



# Launch & Grow a Successful Simulation Program

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**QUALITY & SAFETY**

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# Webinar Topics

## 5 Steps to Success

- Give Them a Taste
- Learn The Tool, Build On Success
- Engage Your Stakeholders
- Build Standardization and Clarity
- Ramp it Up

## Our Journey

- Initial Use
- Advancing the Knowledge
- Engagement and Growth
- A Project To Build Upon

## Additional Model Ideas

# Step One

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Give Them a Taste

# Step One: Give Them a Taste

- Discrete Event Simulation (DES) is not a trivial investment. Building a program takes time and resources.
- DES is also, to many, an abstract concept that often requires seeing it in action.

Establish a business case by identifying a strategic, challenging question, and use SIMUL8 to provide direction.

# Step One: Give Them a Taste

- SIMUL8 was first brought to MHS to model the new OR suites to ensure consistent flow.
  - Several key constraints were identified and avoided, including having enough elevators.



# Step Two

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Learn The Tool, Build on Success

# Step Two: Learn The Tool, Build on Success

- SIMUL8 is a fairly intuitive program, especially when building basic models
- The SIMUL8 has immense potential to be customized to model very complex processes and environment

Identify staff members who can take time to learn the greater complexities of the tool, and use to build more complex models.  
SHARE those successes!

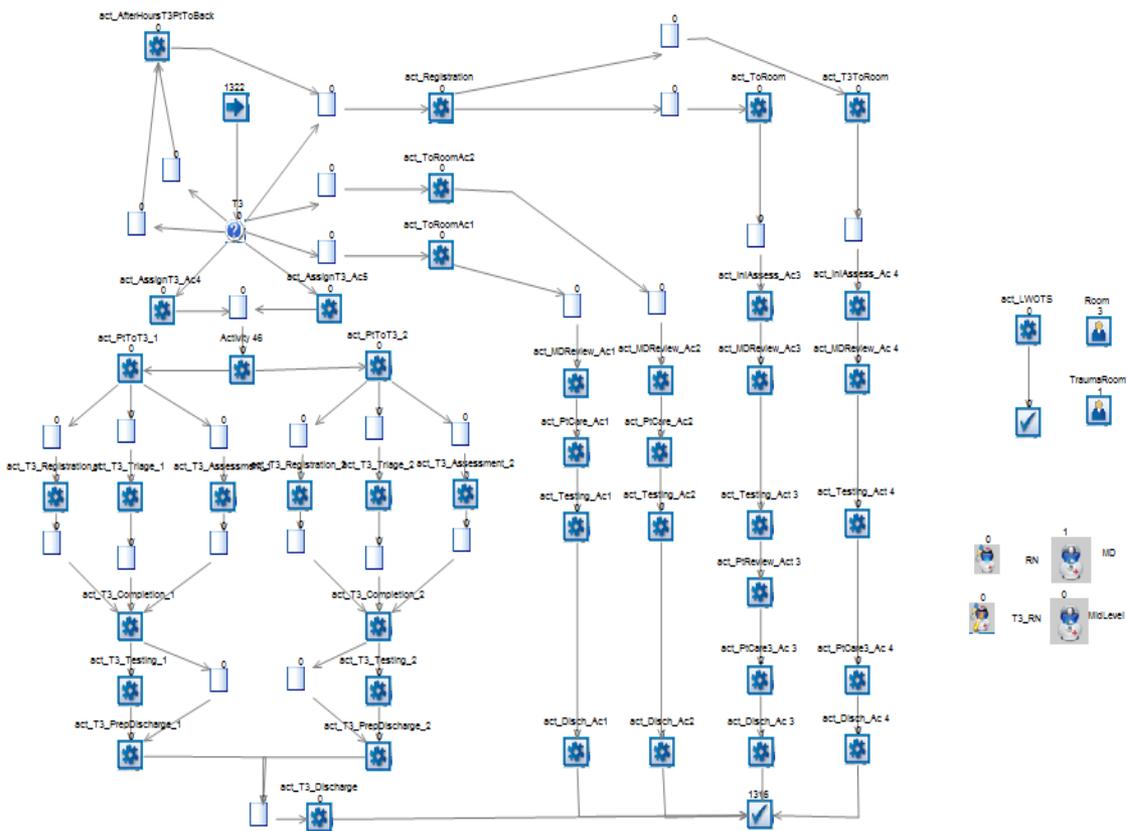
# Step Two: Learn The Tool, Build on Success

- A few members from operations improvement attended more advanced training, and began to build more advanced models



# Step Two: Learn The Tool, Build on Success

## First Advanced Model – Parallel ED Triage



- Improvement of ALMH Door to Room Time



- Simulation of variable resource utilization (RNs)



- Reduction from 28 minutes to 8 Minutes (as of Oct 1)
- Simulation was accurate within 1 minute of actual results for acuity 4 and 5 patients



# Step Three

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## Engage Your Stakeholders

# Step Three: Engage Your Stakeholders

- Building models for smaller, specific case projects are a great way to get your program started. It is required to gain trust in the program.
- The next step then is to start using the tool for higher exposure projects and engage your leadership in the process.

Identify a key, large scale, cross functional project and engage leadership. Having your leadership engaged is key to organizational buy-in.

# Step Three: Engage Your Stakeholders

- Ensure that you are also engaging cross functional members as well.
- Use your red team
  - “A red team is an independent group that challenges an organization to improve its effectiveness.”\*



*\*[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red\\_team](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red_team)*

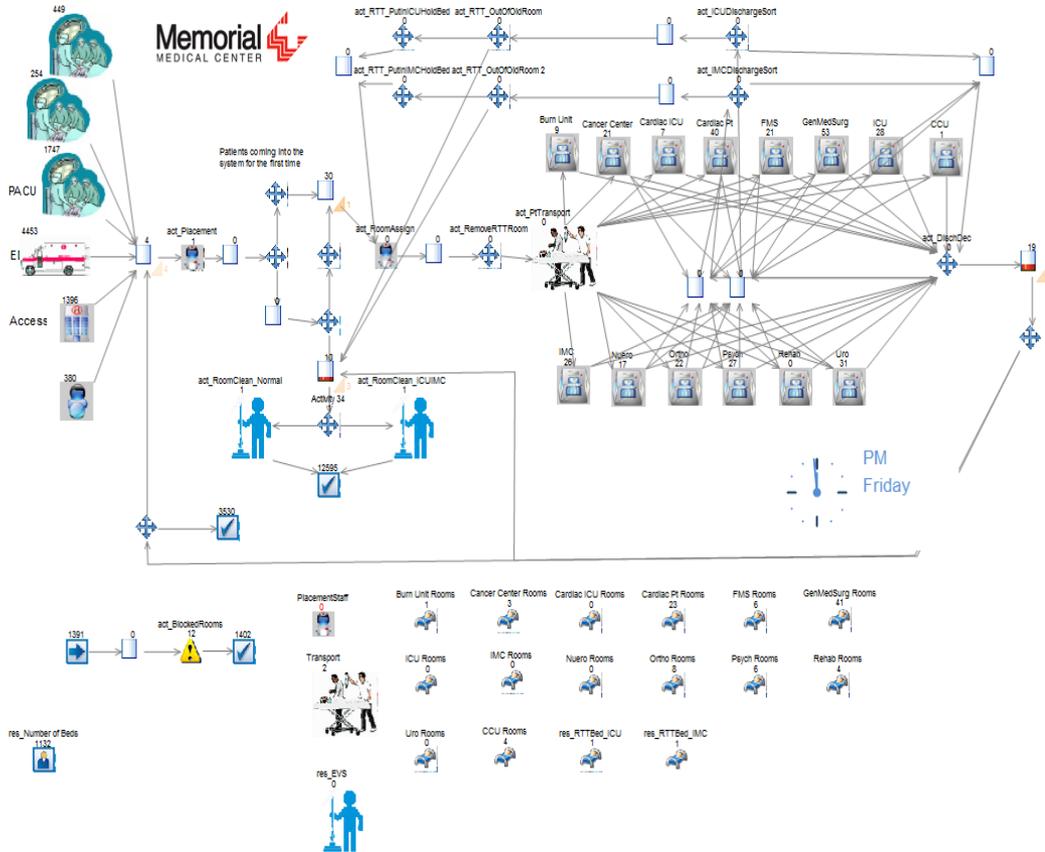
# Step Three: Engage Your Stakeholders

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- Our Placement Project
  - Ran into organizational resistance at first
  - Added key leadership
  - Added the use of the red team

# Step Three: Engage Your Stakeholders

## Memorial Medical Center – Patient Placement



- Reduction of the amount of time it takes to place a patient to a room at MMC



- Large scale multi-disciplinary simulation
- 50 + distributions
- Use of external data storage and minor back end programming



- 23% reduction of the mean as of 10/9
- Multiple behaviors predicted and validated with the model

# What's Next?

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## How to Grow Your Program

# Steps Four & Five

- How to Grow?
  - We didn't really know how to get our program growing
  - Used Lean Six Sigma and DMADV to achieve our goal
    - Formed Steps 4 and 5



# Business Case

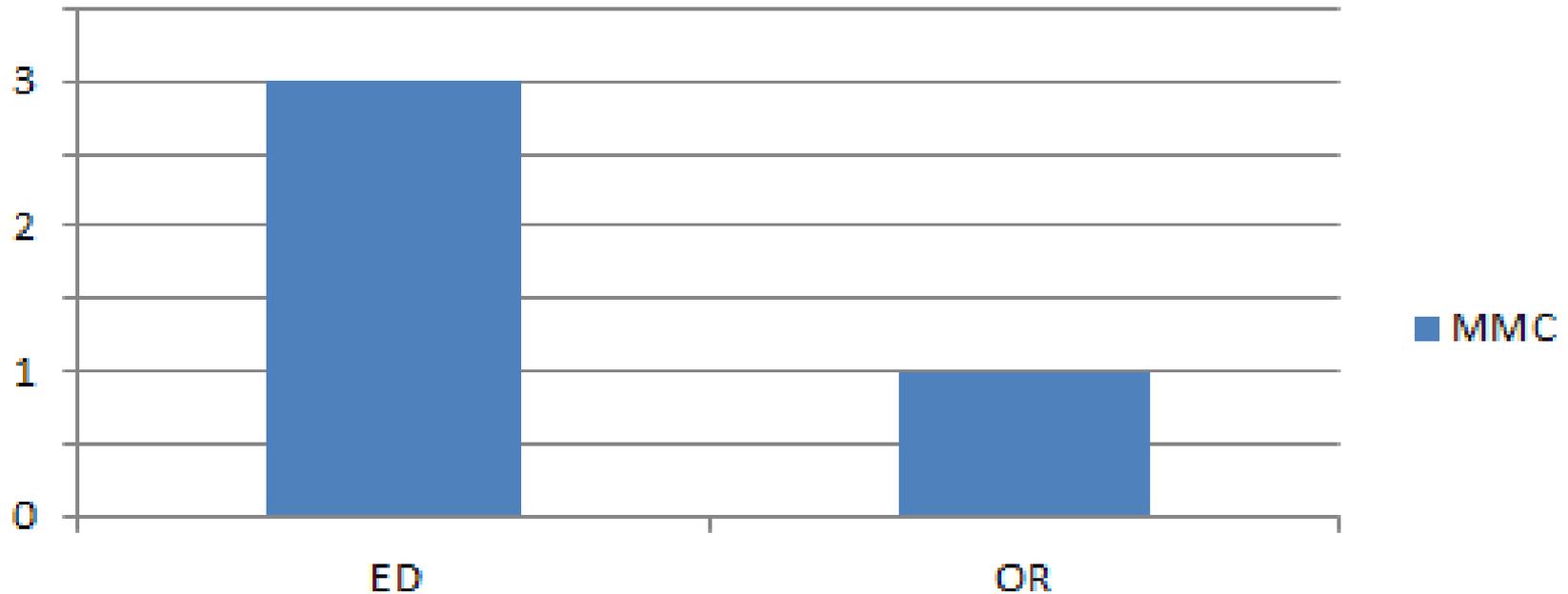
Memorial Health System, in its goal to be a national leader in patient care, has exponentially increased its use of evidence and data based lean six sigma process improvement projects over the last 5 years. While these projects have been immense successes, they introduce risk into the patient care environment.

Discrete event simulation was introduced at MHS in 2013 as a way to limit this risk and test particularly complex interventions prior to implementation. The use of this technology at the start of 2015 was limited to mostly throughput projects in the MMC emergency department. This project is necessary to increase the use of DES at the health system and diversify its use in order to lower the risk of implementations and allow for larger, more complex projects to be undertaken.

# Problem Statement

In FY 13, Memorial Health System introduced the use of Discrete Event Simulation (DES) for use on complex Lean Six Sigma projects. By January 2015, it had only been used on 4 projects (mostly in the MMC ED) with only 2 individuals trained for its use. This structure severely limited the use of this innovative technology due to a lack of standardized process and training for its use, as well as a lack of trained personnel and deployment method to spread its use to more areas across the health system.

# Projects Completed Between 2013 and 2015 By Affiliate and Area of Focus



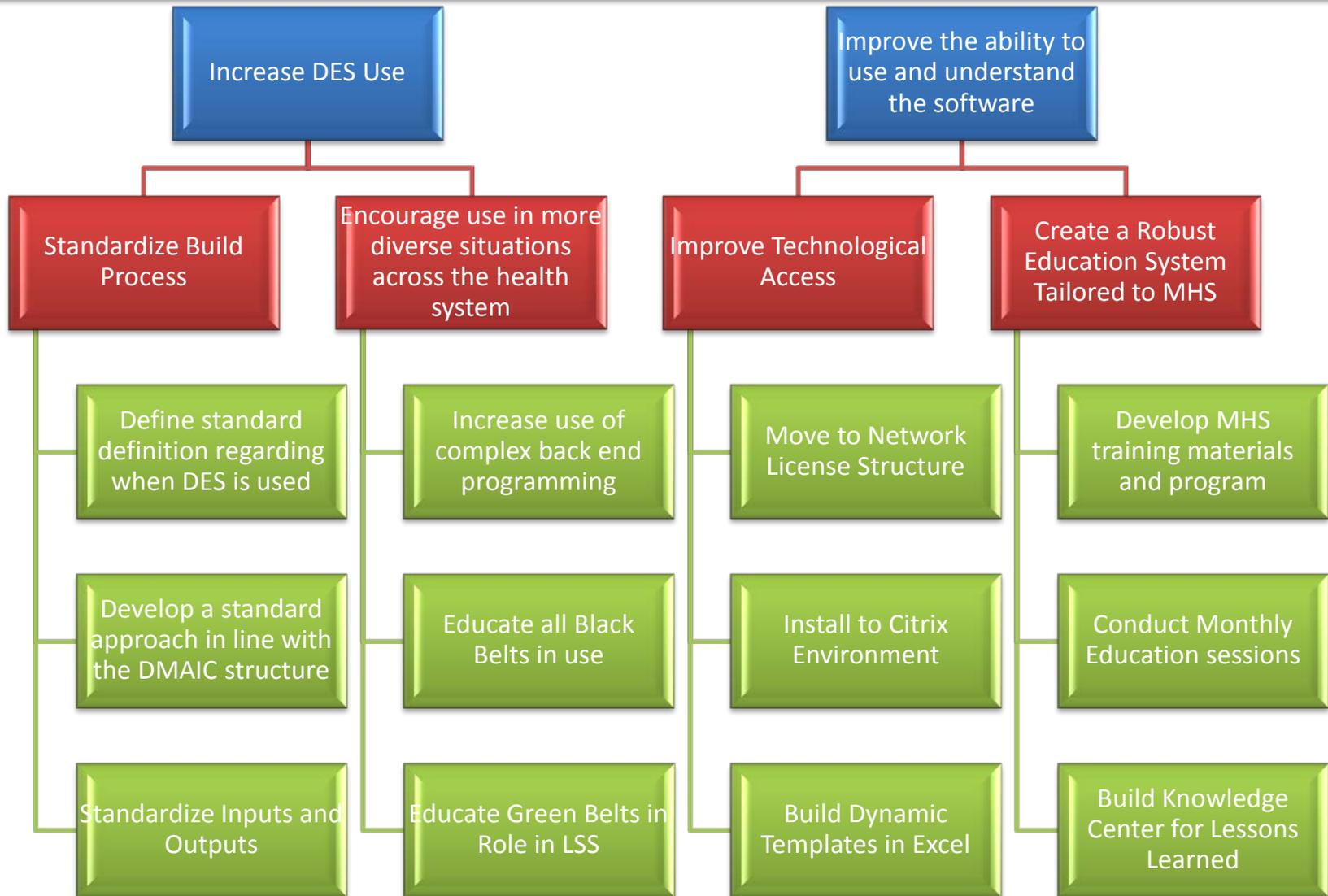
# Voice of the Customer

Customer	Sample Comments	Key Output Characteristics Important to Customer (CTQ's)
Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•What is involved in building simulation</li><li>•Projects and interventions should be data driven</li><li>•We need to limit the risk to patients by testing interventions prior to implementation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Timely</li><li>•Effective</li><li>•Safe</li></ul>
Operations Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•DES needs to have a standardized approach</li><li>•The education materials out there are confusing</li><li>•We need to increase the use of the product by the belts</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Efficient</li><li>•Effective</li></ul>

# Voice of the Customer

Customer	Sample Comments	Key Output Characteristics Important to Customer (CTQ's)
Process Owners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•There are multiple LSS efforts on going, how do we know their interactions</li><li>•We need to have a way to be more confident in the results of the</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Which one or more of the 6 aims of the Institute of Medicine relate to the customer's feedback comments?</li></ul>
Belts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•DES is very complex and confusing</li><li>•I do not have enough time to learn this new technology</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Which one or more of the 6 aims of the Institute of Medicine relate to the customer's feedback comments?</li></ul>

# Affinity Diagram



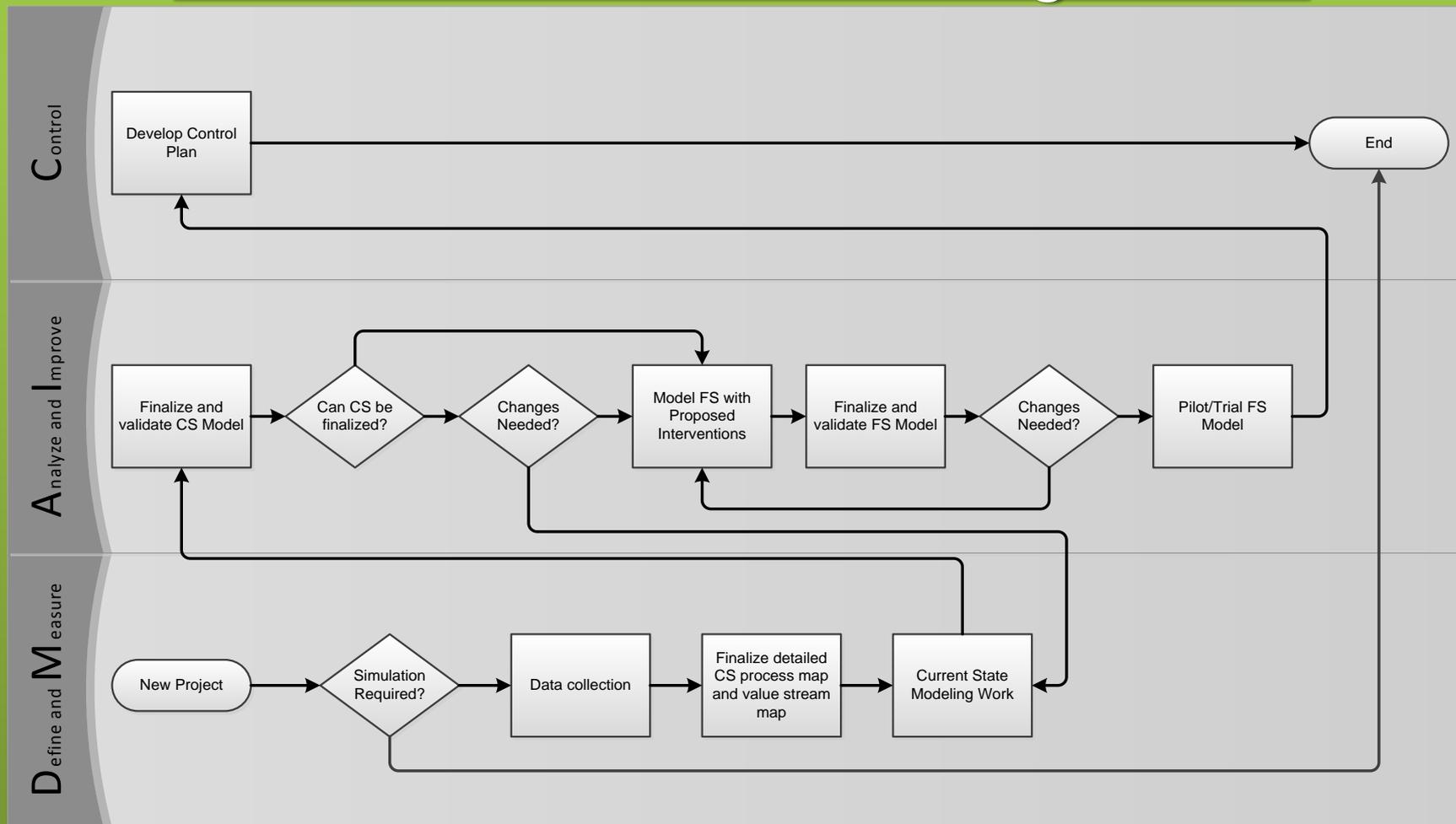
# Step Four

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Build Standardization and Clarity

# Step Four: Build Standardization and Clarity

## Standard Process Following DMAIC



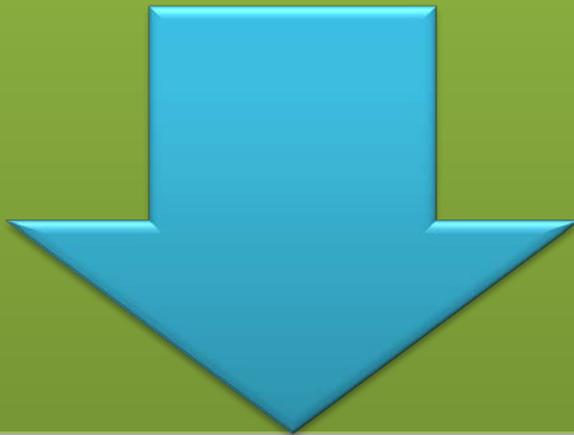
# Step Four: Build Standardization and Clarity

## Standard Definition for DES Use



### DES

- Full department or system analysis
- Full service lines
- Complex, multi input models
- Utilization of resources
- Dynamic models or analysis

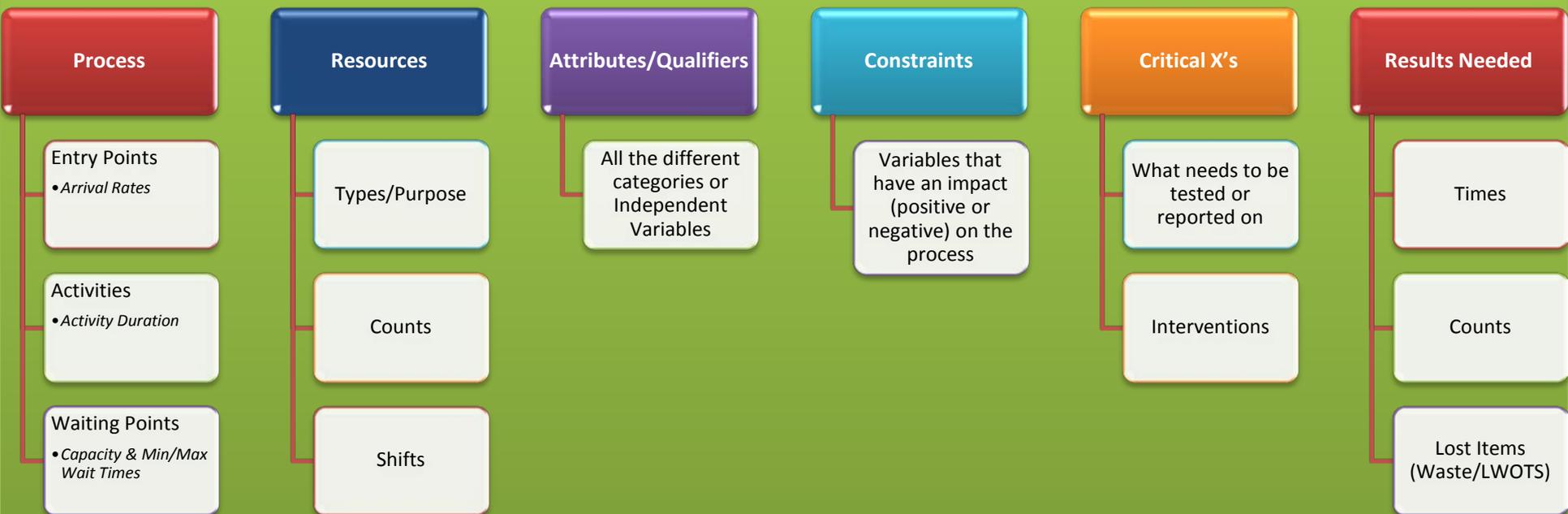


### Simple Queueing Analysis

- Specific issue or machine or process
- Singular wait lines or non complex models
- Single procedures
- Static models or analysis

# Step Four: Build Standardization and Clarity

## Standardization of Inputs and Outputs



# Step Five

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## Ramp It Up

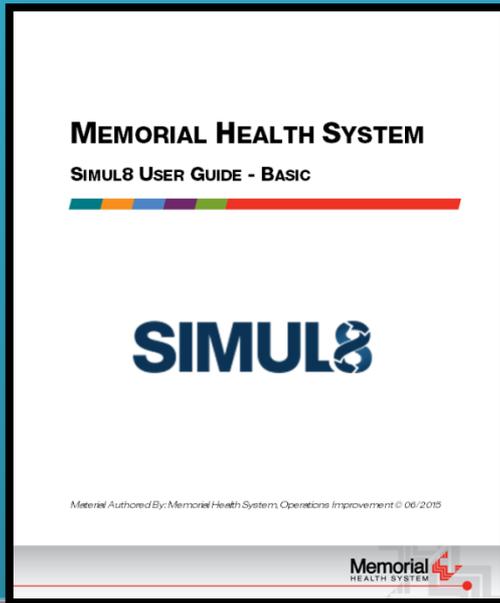
# Step Five: Ramp It Up

## Create a Education System Tailored to Your Organization

Develop Training  
Materials and Program

Conduct Periodic Education Sessions

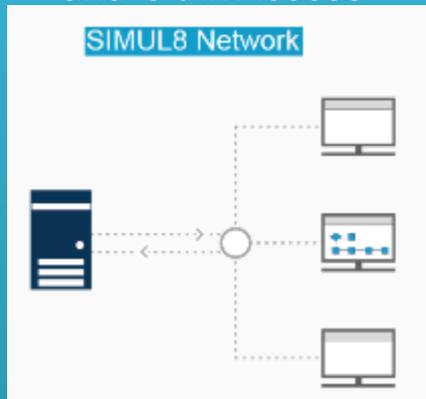
- Lessons Learned
- Lab Sessions



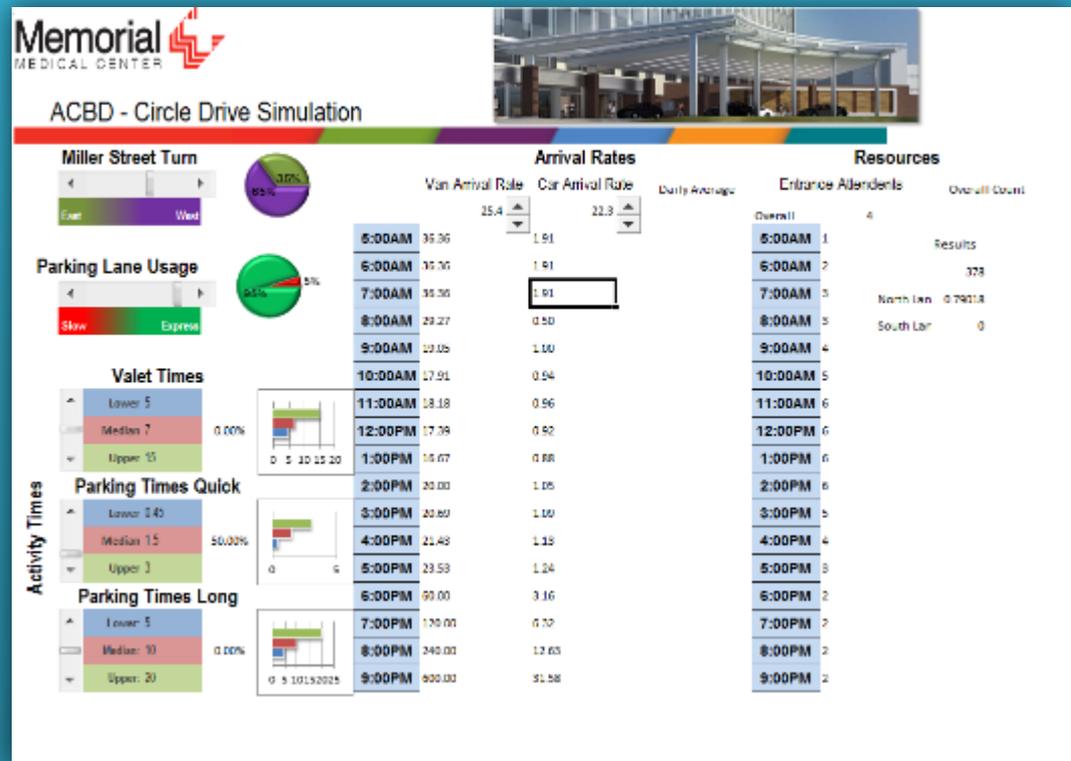
# Step Five: Ramp It Up

## Improve Technological Access

Add Network License  
and Citrix Access



Build Dynamic Templates in Excel



# Step Five: Ramp It Up

## Encourage use in more diverse situations

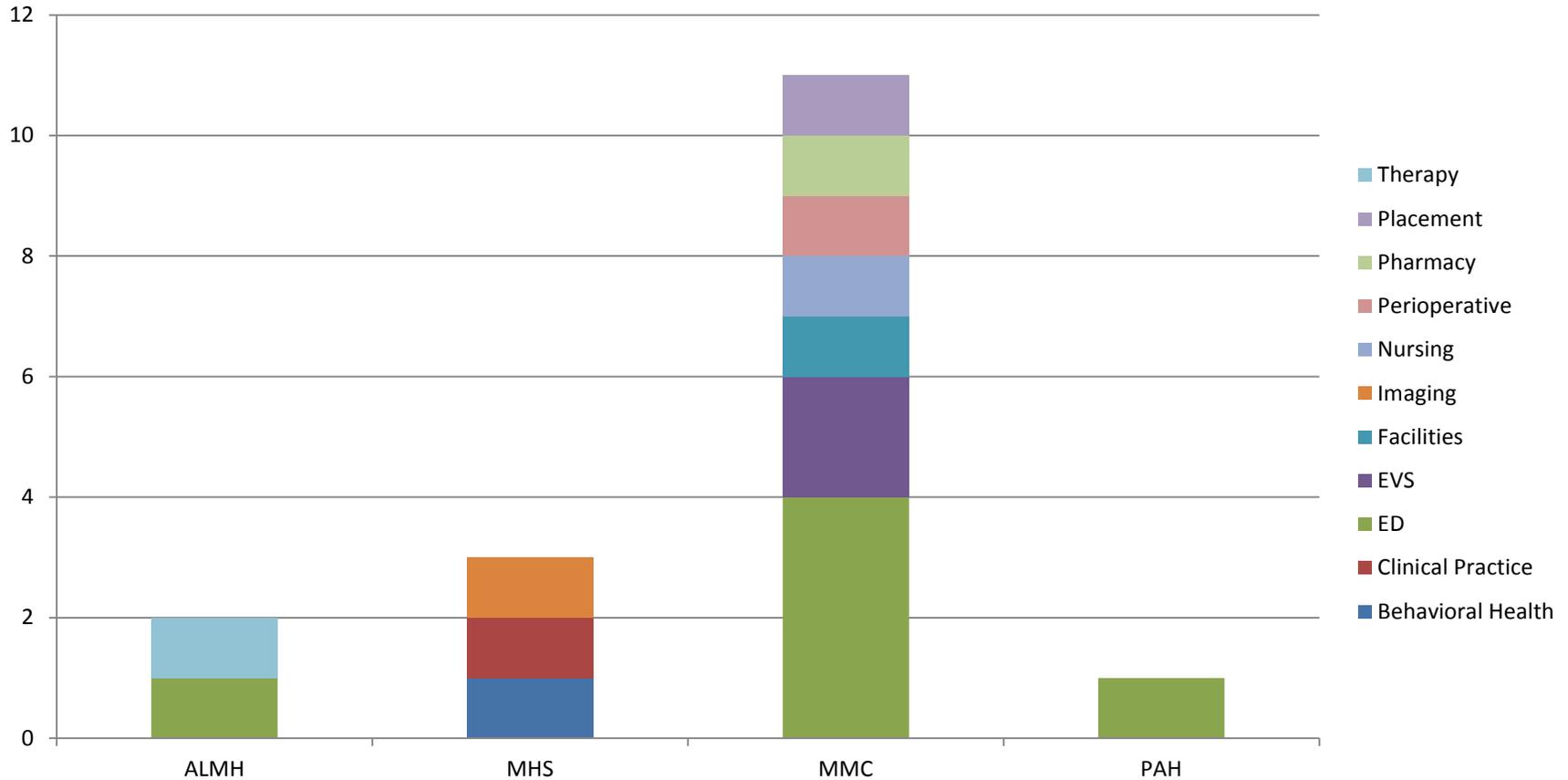
Increase use of  
Complex Modeling and Programming

```
IF lbl_AssignedRoom = 0
  LOOP 2 >>> var_loop >>> 20
  IF lbl_AssignedRoom = 0
    Find Minimum Value in Sheet Area ss_PatientAssignments[8,2], 1, 20,
    IF ss_Rooms[12,var_loop] = ICI_Secaltoro
      SET lbl_TargetRM = ss_PatientAssignments[1,ICI_PtID]
      IF ss_Rooms[12,var_loop] = 0
        SET ss_PatientAssignments[6,ICI_PtID] = ss_PatientAssignments[6,ICI_PtID]
        SET ss_PatientAssignments[3,ICI_PtID] = I4ss_PatientAssignments[3,ICI_PtID]
        SET ss_PatientAssignments[4,ICI_PtID] = I4ss_PatientAssignments[4,ICI_PtID]
        SET lbl_AssignedRoom = ss_Rooms[12,var_loop]
        SET ICI_AssignedRm = ICI_Secaltoro
        SET ss_PatientAssignments[8,ICI_PtID] = ss_PatientAssignments[8,ICI_PtID]
        SET ss_PatientAssignments[7,ICI_PtID] = I4ss_PatientAssignments[7,ICI_PtID]
        SET ss_PatientAssignments[9,ICI_PtID] = I4ss_PatientAssignments[9,ICI_PtID]
        SET ss_Rooms[12,var_loop] = lbl_PtID
        SET ICI_TravelInJustValue = 1
      ELSE
        SET ICI_AssignedRm = ICI_Secaltoro
        SET ICI_TravelInJustValue = ICI_TravelInJustValue
        Insert Row ss_PatientPlacementHistory[1,2]
        SET ss_PatientPlacementHistory[1,2] = lbl_PtID
        SET ss_PatientPlacementHistory[2,2] = Simulation Time
        IF HOUR[Simulation Time] < 7
          Insert Logic here to use "IF" condition is true.
          SET ss_PatientPlacementHistory[1,2] = 2
        ELSE (else not valid here) IF HOUR[Simulation Time] > 19
          SET ss_PatientPlacementHistory[1,2] = 2
        ELSE
          SET ss_PatientPlacementHistory[1,2] = 1
          SET ss_PatientPlacementHistory[4,2] = lbl_PtSeverity
          SET ss_PatientPlacementHistory[5,2] = lbl_EncounterType
          SET ss_PatientPlacementHistory[6,2] = lbl_FallRisk
          SET ss_PatientPlacementHistory[7,2] = lbl_AssignedRoom
          SET ss_PatientPlacementHistory[8,2] = lbl_TargetRM
```

Educate Operations Improvement  
Personnel



# DES Use Histogram

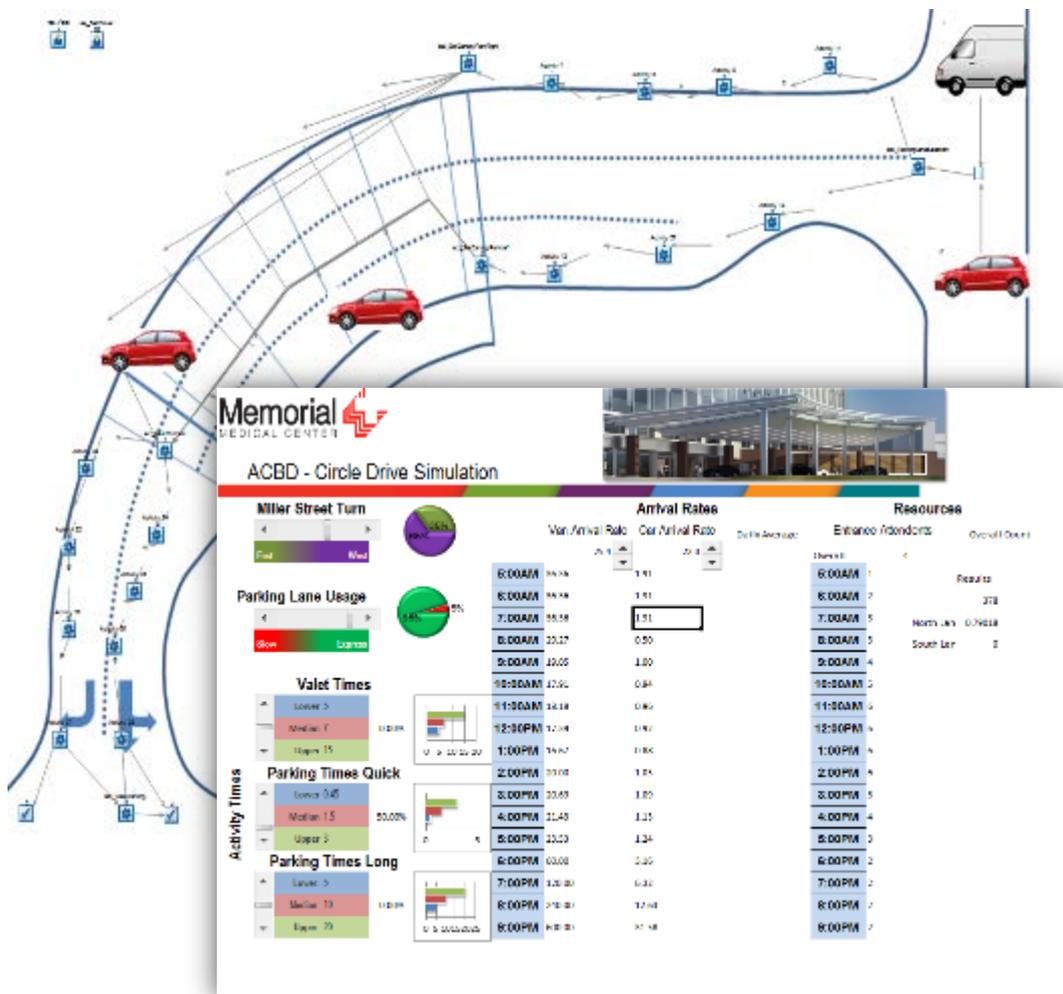


# Additional Models

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Some Other Ideas for Use

# MMC – Medical Center Front Entrance



Scope

- Analysis of vehicle volume through new PCT drive

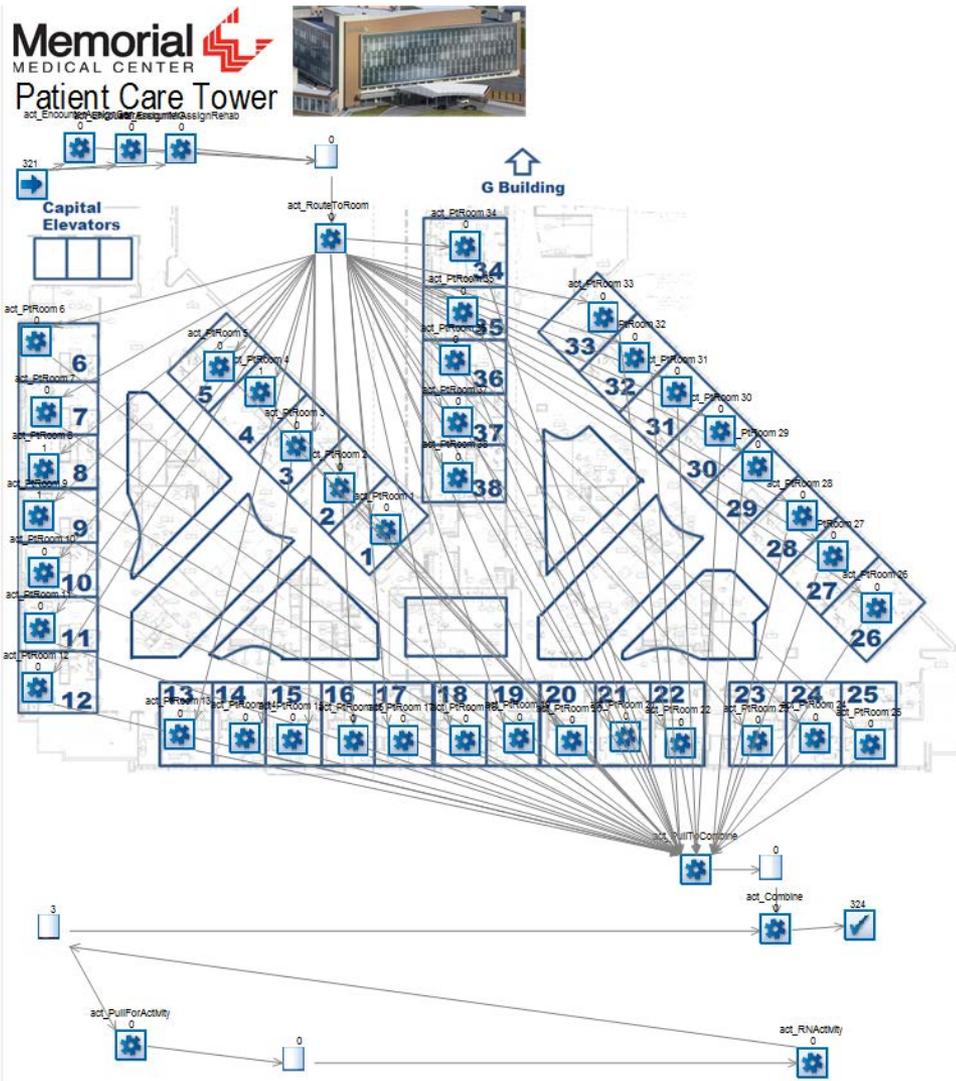
Innovation

- Use on facility driven project
- Creation of Dynamic User Interface in Excel

Results

- Predicted no backup on 1<sup>st</sup> street if >80% of cars park less than 10 minutes, has held true

# MMC Patient Care Tower



Scope

- Testing of RN patient assignment



Innovation

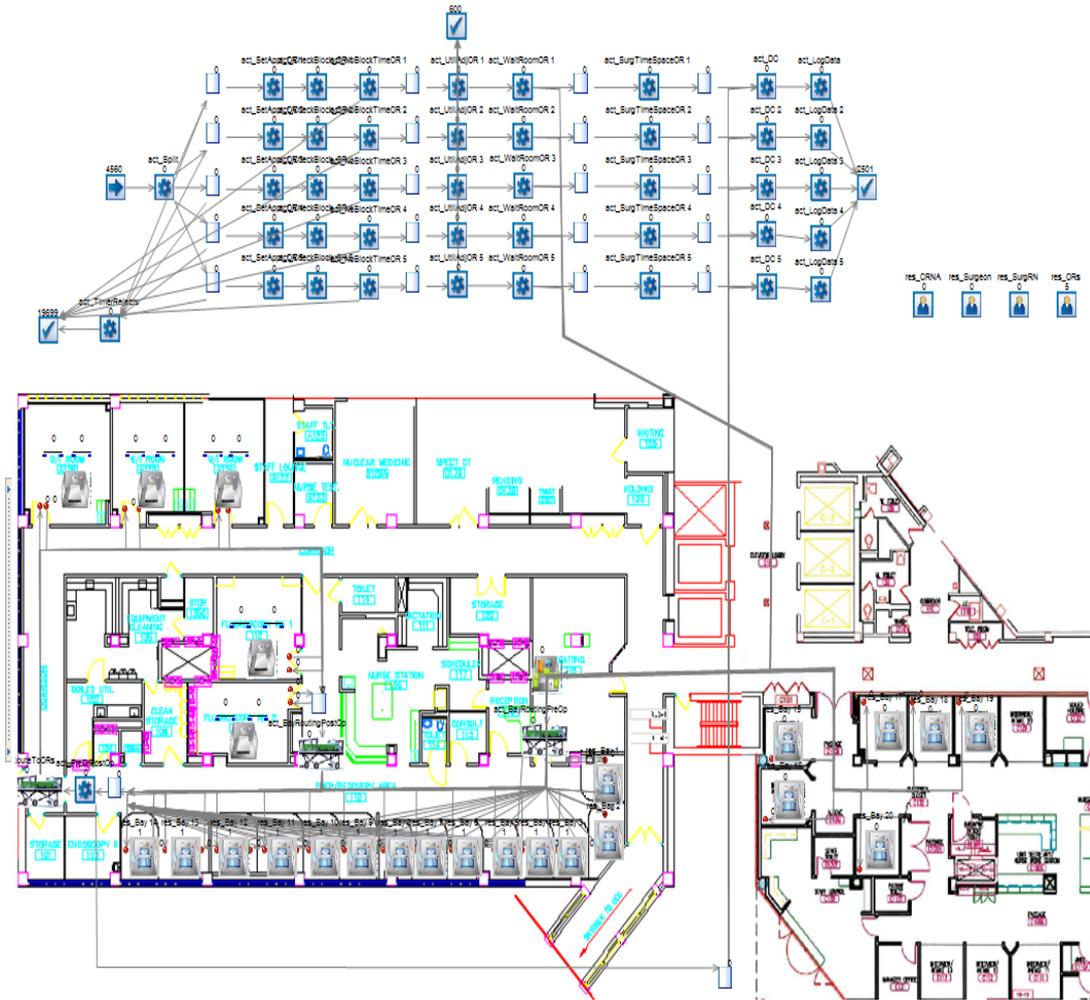
- Extensive use of complex back end programming



Results

- Allowed for the development of assignment equity

# MMC SPA Block Scheduling



Scope

- Develop Model to Test Block Schedule Change, Gage Impacts

Innovation

- Use of Extensive External Connections Including Excel and Access, Complex Visual Logic

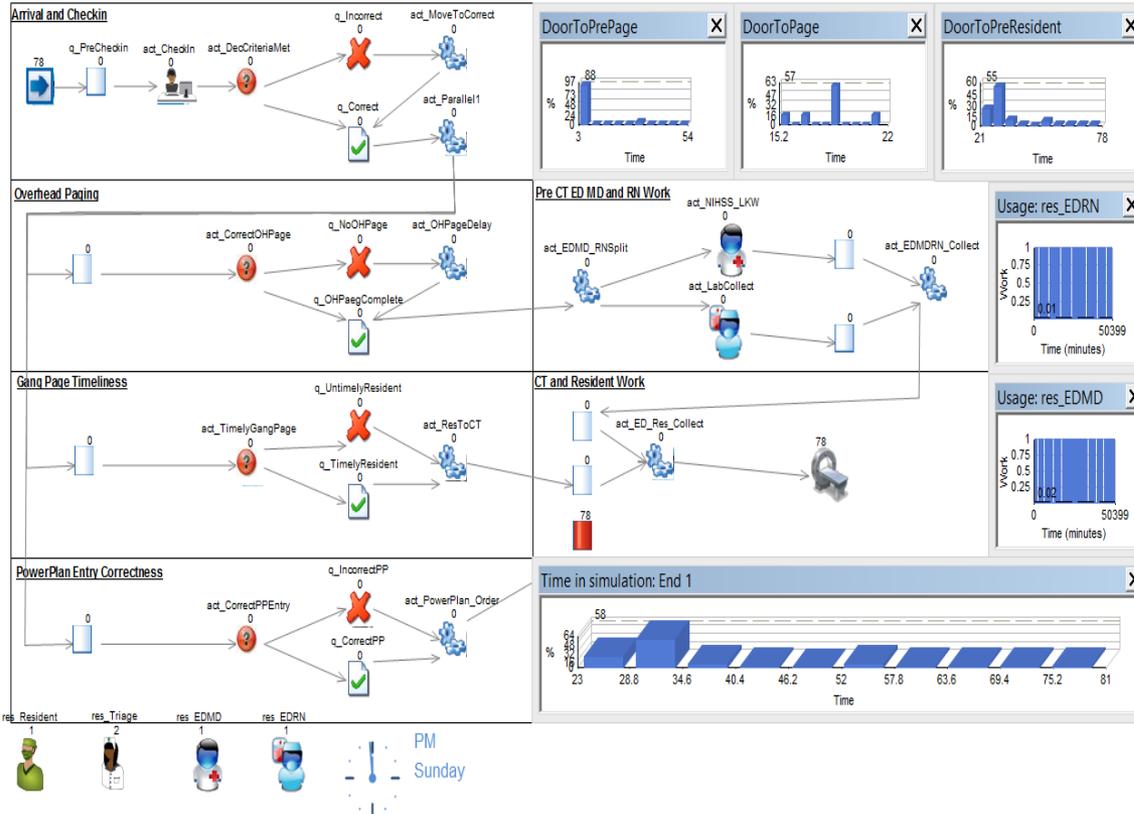
Results

- Used to Identify Process Improvements, Staffing Utilization, Financial Impact of Block Changes

# MMC Stroke Communication

## Emergency Stroke Care

Discrete Event Simulation Modeling the Impact of Decision and Communication Delays



- In conjunction with a Live Simulation, estimate clinical impact of stroke protocol communication improvements



- Probability assessment, our first model looking at human factors, estimating clinical impact



- In Progress
- Current state within 1 minute of actual results



# Questions?

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*Image: Memorial Center For Learning and Innovation, Inpatient Simulation Center*

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