

Purpose

The overall aim of the project is to reduce the wait time for all Clinically-appropriate patients from first contact with Oncology until completion of treatment.

For Radiation Oncology, the project places specific emphasis on attaining the goal of all patients commencing treatment within four weeks of decision to treat.

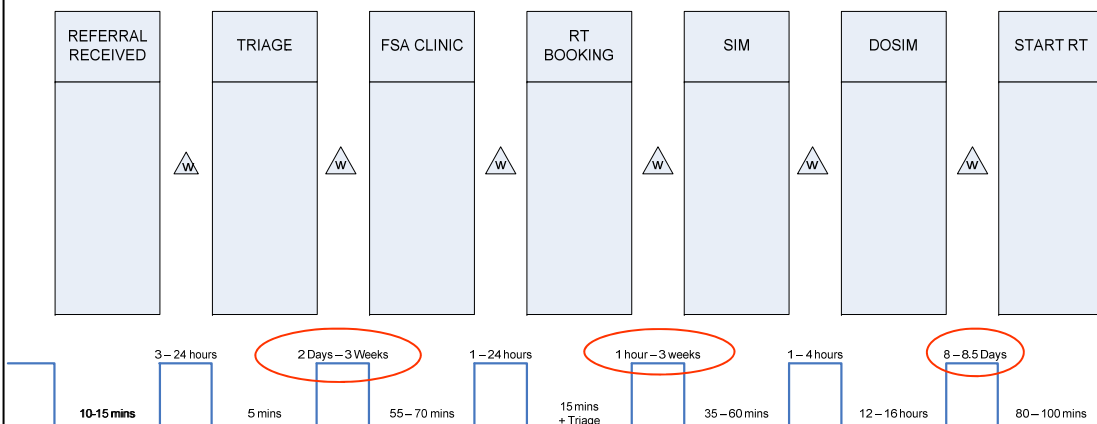
This will be achieved by:

- ⇒ understanding the flow of patients through Oncology services;
- ⇒ adopting the principles of lean thinking to optimise efficiency;
- ⇒ creating visibility of the rate of work through each process step;
- ⇒ identifying capacity capability (current and future); and
- ⇒ implementing operational management tools.

This programme will operate on the principles that the patient comes first in design decisions.

High level Value Stream Map - Radiation Oncology

- ⇒ Key process steps identified from a patient perspective within Oncology
- ⇒ Red circles indicate the primary wait times in the system



Progress Update

Radiation Oncology

- ⇒ The draft activity list is now complete and was presented to the SMO group in a brief meeting on Thursday February 18th 2010.
- ⇒ The activity list includes a detailed breakdown of the estimates from each SMO of the frequency with which each activity occurs, the volume of each activity and how long each activity takes.
- ⇒ Observations have occurred to validate the estimated times.
- ⇒ The estimates have been plotted against the observations to demonstrate where significant variation occurs. This will drive discussion as to what is a 'Reasonably Expectancy' for each activity. See overleaf for a sample chart.

Next Steps

- ⇒ Having determined the amount of time required for each activity, the next step is to develop a model which demonstrates how much time is required at each step of the process in order to achieve the goal which was set at the outset:

Curative Patients

Referral Received to FSA	<5 working Days
FSA to Start Treatment	<10 Working Days

Palliative Patients

Referral to Palliation (treatment)	48 hours
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- ⇒ How the service is set up to achieve this goal will be discussed with the SMOs at another meeting to be scheduled towards the end of March.

Medical Oncology

- ⇒ The current state Value Stream Map for Medical Oncology is going to be completed.
- ⇒ However, the current priority is to complete the process review with Radiation Oncology in order to achieve the target wait times for patients.
- ⇒ Medical Oncology is going to be put on hold of the time being until the BDU has sufficient resource to allocate to the project.

Comparison of Estimates versus Observations for SIM and DOSIM

