

USING REAL TIME ANALYTICS TO IMPROVE  
TURNAROUND TIME, STREAMLINE STAFF  
SCHEDULING, AND IDENTIFY VARIOUS SOURCES  
OF ERROR, BOTH IN THE LAB AND IN THE ED

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What one lab has learned about using  
Real Time Analytics: A case study



# ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER

## DIGNITY HEALTH

- Founded in 1895 by the Sisters of Mercy
- First hospital in the Phoenix area
- 586 beds, not for profit
- Includes:
  - Barrow Neurological Institute
  - Norton Thoracic Center
  - University of Arizona Cancer Center
  - Level 1 Trauma Center
- Part of Dignity Health, with more than 40 hospitals in Arizona, California and Nevada



## SJHMC Laboratory

Full service Laboratory, which includes  
Chemistry, Hematology, Blood Bank,  
Microbiology, Anatomic Pathology,  
Molecular Testing and Cytogenetics, and  
Point of Care testing

Performs over 4 million tests/year

Centralized testing site for Microbiology

Very little automation



# AGENDA

- What are real time analytics?
  - Why did we choose to use them?
  - How did we initiate this process?
  - How did we implement Performance Insight?
  - Case studies and sample reports.
  - What we learned, what we did well, what we could have done better.
-

# WHAT ARE REAL TIME ANALYTICS?

- Access to and use of data and related resources as soon as data enters the system.
  - Real time analytics can provide up to the minute information, and present it so that better and quicker business decisions can be made.
  - Both recurring reports and unpredictable, ad hoc inquiries can provide valuable information.
  - “Real time business intelligence”
-

# WHY DID WE CHOOSE TO USE REAL TIME ANALYTICS?

- LIS system was not giving us the clean, actionable data required to make real time decisions.
  - Report generation was slow, cumbersome, and the outcome was uncertain.
  - Greater flexibility in the types of reports we could generate was required—both overview and “drill down” report capability.
  - Support of LEAN process improvement projects.
  - The potential to optimize staffing.
  - Identifying performance problems, and not allowing them to go unchecked.
  - **Improving management team’s effectiveness!**
-

# HOW DID WE INITIATE THIS PROCESS?

(OR: HOW DID WE GET FROM THE EXECUTIVE WAR COLLEGE TO HERE?)

- Starting point: The Executive War College
  - Intermediate stops: Supply Chains, Finance, and IT
  - Challenges unique to St. Joseph's Hospital and Dignity Health
  - Final approval and timeline
-



# HOW DID WE IMPLEMENT PERFORMANCE INSIGHT?

- The 3 “buy-ins”
  - System
  - Facility
  - Department
- Actual implementation
- Post-implementation hiccups
- Where we are now

# CASE STUDIES AND SAMPLE REPORTS

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ED TURNAROUND TIME AND QUALITY OF  
SERVICE

# ED CHALLENGES

- Emphasis on faster throughput in the ED to decrease patient wait times, increase patient satisfaction and ensure better patient outcomes
- Complaints from physicians—"Why can't we have the Stat Lab back?"
- Turnaround times were too long
- Specimen quality issues ► More phlebotomists needed
- Perception among lab staff that the ED staff "just likes to complain"
- Poor communication between ED and Lab, and also among Lab departments

# PERFORMANCE INSIGHT DASHBOARD

Dashboard.xlsx - Microsoft Excel

File Performance Insight™ Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View

DB Status: Not locked Data Import Data by Date Settings Database Functions All Report Sets Single Report Set Ad Hoc Report More Report Functions Reporting Report Setup Master Tables Dashboard Update Table Maintenance Contact Us About FAQ Report Samples Help

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Performance Insight®

v12

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Visiun

Intro

Ready

80%

# ED TURNAROUND TIME DASHBOARD



Report Type: 04

## Performance Summary



Performance Insight®

Set #1: ED TAT-Daily - Wednesday, September 27, 2017

### Summary Criteria (not exhaustive)

Pat Type/Loc	Test/Priority	Test Loc/Other	Statistic	Other Info	Target (=)	% Achv	Actual	Count Pass	Fail	Status
EMERGENCY;SJHI Hemogram;stat			Pct <= Target	Order to Verify	70 min	80%	100.0%	5	-	Pass
EMERGENCY;SJHI CBC w/Diff;stat			Pct <= Target	Order to Verify	70 min	80%	85.8%	121	20	Pass
EMERGENCY;SJHI Basic;stat			Pct <= Target	Order to Verify	70 min	80%	64.0%	16	9	Fail
EMERGENCY;SJHI Lactic Acid;stat			Pct <= Target	Order to Verify	70 min	80%	82.8%	48	10	Pass
EMERGENCY;SJHI CMP;stat			Pct <= Target	Order to Verify	80 min	80%	85.1%	103	18	Pass
EMERGENCY;SJHI All UA tests;stat			Pct <= Target	Collect to Verify	70 min	80%	84.4%	103	19	Pass
EMERGENCY;SJHI U hCG Qual;stat			Pct <= Target	Collect to Verify	70 min	80%	80.0%	12	3	Pass
EMERGENCY;SJHI Arterial Blood Gas (pH, l			Pct <= Target	Collect to Verify	30 min	80%	100.0%	2	-	Pass
EMERGENCY;SJHI TropED;stat			Pct <= Target	Order to Verify	70 min	80%	100.0%	48	-	Pass

Verify Date:

Wednesday, September 27, 2017

Criteria

Test: CBC w/DIFF CBC w/DIFF\* (man diff if indicated)  
Priority: stat  
Patient Type: EMERGENCY  
Ord Hospital: SJHMC  
Pat Loc Group: 3 ED  
Lab ID: sjh 10 lab

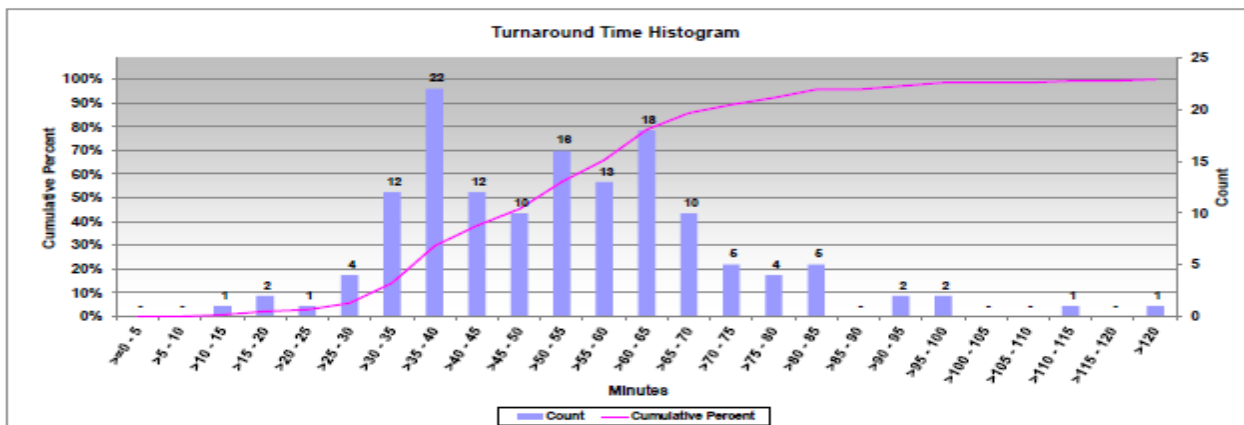
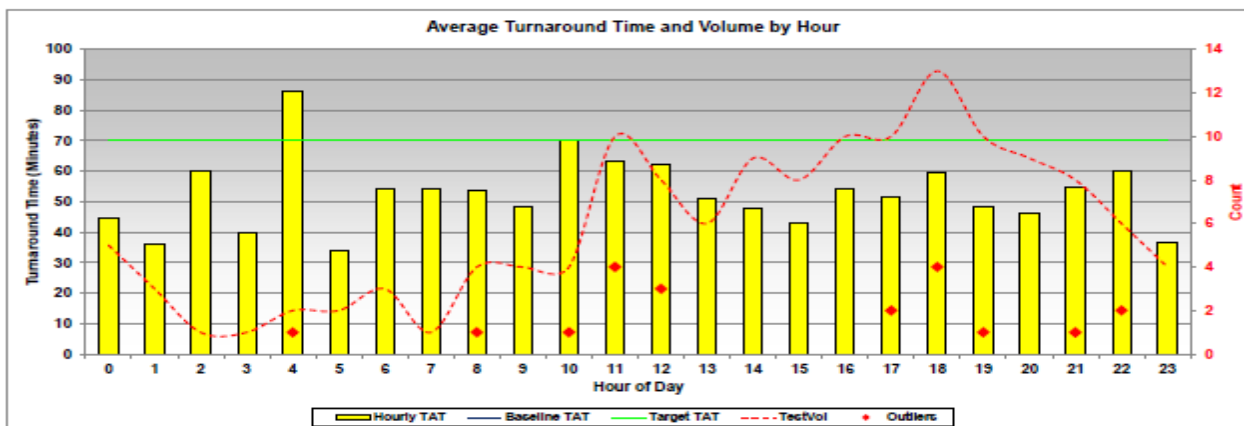
Count: 141

Activity Being Counted: Tests  
(Addon tests being ignored)

Measurement: Order to Verify

Performance Summary

	Average		Median		90% Completion		Outliers (above target)	
	Current vs:	75%	Current vs:	75%	Current vs:	107%	n	% of Total
Target								
Baseline (N/A)	70.0		70.0		70.0			
Wednesday, September 27, 2	53.0		52.3		75.2		20	14.2%





# Weekly CMP Composite Turnaround Time Report



Report Type: 3

## Composite Turnaround Time



Sun, Sep 24, 2017 to Sat, Sep 30, 2017

### Criteria

**Test:** CMP Comprehensive Metabolic Panel  
**Pat Loc Group:** 3 ED  
**Lab ID:** sjh 10 lab

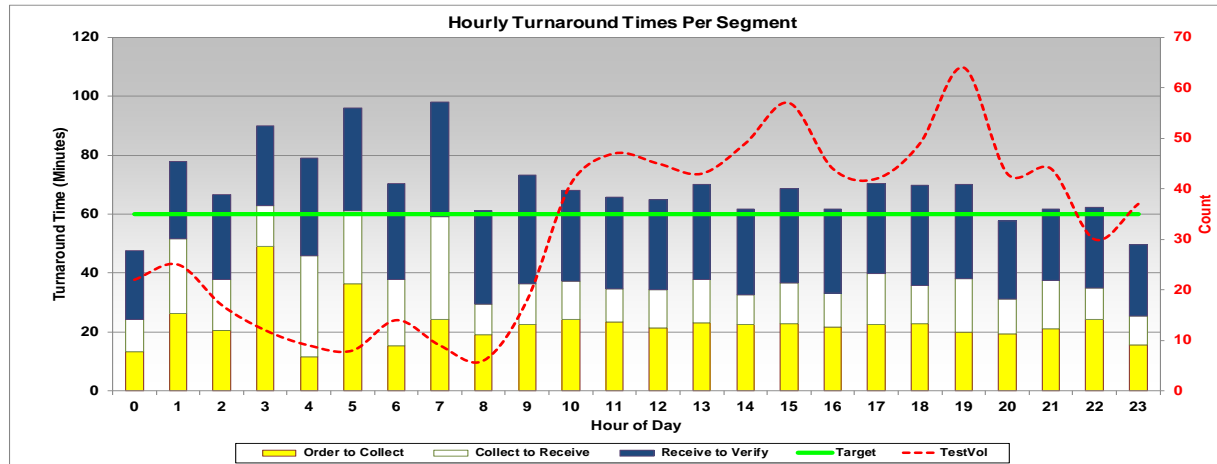
**Count:** 775

**Activity Being Counted:** Tests

**1st Time Segment:** Order to Collect  
**2nd Time Segment:** Collect to Receive  
**3rd Time Segment:** Receive to Verify

### Performance Summary

	Turnaround Time (minutes)			Outliers (above target)	
	Average	Median	90% Completion	n	% of Total
<b>Overall Target</b>	60.0	60.0	60.0	351	45.3%
<b>Total</b>	61.3	57.5	89.3		
Order to Collect	22.1	17.6	40.5		
Collect to Receive	14.9	10.0	29.0		
Receive to Verify	30.0	27.3	45.0		





Collect Date:

Thursday, September 28, 2017

**Criteria:**

Test:	-	All
Pat Loc Group:	3	ED
Lab ID:	sjh 10 lab	
Phleb Grp:	1	Phleb

**Total Activity:** 205

Average Daily Activity: 205

Activity Measure: Pat. Collections

Time Stamp: Collect

Tech Type: Phlebotomist

## Summary

**Average Daily Total Activity**  
**Average per Hour**

### All TechIDs

205  
8.5

Maximum (per Hour)

Per TechID

7

90th Percentile (per Hour)

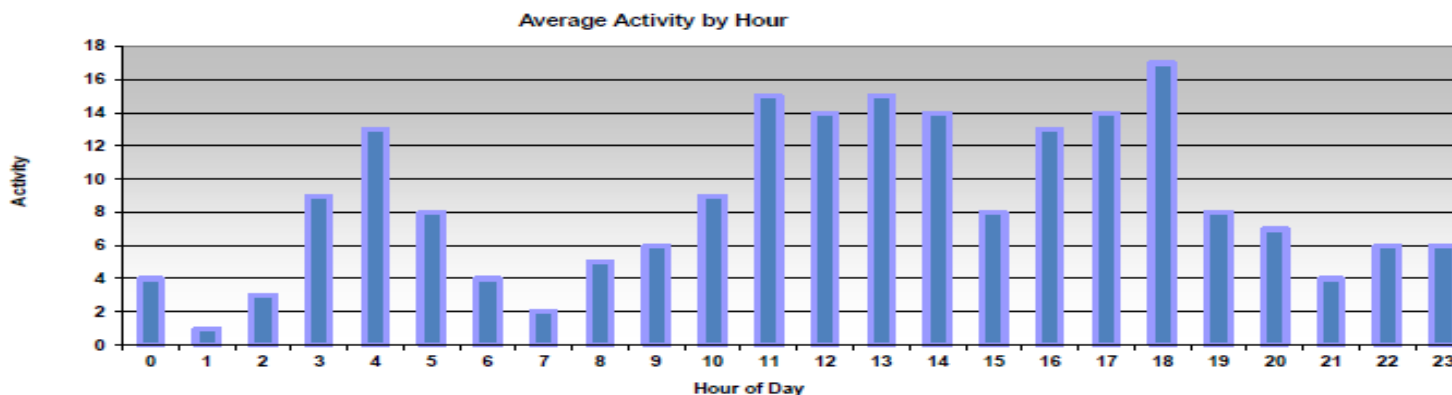
40

Median (per Hour)

20

Average (per Hour per Tech)

21



Tech ID	Name	Period	per Hour			Pct Total
		Total	Max	90th Pctile	Average	
DPORRAS	23603219	25	7	4.9	3.1	12.2%
MHTET	33531319	30	6	5.3	3.8	14.6%
AQUIBAN	23603188	5	5	5.0	5.0	2.4%
BGADISA	23604519	7	5	4.2	2.3	3.4%
ABLSSIT001	30843185	10	4	2.2	1.4	4.9%
AFROSSI002	33155622	28	4	3.9	2.3	13.7%
CGUTIERREZ	26696827	10	4	3.6	2.0	4.9%
RDUNILAP004	28956862	25	4	4.0	2.8	12.2%
SFRANKLIN0	31509931	8	4	3.4	2.0	3.9%
CTURMO	23604478	7	3	2.2	1.4	3.4%
MHOLMES005	23603210	15	3	3.0	1.9	7.3%
SWALLED01	0	4	3	2.8	2.0	2.0%
BSTERN	30872673	5	2	1.7	1.3	2.4%
JDOMINGUEZ	23604478	6	2	1.6	1.2	2.9%
MMONTOYA	23603129	4	2	1.8	1.3	2.0%
NTEPERA	25189200	5	2	1.7	1.3	2.4%
SBITTER	23604478	5	2	1.7	1.3	2.4%
TMYERS005	32649814	4	2	1.8	1.3	2.0%
NGONZALESO	33096844	1	1	1.0	1.0	0.5%
SMEZA	23603019	1	1	1.0	1.0	0.5%
						0.0%

[illegible]



Report Type: 82

## Hemolysis and QNS Audit



Receive Date: Monday, October 2, 2017

## Filter Criteria:

Test: - All  
Pat Loc Group: 3 ED  
Lab ID: sjh 10 lab

## Report Summary:

		Pct of Total
Total Hemolyzed	9	16.4%
Total QNS	-	0.0%
Total Hemolyzed and QNS	9	16.4%
Overall Total	55	
Analysis Period	Day	

Counting Containers

## By Patient Location

Top Hemol and QNS by Count						
Pat Loc	Name	Hemol	QNS	H+QNS	Ttl Events	Pct Ttl
SJH ED		4	-	4	23	17.4%
SJH EDIP		3	-	3	28	10.7%
SJH Trauma EDIP		2	-	2	4	50.0%
				-		0.0%
				-		0.0%
				-		0.0%
				-		0.0%

## By Phlebotomist

Top Hemol and QNS by Count						
Phleb ID	Name	Hemol	QNS	H+QNS	Ttl Events	Pct Ttl
		3	-	3	3	100.0%
SJHNL	####	2	-	2	3	66.7%
MHTET	####	1	-	1	2	50.0%
MSIY	####	1	-	1	2	50.0%
SFRANK	####	1	-	1	2	50.0%
PCHAVE	####	1	-	1	1	100.0%
				-		0.0%

## Export Data for Off-line Analysis

TestID ▾	PriID ▾	Accn ▾	ContID ▾	OrdHospID ▾	PatType ▾	PatLocID ▾	PerfHospID ▾	LabID ▾	LabDeptID ▾	P
CMP	Stat	000102017		SJHMC	Emergency	SJH ED	St. Joseph Hospit	SJH 10 Lab	10 SJH Chemistr	
Hemolysis I	Stat	000102017		SJHMC	Emergency	SJH ED	St. Joseph Hospit	SJH 10 Lab	10 SJH Chemistr	
CMP	Stat	000102017		SJHMC	Emergency	SJH ED	St. Joseph Hospit	SJH 10 Lab	10 SJH Chemistr	
Hemolysis I	Stat	000102017		SJHMC	Emergency	SJH ED	St. Joseph Hospit	SJH 10 Lab	10 SJH Chemistr	
TropED	Stat	000102017		SJHMC	Emergency	SJH ED	St. Joseph Hospit	SJH 10 Lab	10 SJH Lab - Cler	
CMP	Stat	000102017		SJHMC	Emergency	SJH ED	St. Joseph Hospit	SJH 10 Lab	10 SJH Chemistr	
CRP High Se	Stat	000102017		SJHMC	Emergency	SJH ED	St. Joseph Hospit	SJH 10 Lab	10 SJH Chemistr	
Hemolysis I	Stat	000102017		SJHMC	Emergency	SJH ED	St. Joseph Hospit	SJH 10 Lab	10 SJH Chemistr	
ABORH Auto	Stat	000102017		SJHMC	Observation	SJH TOW5	St. Joseph Hospit	SJH 10 Lab	10 SJH Blood Ba	
ABSC AutoS	Stat	000102017		SJHMC	Observation	SJH TOW5	St. Joseph Hospit	SJH 10 Lab	10 SJH Blood Ba	
U hCG Qual	Routine	000102017		SJHMC	Emergency	SJH ED	St. Joseph Hospit	SJH 10 Lab	10 SJH Chemistr	
R ABORH	Stat	000102017		SJHMC	Observation	SJH TOW5	St. Joseph Hospit	SJH 10 Lab	10 SJH Blood Ba	
InhalntlgE	ASAP	000102017		SJHMC	Outpatient	SJH OP Lab	St. Joseph Hospit	SJH 10 Lab	10 SJH Sendouts	

# Performance Comparison: March 2017 to September 2017

## Turnaround Time and Percentage of Outliers

Report Details		Baseline Period (Wed, Mar 1, 2017 - Fri, Mar 31, 2017)						Current Period (Fri, Sep 1, 2017 - Mon, Sep 25, 2017)						Percent Change (from Baseline to Current)						Volume	Absolute Change (Current - Baseline)					
		90th	95th	98th				90th	95th	98th				90th	95th	98th							90th	95th	98th	
ReportID	ReportName	Average	Median	Percentil e	Percentil e	Percentil e	Outliers	Average	Median	Percentil e	Percentil e	Percentil e	Outliers	Average	Median	Percentil e	Percentil e	Percentil e	Outliers	(Tests / Day)	Average	Median	Percentil e	Percentil e	Percentil e	
1	Hemogram Order-Verify	48.97	44.28	83.65	103.24	133.41	18.8%	42.57	38.23	67.37	83.07	104.97	8.6%	-13.1%	-13.7%	-19.5%	-19.5%	-21.3%	-54.2%	13	(6.40)	(6.05)	(16.28)	(20.17)	(28.43)	
2	CBC wDiff Order-Verify	59.50	53.86	93.81	112.40	133.74	26.5%	50.39	46.42	77.95	90.51	106.55	15.5%	-15.3%	-13.8%	-16.9%	-19.5%	-20.3%	-41.3%	120	(9.11)	(7.44)	(15.86)	(21.89)	(27.18)	
3	Basic Order-Verify	67.11	61.78	104.01	122.61	143.95	36.6%	57.47	54.58	82.94	94.68	117.64	22.1%	-14.4%	-11.6%	-20.3%	-22.8%	-18.3%	-39.6%	32	(9.64)	(7.19)	(21.07)	(27.93)	(26.31)	
5	Lactic Acid Order-Verify	63.80	59.32	97.83	116.99	137.37	33.5%	60.19	55.55	92.10	109.45	131.88	25.6%	-5.7%	-6.4%	-5.9%	-6.4%	-4.0%	-23.5%	34	(3.61)	(3.77)	(5.73)	(7.54)	(5.49)	
8	CMP Order-Verify	73.66	68.70	108.75	124.19	143.15	32.5%	63.92	60.10	91.77	106.05	121.66	18.4%	-13.2%	-12.5%	-15.6%	-14.6%	-15.0%	-43.5%	100	(9.73)	(8.60)	(16.98)	(18.14)	(21.48)	
9	UA Collect-Verify	55.90	49.33	93.50	118.09	148.07	23.4%	47.72	41.13	81.50	102.16	125.92	15.9%	-14.6%	-16.6%	-12.8%	-13.5%	-15.0%	-32.1%	108	(8.17)	(8.19)	(12.00)	(15.93)	(22.14)	
10	U hCG Qual Collect-Verify	42.14	37.88	69.51	89.84	114.23	10.0%	39.23	31.44	67.13	92.49	141.11	8.1%	-6.9%	-17.0%	-3.4%	2.9%	23.5%	-18.4%	13	(2.91)	(6.44)	(2.38)	2.64	26.87	
12	ABG Collect-Verify	10.08	7.57	18.27	20.44	30.27	2.8%	12.03	8.07	18.19	31.42	72.43	6.4%	19.4%	6.6%	-0.4%	53.7%	139.2%	126.6%	2	1.95	0.50	(0.07)	10.98	42.15	
80	TropED Order-Verify	42.65	39.07	66.41	77.84	95.75	8.3%	39.68	36.42	60.94	72.20	89.84	5.9%	-7.0%	-6.8%	-8.2%	-7.2%	-6.2%	-28.9%	45	(2.98)	(2.65)	(5.46)	(5.64)	(5.90)	

# IMPROVED PERFORMANCE!

	Percent Change (from Baseline to Current)						Volume
			90th	95th	98th	% Outliers	(Tests / Day)
	Average	Median	e	e	e		
Hemogram Order-Verify	-12.6%	-12.4%	-18.5%	-19.0%	-21.1%	-54.1%	13
CBC wDiff Order-Verify	-15.1%	-13.4%	-17.2%	-19.5%	-19.9%	-41.7%	122
Basic Order-Verify	-13.0%	-11.1%	-18.4%	-21.1%	-16.7%	-37.3%	32
Lactic Acid Order-Verify	-6.9%	-8.3%	-8.1%	-8.5%	-6.3%	-27.5%	35
CMP Order-Verify	-13.3%	-12.7%	-15.4%	-16.0%	-15.1%	-43.5%	103
UA Collect-Verify	-13.2%	-15.2%	-11.6%	-13.3%	-12.8%	-30.5%	110
U hCG Qual Collect-Verify	-6.5%	-14.0%	-2.0%	6.6%	16.2%	-10.9%	14
ABG Collect-Verify	12.7%	6.3%	-7.6%	23.0%	126.8%	85.5%	2
TropED Order-Verify	-7.2%	-7.4%	-8.2%	-6.5%	-7.9%	-26.6%	46



# RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS FROM ED IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

- Depending on the test, average turnaround time has decreased by 15.1-6.5%
- Depending on the test, % outliers have decreased by 53-11%
- Physician complaints have dropped from average of 15 per week at the start of the project to an average of 2 per week (most recent week)
- More flexibility in staffing phlebotomy in the ED and in house
- Positive return on investment due to changes in lab staffing matrix
- Inspired more flexible thinking—Use of Hotline phone to field questions from physicians, assist Lab Services, and enhance communication in the Core Lab

# CASE STUDIES AND SAMPLE REPORTS

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ED Troponin and Chest Pain Certification

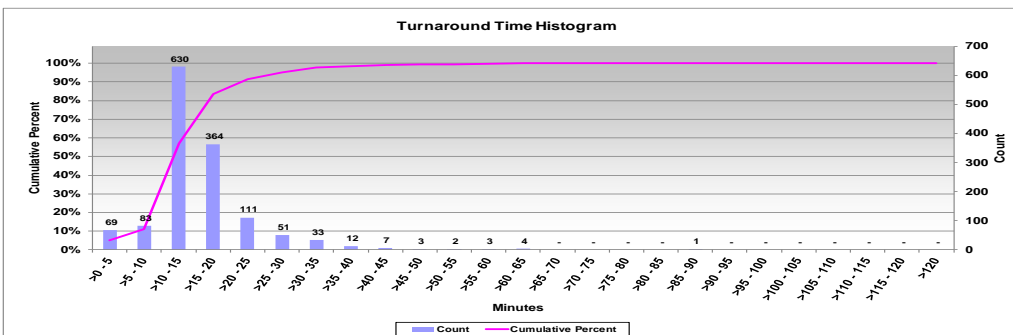
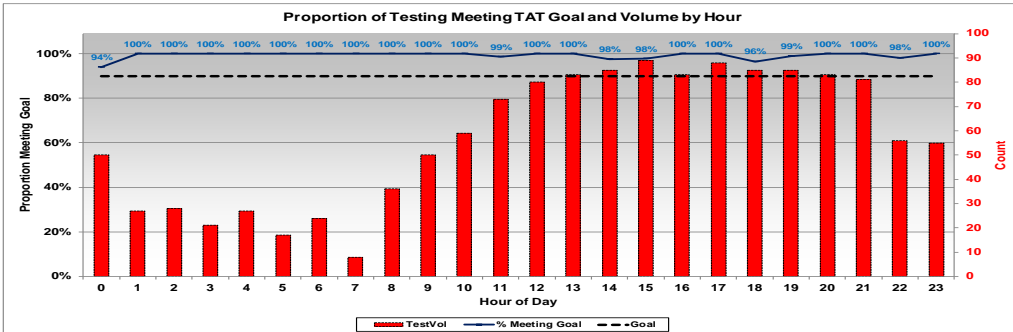
# ED TROPONIN CHALLENGES

- Chest pain accreditation required specific performance measures
  - Challenge required generating data, analyzing that data, and compiling the data into a concise report for the Cardiac Care Committee
  - Data analysis over time (trending) is required
-

**Verify Date:** September 2017

<b>Criteria</b>				
<b>Test:</b>	TropED	Troponin (ED only)	<b>Count:</b>	1,373
<b>Pat Loc Group:</b>	3	ED	<b>Activity Being Counted:</b>	Tests
<b>Lab ID:</b>	sjh 10 lab			
<b>Measurement:</b> Receive to Verify				

Performance Summary	Turnaround Time (minutes)		Pct Meeting Goal	Outliers (above target)
	Average	Median		
<b>Target</b>	45.0	45.0	Current vs: 90.0%	n % of Total
<b>September 2017</b>	15.7	14.4	Current vs: 110%	13 0.9%



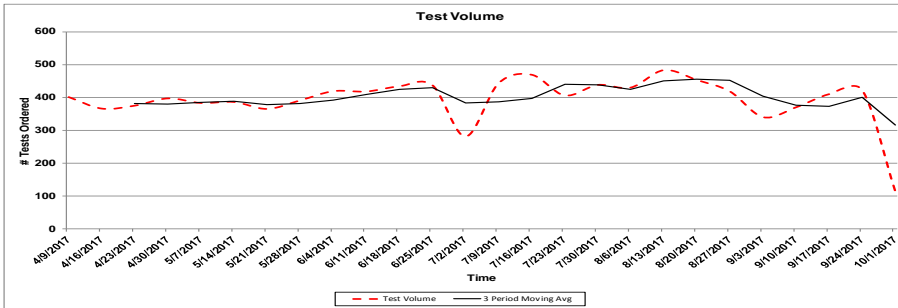
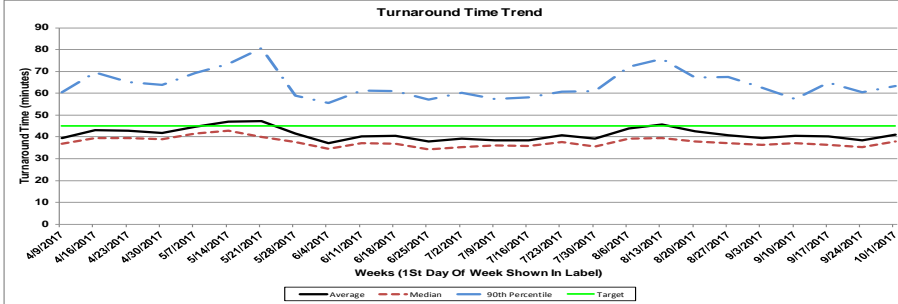
Report Looks Back from: **Monday, October 2, 2017**

Criteria  
Test: TropED Troponin (ED only) Period of Time Being Analyzed: Weeks  
Lab ID: sjh 10 lab

Measurement: Order to Verify

Performance Summary

	Average		Median (approx)		90% Completion (approx)	
	Current vs:		Current vs:		Current vs:	
Target	45.0	92%	45.0	83%	45.0	142%
Values for Entire Report	41.3		37.5		63.8	



# RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS FROM ED TROPONIN PROJECT

- Analytics required for Certified Chest Pain Center accreditation are readily available
  - Cardiac Care Committee members appreciate the graphics used to display the data and analytic measures
  - Outlier data is readily available for analysis to further improve performance
  - Trending over time can be analyzed by time period of weeks or months
-



# WHAT WE LEARNED

- Improvements from Cerner reports:
    - Ease of setting up software (once we finally got to that point)
    - Flexibility to get the big picture, or to drill down to exact data needed
    - Continual improvements and updates from the manufacturer
    - Speed of pulling up reports
    - Auto-email !!!!!!!
    - Excellent customer service
  - Ongoing:
    - User guide could be more user friendly
    - Cerner is still useful for some data collection and reporting
-

# WHAT WE DID RIGHT

- We chose a really good company and a really good product.
  - We thoughtfully chose which modules to purchase.
  - We paved the way for other Dignity Health facilities to purchase and implement Performance Insight.
  - We worked closely with the Performance Insight technical staff, and relied on their expertise.
-

# WHAT WE COULD HAVE DONE BETTER

- Worked more closely with Dignity Health IT.
- Recognized that the process would proceed slowly due to continuing Cerner Millennium implementation at the 42 Dignity Health facilities.

We're still learning!

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# RETURN ON INVESTMENT

- By better planning and use of our phlebotomists, we were able to eliminate 12 Lab Services FTEs while providing a better level of service to our ED customers.
  - Total savings = approximately \$499,000 per year
  - Simple return on investment: **467%**
  - Must also consider additional benefits, including less frustration and lost productivity for time spent trying to pull necessary information out of LIS
-

# QUESTIONS?

