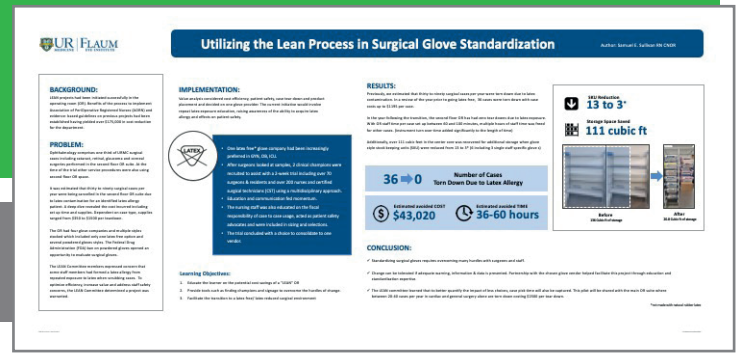


Utilising the lean process in surgical glove standardisation

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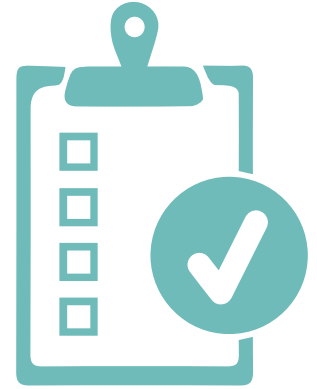
Background



The Operating Room suite had been experiencing room tear downs due to unrecognised latex allergy



The center core had 4 glove companies with only one synthetic option and powdered gloves



All factors including the FDA ban on powdered gloves opened an opportunity to evaluate surgical gloves

Implementation

To optimise efficiency, increase value and address staff safety concerns around latex allergy, it was decided to make a process change using LEAN methodology



Value analysis considered cost efficiency, patient safety, growing staff preference, case tear down and product placement and decided on synthetic **Biogel®** surgical gloves as the sole supplier.



Results**

36 → **0**
Number of cases torn down due to latex allergy

Estimated avoided **COST**
\$43,020

Estimated avoided **TIME**
36-60 hours



SKU reduction
13 to 3*



Storage space saved
111 ft³



Before 136 ft³ of storage



After 20.08 ft³ of storage

Conclusion



Change can be tolerated if adequate warning, information and data is presented. Partnership with **Mölnlycke® Biogel® surgical gloves** helped facilitate this project through education and standardisation expertise.

*not made with natural rubber latex
** results may vary by facility