

# Experience EXPO With Us!



- Innovation Stage - *Exhibit Hall – The Bridge (Booth P14051)*

Our Innovation Stage sessions feature free, promotional content for all attendees.

- Vision Series - *Thursday, Sept 19 and Friday, Sept 20*

Grab a bite to eat or drink and continue learning over breakfast or lunch!\* Listen to industry leaders as they address the latest clinical innovations in a relaxed and collaborative environment.

*\*Open to Optometrists only. Not for Credit. Meals offered on first-come, first-serve basis to pre-registered attendees.*

- Exhibit Hall Hours

Thursday, Sept 19      9:30am – 6:00pm

Friday, Sept 20              9:30am – 6:00pm

Saturday, Sept 21          9:30am – 3:00pm

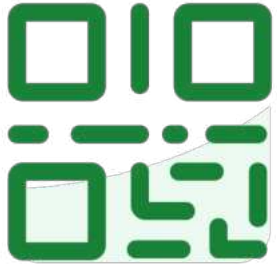


## The Practice Owner's Guide to **Lean Inventory Management**

A Presentation by

**Aaron Neufeld,  
O.D.**

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#3022283

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# FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES

## **Speaking/Consulting**

Speaker/Consultant, Coopervision

Speaker, Alcon

Speaker/KOL, ReviewWave

Advisory Board, Vyluma

Advisory Board, Stifel Investments

## **Ownership/Equity - Significant**

Co-Owner, ODs on Finance LLC

Co-Owner, EyeDock LLC

Partner/Investor, ODoF Ventures

## **Ownership/Equity - Minority Stake**

Shareholder, Virtual Vision

Shareholder, Barti

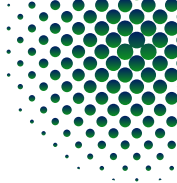
Shareholder, Mercantile (AOA card)

Shareholder, Percept

**All relevant relationships have been mitigated**

Who is this Guy and

# WHY ARE WE STUCK **WITH HIM FOR AN HOUR?**



★ Multi-practice Owner

- **Los Altos Optometric Group**
- **Pacific Eye Care Optometry**
- **The Contact Lens Institute**



★ Co-Founder/COO/Practice Consultant

- **ODs on Finance**

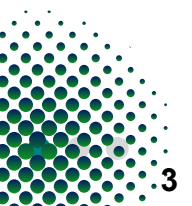
★ Partner/Investor

- **ODoF Ventures**



★ Owner

- Neufeld Holdings (practice real estate)





## WHO IS THIS GUY

AND WHY AM I STUCK  
WITH HIM FOR AN  
HOUR?

# WHO IS THIS GUY

AND WHY AM I STUCK WITH HIM FOR AN HOUR?

## DISCLAIMER

I am not an attorney, CPA, financial advisor or realtor

This presentation is for your information and entertainment only and does not constitute formal, personalized financial, accounting, or legal advice.

Cover  
Your...



# OBJECTIVE

*To introduce practice owners to the fundamentals of lean management and inventory management, marry the concepts and extrapolate methodologies that create efficiency, revenue production and patient satisfaction. Strategies involving staff and technology will be discussed.*





# KEY TAKEAWAYS



Be able to apply Lean to inventory management



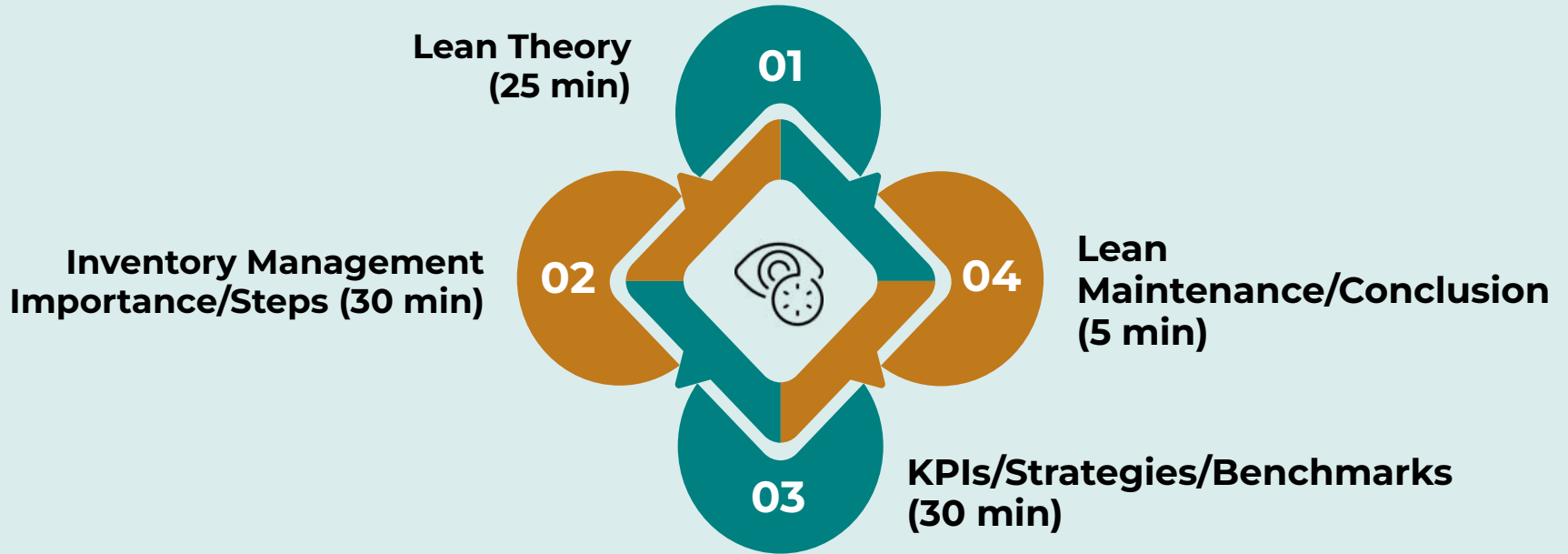
Be able to understand the steps + metrics involved w/ inventory mngmt



Utilize this application to create new efficiencies and increase revenue generation



# Today's **AGENDA**



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# What does it mean to be lean?

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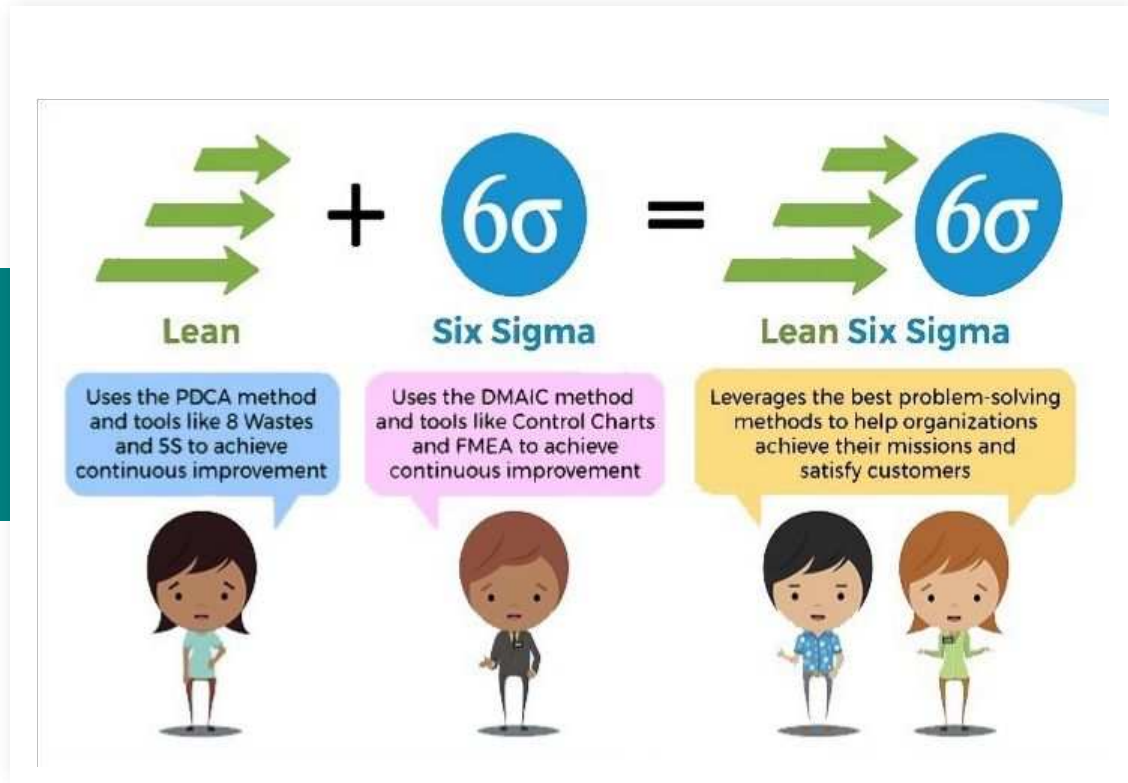


# What Does it Mean to Be Lean?

A collaborative team effort to **improve performance** by **removing waste and variation**

Derives name from **Lean Six Sigma**

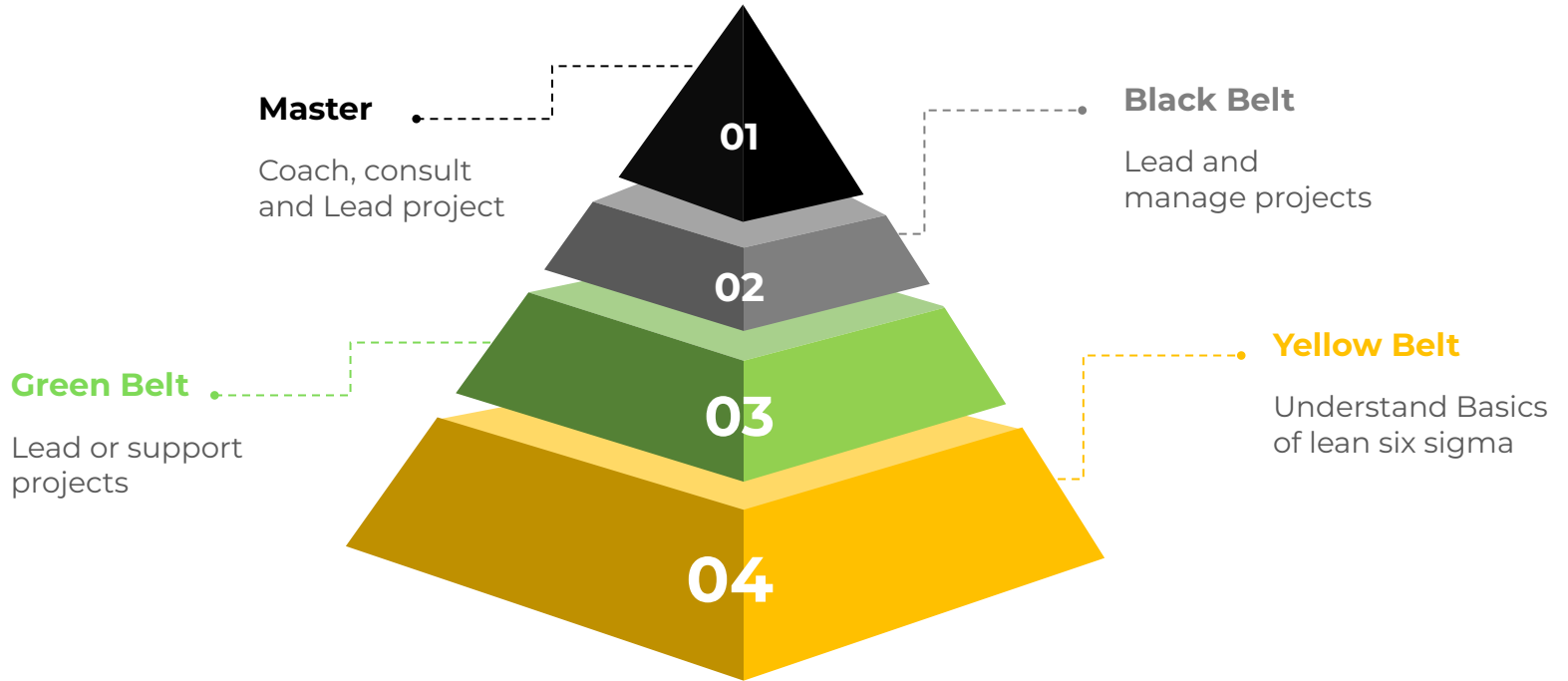
# WHAT IS LEAN SIX SIGMA?

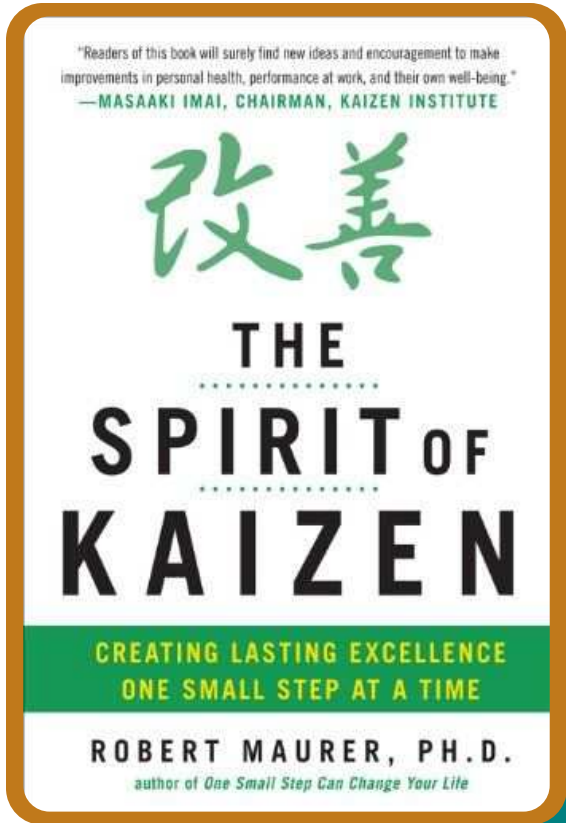
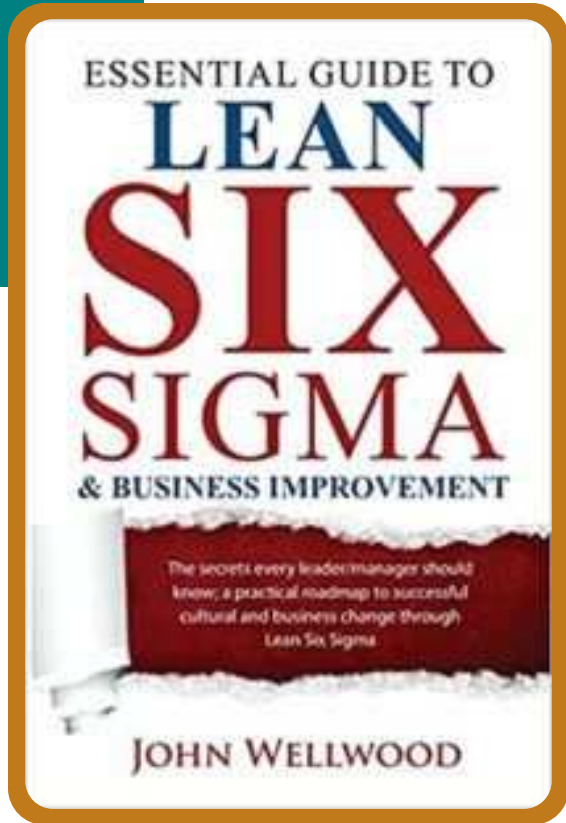


# A HISTORY LESSON



# WHAT IS LEAN SIX SIGMA?







# THE MORAL CONUNDRUM WITH LEAN SIX SIGMA



## 01.

Designed for Large Corporations, not SMBs

## 02.

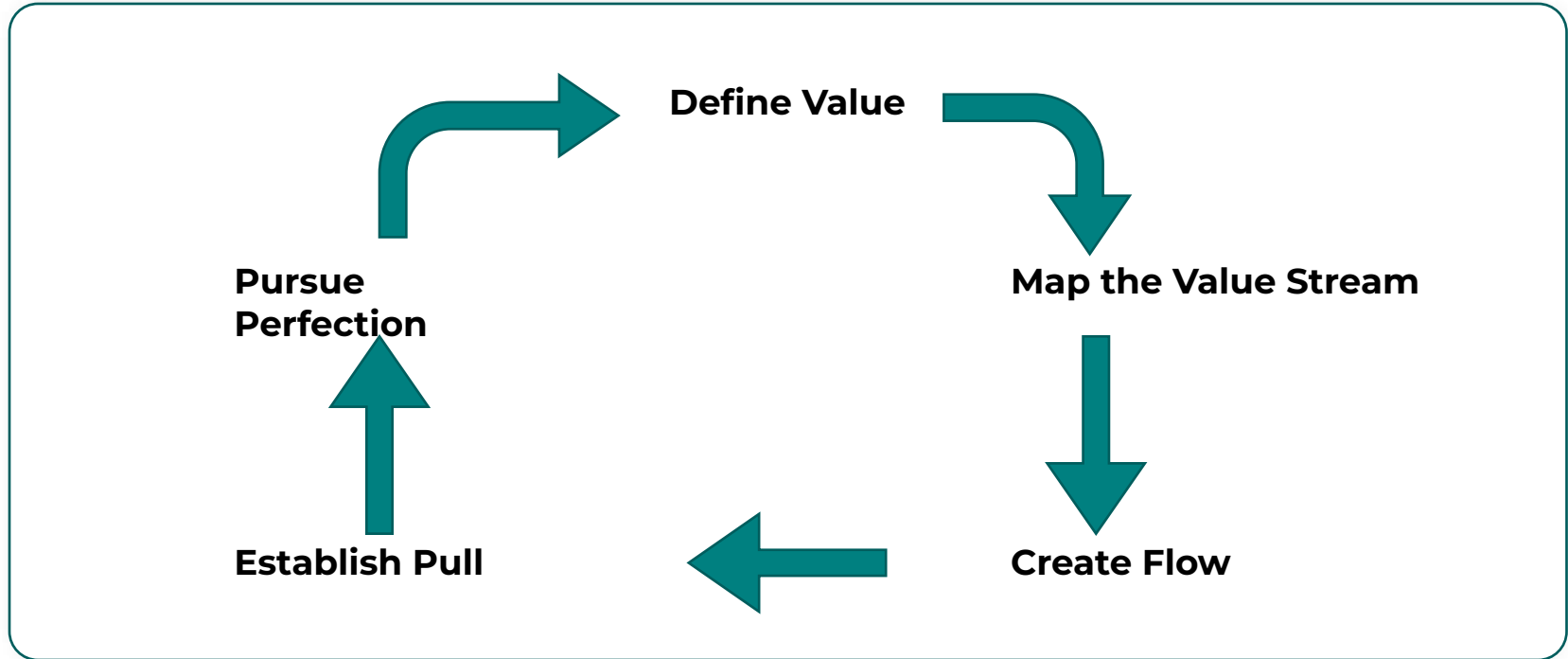
Inherently lacks empathy

## 03.

This course will present an altered approach while still staying true to underlying principles



# THE PRINCIPLES OF LEAN



# THE FIVE STEP PROCESS OF LEANING (DMAIC)



< **Define**  
Find problems



< **Measure**  
Find gap that problem  
encompasses



< **Analyze**  
find the reason for the gap  
existing



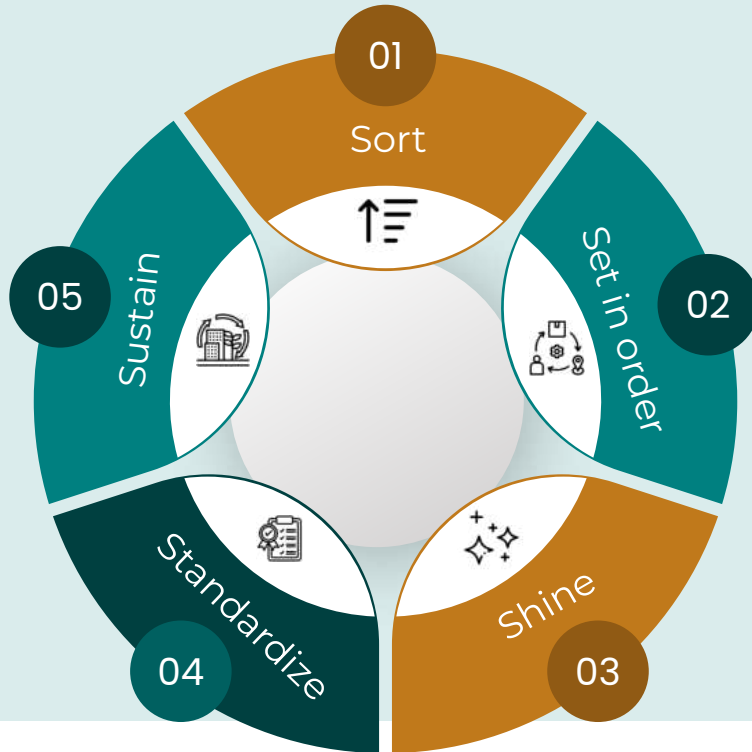
< **Improve**  
Close the gap and get rid of  
the defects



< **Control**  
Sustain improvements



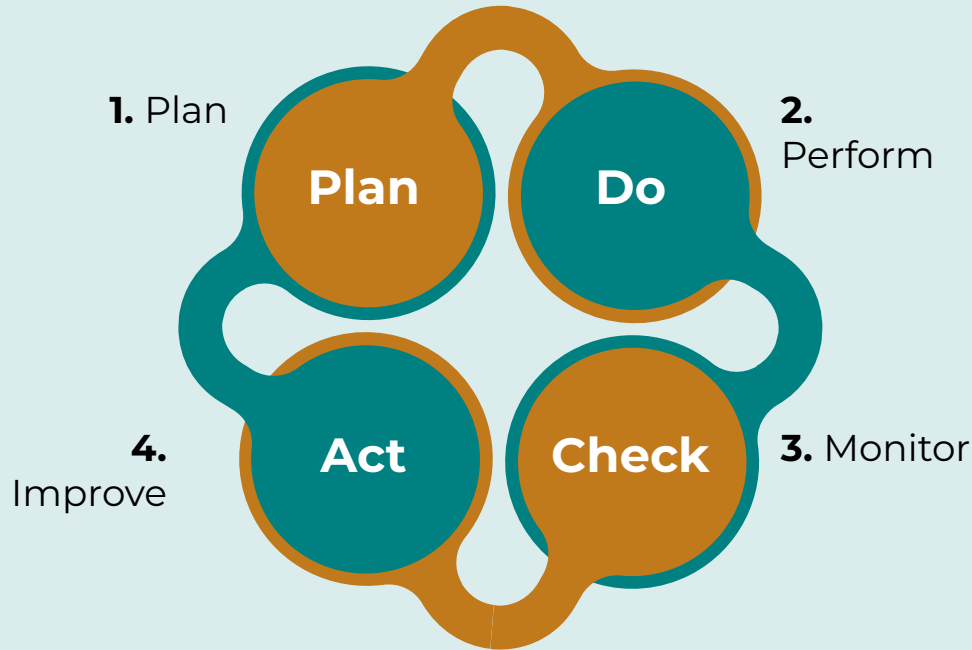
# WHAT IS 5S?



Uses the PDCA method and tools like 8 Wastes and 5S to achieve continuous improvement



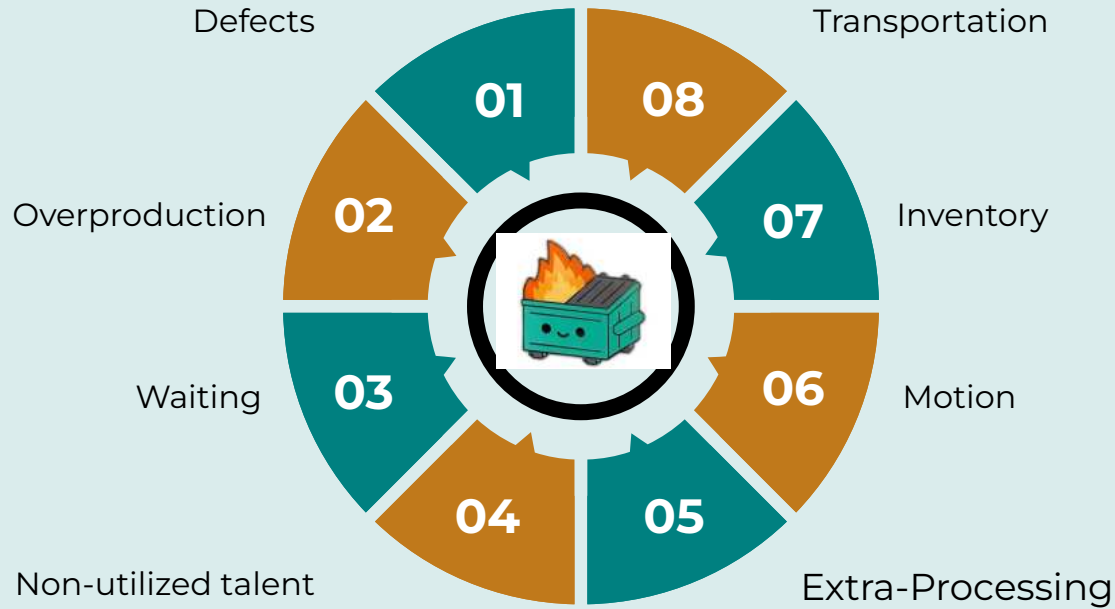
# WHAT IS PDCA?



Uses the PDCA method and tools like 8 Wastes and 5S to achieve continuous improvement



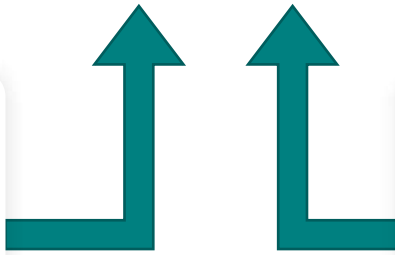
# THE 8 TYPES OF WASTE



# ELIMINATE WASTE, GAIN MONEY, TIME + HAPPINESS!

Total Revenue - Total Expenses = **Net Profit**

1. Defects
2. Overproduction
3. Waiting
4. Non-utilized talent
5. Extra-Processing
6. Motion
7. Inventory
8. Transportation



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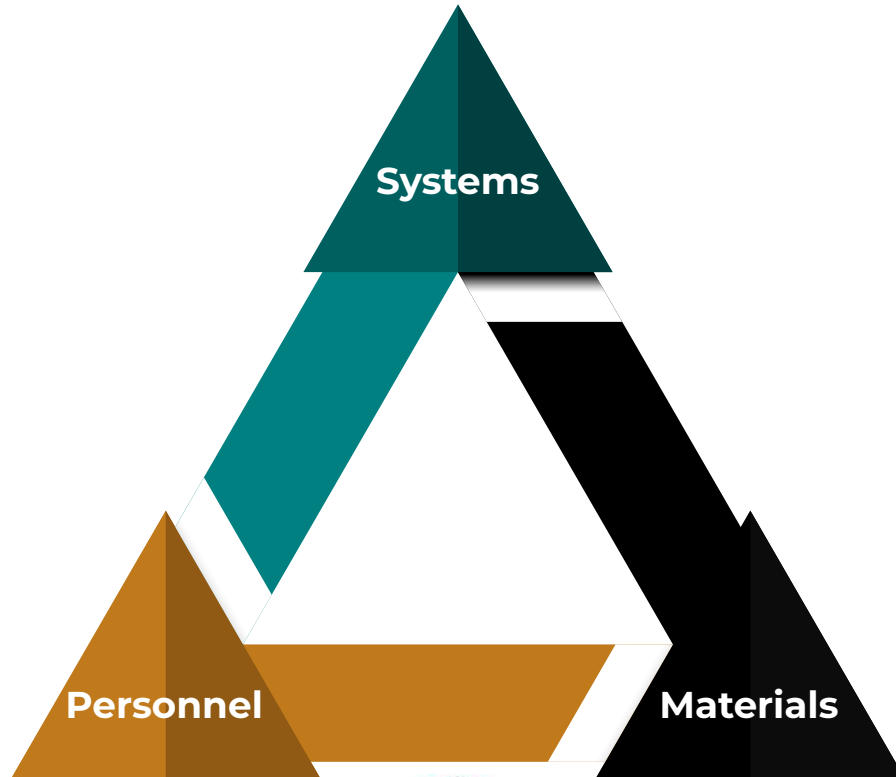
# Which type of waste do you find the most in your office?

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# LOOK AT YOUR **PRACTICE TRINITY**



# FIND PROBLEMS WITH THE TRINITY

## Three Ways:



Root Cause Analysis (**RCA**)



Value Stream Mapping (**VSM**)



Cost Benefit Analysis (**CBA**)



# ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS (RCA)

Find the very basic, underlying problem

## Ex #1:

High office expenses: find where office manager is ordering products, shop around for cheaper products and utilize that storefront



# ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS (RCA)

Find the very basic, underlying problem



## Ex #2:

Increasing retinal screening conversions: look at initial script presented to patient, the manner it is presented and who is presenting it



# VALUE STREAM MAPPING (VSM)

Identify where waste is and work  
to eliminate it

## Ex:

Real Estate waste: Can break rooms  
or doctor offices be used for practice  
efficacy - such as a VT activity room  
or contact lens area?



# COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS (CBA)

Identify where waste is and work to eliminate it  
Identify costs and benefits of material or process, then minus the cost from benefits to determine if worthwhile - can do this monetarily but also with intangibles

**Ex:** OCT CBA: dollar amount cost vs. reimbursements/cash pay for glaucoma, retina and scleral lens fitting to determine necessity



# COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS (CBA)



## Purchasing an OCT

**Initial Capital Cost:** \$60,000

### Projected revenue Generated Annually:

\$10,000 (200 patients\* \$50/medical reimbursement)

**Annual net income:**  $\$10,000 - \$60,000 = -\$50,000$

**ROI** =  $-\$50,000 / 60,000 = -0.83$



# COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS (CBA)

**Initial Capital Cost:** \$60,000

**Projected revenue Generated Annually:** \$10,000 (200 patients at \$50 each)

- **Staff time per usage** (@ \$20/hr) - 15 min = \$5/patient - \$500/100 patients
- **Doctor time per usage** (@ \$60/hr) - 5 min = \$5/patient - \$500/100 patients
- **Biller time per usage** (@ \$15/hr) - 3 hrs/100 patients - \$45/100 patients
- **Avg. Maintenance cost per year** - \$200
- **Energy cost per usage** - \$0.25 - \$0.25 x 100 patients - \$25
- **Footprint** - 10 sq ft @ \$30 sq ft/yr lease = \$300/yr
- **Property tax** - not applicable in this instance

\$500+ \$500+ \$45 + \$200 + \$25+ \$300 = **\$1570/year**. Certainly not a huge amount, but enough to be seen as significant!





# COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS (CBA)

**Initial Capital Cost:** \$60,000

In this model we can see that if revenue remains consistent (in the real world we hope it would increase - but we are keeping it stagnant for simplicity's sake), we will see a break-even point around Year 6 of owning the device. After this, the machine begins to reap a profit.



**Initial Capital Cost:**

\$60,000

**Yearly Cost:**

\$1570

**Revenue:**

\$10,000



# MATERIALS (QUANTITATIVE)

## Lenses



### Internal lab

1. Streamline production
2. Create systematic approach for reducing errors and limiting time per job
  - i. Study errors/defects as they occur and provide immediate fix



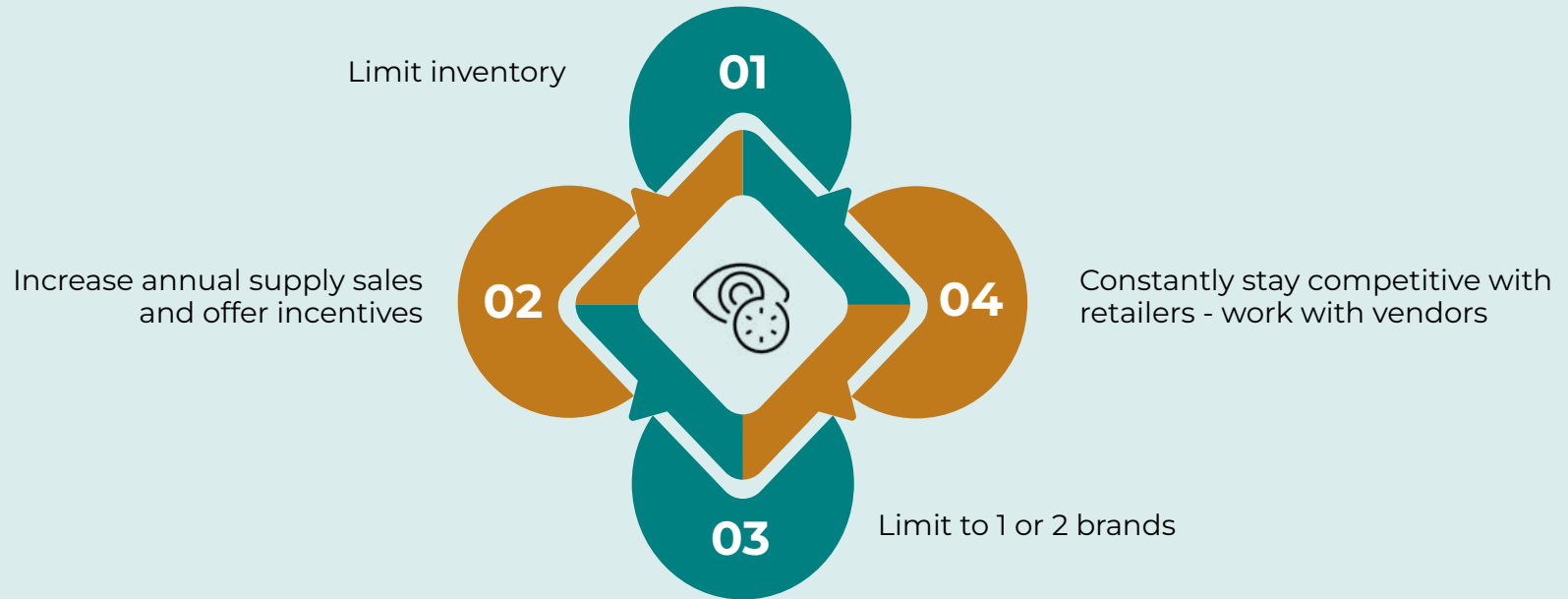
### External lab

1. Experiment with different external labs
2. Look at Three Items with external labs
  - i. Cost
  - ii. Time to complete job
  - iii. Defects/Redos
3. Keep in contact with preferred lab and remind them of your standards



# MATERIALS (QUANTITATIVE)

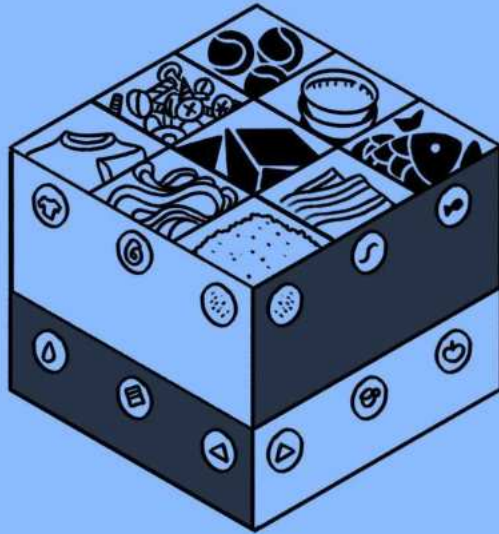
## Contact Lenses



***The Sad Truth - Contact Lens supply revenue is subject to the law of diminishing returns***



# What is Inventory Management?



## Inventory Management

*['in-vən-,tór-ē'ma-nij-mənt]*

The process of ordering, storing, using, and selling a company's raw materials, components, and finished products.



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## Who places emphasis on inventory management in their practice?

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# Why is Inventory Management Important?



# Effective Inventory Management Results in:

- Lower costs
- Better understanding of sales patterns
- Minimizes out of stocks
- Improves Profit Margins
- Prevent Spoilage and Obsolescence



# Effective Inventory Management Results in:

- Improves Multi-channel/omnichannel performance
  - Esp. prevalent for online offerings
- Simplifies Processes and Facilitates Growth
- Reduces Shrinkage





# Effective Inventory Management Results in:

- Eases Supply Chain Management
- Improves Customer Satisfaction
- Improves Forecasting



# What do we Inventory?

- 1) Frames
- 2) Ophthalmic lenses
- 3) Contact Lenses
- 4) nUtraceuticals
- 5) Solutions/Drops



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# Select all that you inventory in your practice:

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# 1) Create a Centralized Record of All Products

- Product Names
- Stock keeping unit (SKU)
- Brand
- Variables
  - Size, product category, etc.
- Wholesale cost
- MSRP
- Inventory on hand
- Reorder lead time
- Economic order quantity (EOQ)\*



# Economic Order Quantity (EOQ)

**Economic order quantity (EOQ) is the ideal quantity of units a company should purchase to meet demand while minimizing inventory costs such as holding costs, shortage costs, and order costs.**

$$EOQ = \sqrt{\frac{2 \times S \times D}{H}}$$

**where:**

$S$  = Setup costs (per order, generally including shipping and handling)

$D$  = Demand rate (quantity sold per year)

$H$  = Holding costs (per year, per unit)



# Economic Order Quantity (EOQ)

EOQ example:

You sell 1000 frames per year (D), average cost per frame of \$100 (S), and it costs roughly \$10 to hold each frame yearly (H)

$$\text{EOQ} = \text{sq rt} \frac{2 \times (D=1000) \times (S=\$100)}{\$10} = 141.42$$

EOQ = 141 → ideal order size to minimize costs and meet customer demand

*Downfall: assumes constant sales*



# Economic Order Quantity (EOQ)

EOQ example:

$$\text{EOQ} = 141$$

Assuming a 1x turnover rate (remember 1000 frames/yr)

We need to place this EOQ 7 times per year, or roughly every other month

*Downfall: assumes constant sales*





## 2) Identify Stock Location

1. Display/Optical
2. Storeroom
3. Warehouse
4. Distribution center

**RFID - useful if very large**

**Most offices can get away  
with barcodes or simple labels**



### 3) Regular + Accurate Stock Count

Count Inventory Periodically!

→ At least once a quarter, monthly often recommended for optical

Check for:

- Shrinkage
- Damage
- Defects
- Returns/exchanges

Physical counting or cycle counting



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# How Often Do You Count Inventory?

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## 4) Combine Sales and Inventory Data

- Use EMR, inventory management software, or by hand!
- Determine:
  - 1) Velocity - quick sellers
  - 2) Lagers - slow sellers

### Pearls:

- ★ Utilize data to determine reorder patterns
- ★ Utilize data to help with pricing strategy



## 5) Create a Purchasing Process

- Schedule times to review data
- Schedule times to place orders
- Schedule rep meetings (if necessary)
- Create systems to trigger alerts for purchasing
  
- Prioritize based on
  - Profitability
  - Popularity
  - Lead time



## 6) Establish a Process for Markdowns and Promotions

- Systemize moving slow sellers
  - Markdowns
  - Higher incentives/bounty
  - Selling to another retailer/office
- Why slow sellers occur:
  - Cooling trends
  - Obsolescence
  - Seasonality
  - Wrong market fit



## 7) Create a Stock Receiving Procedure

- 1) Verify Incoming orders
- 2) Enter goods into system
- 3) Comparing delivery to purchase order
- 4) Confirm all product
  - a) Note defects, damage or missing product
  - b) Communicate with vendors if missing
- 5) Enter goods into inventory counts
- 6) Affix price tags/barcodes
- 7) Store good or merchandize them



## 8) Create Procedure for Returns



- 1) Understand vendor return and exchange policy fully
- 2) Decide timing on replacing product
  - a) Too soon - unable to collect appropriate data
  - b) Too late - stale inventory wastes a potential movable unit





## 9) Determine a Dead Stock Procedure

Dead stock = damaged, incorrect or unusable/seasonal products

1. Record items + remove from inventory
2. Designate a holding place
3. Designate frequency of handling



## 10) Pick Inventory KPIs

- Profitability
- Inventory value
- Sell Through Rate
- Turnover Rate
- Capture Rate



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## Who tracks KPIs?

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# 10) Pick Inventory KPIs

- **Profitability**
- Inventory value
- Sell Through Rate
- Turnover Rate
- Capture Rate

## Profitability

**List Price - Wholesale Price = Profit**



# 10) Pick Inventory KPIs

- Profitability
- **Inventory value**
- Sell Through Rate
- Turnover Rate
- Capture Rate

## Inventory Value

**Calculate total wholesale costs of all goods for sale**



## 10) Pick Inventory KPIs

- Profitability
- Inventory value
- **Sell Through Rate**
- Turnover Rate
- Capture Rate

### Sell Through Rate

$$\frac{\text{Number of Units Sold}}{\text{Number of Units Received}} \times 100$$



# 10) Pick Inventory KPIs

- Profitability
- Inventory value
- Sell Through Rate
- **Turnover Rate**
- Capture Rate

**\*\*Turnover Rate\*\***

**Annual Frame Units Sold**  
**Number of Frames in Inventory Annually**



# 10) Pick Inventory KPIs

## **\*\*Turnover Rate\*\***

- **Industry Average = 1.8x (annual)**
- **Varies by practice size:**

<b>Annual Frame Turnover (includes multi-location practices)</b>		
<b>Annual Gross Revenue</b>	<b>Annual Frame Turnover</b>	<b>Median Frames Inventory</b>
\$650,000	1.5	700
\$1,000,000	1.8	890
\$1,500,000	2.2	1,000
\$2,000,000	2.4	1,150





# Strategies to Further Lean Out our Inventory

1. Waste Elimination
2. Demographic Approach
3. Vendor Cutting/Going Outside the Vendor
4. Pricing Strategies
5. Profitability Amidst VCPs



# Strategies to Further Lean Out our Inventory

1. **Waste Elimination**
2. Demographic Approach
3. Vendor Cutting/Going Outside the Vendor
4. Pricing Strategies
5. Profitability Amidst VCPs



# Waste Elimination

## Inventory Creep

- Count your frames!
- Check Pricing Tiers
- If you have effective opticians, you need less frames



# Waste Elimination

## Overstock

- Track inventory - use digital means
- Limit frame reps
- Ensure backstock is being used and not forgotten



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# Who experiences inventory creep/overstock?

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# Strategies to Further Lean Out our Inventory

1. Waste Elimination
- 2. Demographic Approach**
3. Vendor Cutting/Going Outside the Vendor
4. Pricing Strategies
5. Profitability Amidst VCPs



# Demographic Approach

WHAT does your customer base actually need?

- Occupation
- Avocations
- Regionality
- Environment
- AGE



# Strategies to Further Lean Out our Inventory

1. Waste Elimination
2. Demographic Approach
3. **Vendor Cutting/Going Outside the Vendor**
4. Pricing Strategies
5. Profitability Amidst VCPs





# Vendor Cutting/Going Outside the Vendor

- Reps DON'T care about you
- Work with fewer vendors
  - Better pricing
  - Ability to leverage/negotiate
  - Less stagnant inventory
- Healthy opticals often don't need more than 5-6 different vendors



# Vendor Cutting/Going Outside the Vendor

## Go Outside the Vendor

- Utilize alternative stocking sites
- Remember: rep's salary/bonus is built into YOUR cost of frames
- Not all rejects/obsolete
- No Minimums
- Example: ODs United



# Strategies to Further Lean Out our Inventory

1. Waste Elimination
2. Demographic Approach
3. Vendor Cutting/Going Outside the Vendor
4. **Pricing Strategies**
5. Profitability Amidst VCPs



# Pricing Strategies

## Price Elasticity Testing

- **Price Elasticity of Demand (PED)** - measures the percentage change in quantity demanded by consumers as a result of a percentage change in price
- Run on Best sellers → continue running until inflection met



# Pricing Strategies

## Markups

- Vary!
- Good to have some sort of formula
- Standard 3x is outdated
  - May result in LOSSES



# Pricing Strategies

## Minimum List Price (MLP)

- Defined as the minimum price you will sell ANY frame at
- It **costs as much** to sell a \$25 frame vs a \$750 frame
- Factor in operation costs

This is important to remain profitable with VCPs...



# Strategies to Further Lean Out our Inventory

1. Waste Elimination
2. Demographic Approach
3. Vendor Cutting/Going Outside the Vendor
4. Pricing Strategies
5. **Profitability Amidst VCPs**



# Profitability Among VCPs

- Each Plan has unique benefits and features when it comes to allowances
- Different Factors to watch out for
  - Wholesale Frame Allowance (WFA)
  - Retail Allowance
  - Percentage of
- MLP ensures at least moderate profitability on all transactions





# Benchmarks for Success

1. Capture Rate
2. Multiple Pair Ratio
3. Anti-reflective Coating Ratio
4. Optical Gross Profit Margin
5. Remake Ratio
6. Annual CL Sales Ratio



# Benchmarks for Success

- 1. Capture Rate**
2. Multiple Pair Ratio
3. Anti-reflective Coating Ratio
4. Optical Gross Profit Margin
5. Remake Ratio
6. Annual CL Sales Ratio



# Capture Rate

$$\text{Capture Rate} = \frac{\text{Pts who filled Rx}}{\text{Pts who received Rx}} \times 100$$

**Average Capture Rate is 64% for frames and 68% for lenses**



# Benchmarks for Success

1. Capture Rate
- 2. Multiple Pair Ratio**
3. Anti-reflective Coating Ratio
4. Optical Gross Profit Margin
5. Remake Ratio
6. Annual CL Sales Ratio



# Multiple Pair Ratio

Multiple Pair Ratio =  $\frac{\text{Pts buying 2+ pairs}}{\text{Pts buying glasses}}$

**Average MPR for 2 pairs is 30%, 3 pairs is 6%**



# Benchmarks for Success

1. Capture Rate
2. Multiple Pair Ratio
- 3. Anti-reflective Coating Ratio**
4. Optical Gross Profit Margin
5. Remake Ratio
6. Annual CL Sales Ratio



# Anti-Reflective Coating Ratio

$$\text{ARC Ratio} = \frac{\text{Total \# of ARC lenses sold}}{\text{Total \# of lenses sold}}$$

**Average ARC ratio is 40% in US  
(90% in Europe/Asia)**



# Benchmarks for Success

1. Capture Rate
2. Multiple Pair Ratio
3. Anti-reflective Coating Ratio
- 4. Optical Gross Profit Margin**
5. Remake Ratio
6. Annual CL Sales Ratio





# Optical Gross Profit Margin

$$\text{Optical GPM} = \frac{\text{Optical gross revenue} - \text{COGs}}{\text{Optical gross revenue}}$$

**Average office is 61% Optical GPM**



# Benchmarks for Success

1. Capture Rate
2. Multiple Pair Ratio
3. Anti-reflective Coating Ratio
4. Optical Gross Profit Margin
- 5. Remake Ratio**
6. Annual CL Sales Ratio



# Remake Ratio

$$\text{Remake Ratio} = \frac{\text{Remake of eyewear orders}}{\text{Total eyewear orders}}$$

**Average practice Remake Ratio is 15%!**  
**Healthy Goal = 5%**



# Benchmarks for Success

1. Capture Rate
2. Multiple Pair Ratio
3. Anti-reflective Coating Ratio
4. Optical Gross Profit Margin
5. Remake Ratio
- 6. Annual CL Sales Ratio**



# Annual Contact Lens Sales per Contact Lens Exam

Collected revenue from CL sales  
CL exams performed in 12 mo

**Average is only \$152**



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# Which is the most important to your practice?

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# Benchmarks for Success

1. Capture Rate
2. Multiple Pair Ratio
3. Anti-reflective Coating Ratio
4. Optical Gross Profit Margin
5. Remake Ratio
6. Annual CL Sales Ratio

**Improve benchmarks, improve bottomline!**



# TIPS FOR APPLYING LEAN TO YOUR PRACTICE



**01.** Remember Parkinson's Law

---

**02.** Don't let a leak turn into a flood

---

**03.** Make sure your lean system is sustainable

---



# REMEMBER PARKINSON'S LAW

The demand for something matches its supply.

Just because you're doing well, doesn't mean you should stop leaning!



# DON'T LET THE LEAK TURN INTO A FLOOD

Leaning will expose wasteful individuals who will fight back against Lean.



Toxic Employees



Toxic Patients



# MAKE SURE YOUR LEAN SYSTEM IS SUSTAINABLE

**Do not enact too many changes at once**



Humans are adaptable, but too many changes will cause a regression



Implement changes in step-by-step form

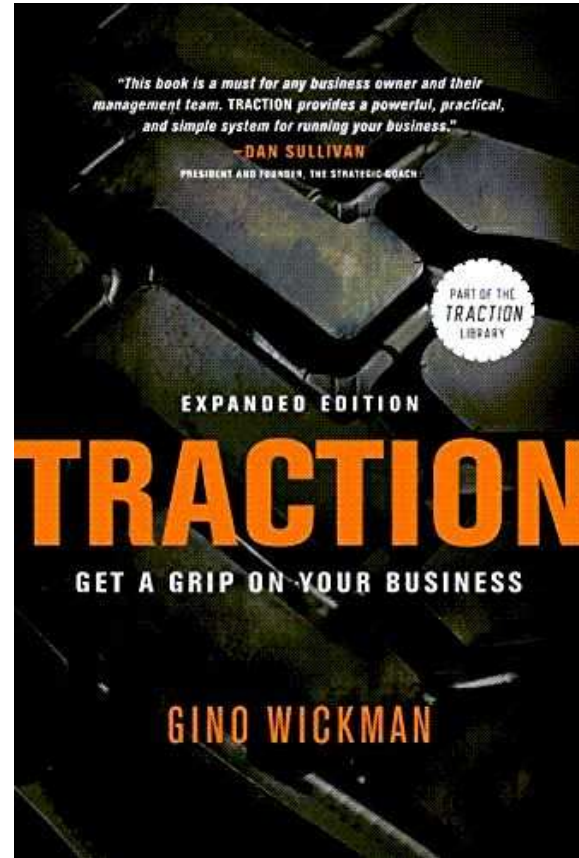
1. Analyze if staff responds to changes in positive or negative way
2. Engineer future changes based on response



# MAKE SURE YOUR LEAN SYSTEM IS SUSTAINABLE

Do not enact too many changes at once

Use the Traction method, implement changes over a **3-6-month period** in sequential form



# IN CONCLUSION

**01**

Understand  
the process of  
lean

**02**

Understand  
the steps of  
inventory  
management

**03**

Apply this  
knowledge to  
boost relevant  
metrics

**Lean Inventory Management plays a huge role in  
profitability and efficiency of a practice.**



# THANK YOU!

**Aaron Neufeld,  
O.D.**



[aneufeldod@gmail.com](mailto:aneufeldod@gmail.com)



ODs on Finance



Los Altos Optometric Group



THE CONTACT LENS INSTITUTE