed orders later revised to include early morning transfer from ICU.
- Revised activity protocol for Cardiac Rehab.
- Oxygen saturation requirement changed to 90%.
- Revised patient and hospital pathway to reflect expected discharge on POD 3 or 4.
- Developed Patient Checklist and Family and Friends Checklist to aid self-care while in hospital and to educate patients and families of expected daily progress.
- Developed atrial fibrillation protocol to standardize treatment and increase efficiency of treatment process.
- Developed home pathway after cardiac surgery to guide patient and family home care.

4