



Walking the Tightrope with a Safety Net

**AnMed Health
February 2006**

Session Objectives

- Educate attendees on traditional FMEA model
- Examine Blood Transfusion process
- Identify and assign risk to potential failures
- Provide process controls to reduce risk in the blood transfusion process
- Critical factors to success

Failure Mode & Effects Analysis

FMEA

A systematic approach used to assure that potential failures and causes have been identified, considered and addressed.

FMEA Applications

∨ Formally introduced in the Late 1940's

∨ Safety Issues Worldwide

Aviation

Nuclear

Aerospace

Chemical process industries

.....Healthcare

∨ Goal of FMEA is to identify, prioritize & help prevent failures or to minimize the effects

∨ FMEA does not replace Root Cause Analysis

RCA vs. FMEA

Root Cause Analysis (RCA)

Reactive

Focuses on Event

Hindsight Bias

Fear, Resistance

Asks, Why?

Failure Mode & Effects Analysis (FMEA)

Proactive

Focuses on Complete process

Unbiased

Openness

Asks, What if?

Source: Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations

Mixed Reactions to FMEA's

.....FMEAs may be a good tool but, they are time consuming. They were made for manufacturing systems not healthcare.

Which FMEA model???

Failure Mode ranking system.....

– Severity (1- 10)

X Occurrence (1-10)

X Detection (10-1)

= Risk Priority Number (RPN)

Failure Mode & Effects Analysis

FMEA

Process Function	Potential Failure Mode	Potential Effect (s) of Failure	S E V	Potential Cause (s) of Failure	O C C U R	Current Process Controls	D E T E C T	R. P. N.	Recommended Actions
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.... A systematic approach

Source: Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG)

Failure Mode & Effects Analysis

FMEA

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•Process Function

- Determine FMEA scope by defining starting and ending points
- Develop high-level process flowchart
- Steps within the selected process

Failure Mode & Effects Analysis

FMEA

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• Potential Failure Mode

- How a particular process step could fail?
- Brainstorming with team is good technique to uncover potential failures

Source: Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG)

Failure Mode & Effects Analysis

FMEA

Process Function	Potential Failure Mode	Potential Effect (s) of Failure	S E V	Potential Cause (s) of Failure	O C C U R	Current Process Controls	D E T E C T	R. P. N.	Recommended Actions
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• Potential Effect (s) of Failure

- What are the possible outcomes if the failure occurred?
- How could the patient or other customers be impacted?
- How can the potential failure effect the downstream process?

Source: Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG)

Failure Mode & Effects Analysis

FMEA

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•Severity

- Ranking assigned to each potential failure (1-10 scale)
- How serious is the effect of the potential failure?
- Applies to the Effect only

Failure Mode & Effects Analysis

FMEA

<u>SEVERITY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>RANKING</u>
Hazardous	• Category I: An error occurred that may have contributed to or resulted in the patient's death	10
	• Category H: An error occurred that required intervention necessary to sustain life	9
Very High	• Category G: An error occurred that may have contributed to or resulted in permanent patient harm	8
	• Category F: An error occurred that may have contributed to or resulted in the temporary harm to patient and required initial or prolonged hospitalization	7
High	• Category E: An error occurred that may have contributed to or resulted in temporary harm to the patient and required intervention	6
	• Category D: An error occurred that reached the patient and required monitoring to confirm that it resulted in no harm and/or intervention to preclude harm	5

Failure Mode & Effects Analysis

FMEA

<u>SEVERITY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>RANKING</u>
Moderate	• Category C: An error occurred that reached the patient but did not cause patient harm	4
		3
Low	• Category B: An error occurred but the error did not reach the patient (An “error or omission” does reach the patient) • Category A: Circumstances or events that have the capacity to cause error	2
		1

Failure Mode & Effects Analysis

FMEA

Process Function	Potential Failure Mode	Potential Effect (s) of Failure	S E V	Potential Cause (s) of Failure	O C C U R	Current Process Controls	D E T E C T	R. P. N.	Recommended Actions
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• Potential Cause (s) of Failure

- What are all of the reasons that a failure may occur?
- List all conceivable potential causes for the failure

Source: Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG)

Failure Mode & Effects Analysis

FMEA

Process Function	Potential Failure Mode	Potential Effect (s) of Failure	S E V	Potential Cause (s) of Failure	O C C U R	Current Process Controls	D E T E C T	R. P. N.	Recommended Actions
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• Occurrence

- How frequently the failure is projected to occur?
- Use actual failure/occurrence data if known
- Ranking assigned to each potential failure (1-10 scale)

Source: Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG)

Failure Mode & Effects Analysis

FMEA

<u>Likelihood of Occurrence</u>	<u>RANKING</u>
•More than once per day	10
•Once every 3-4 days	9
•Once per week	8
•Once per month	7
•Once every 3 months	6
•Once every 6 months	5
•Once per year	4
•Once every 1-3 years	3
•Once every 3-6 years	2
•Once every +6 years	1

Failure Mode & Effects Analysis

FMEA

Process Function	Potential Failure Mode	Potential Effect (s) of Failure	S E V	Potential Cause (s) of Failure	O C C U R	Current Process Controls	D E T E C T	R. P. N.	Recommended Actions
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- **Current Process Controls**

- Activities in your current process that help prevent, stop or mitigate the potential failure
 - Examples – Visual inspections, policies & procedures, alarms, double checking

Source: Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG)

Failure Mode & Effects Analysis

FMEA

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•Detection

- Assume the failure has occurred...
- How good are the current process controls in detecting a failure?
- Ranking assigned to each potential failure (10-1 scale)

Source: Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG)

Failure Mode & Effects Analysis

FMEA

<u>Probability</u>	<u>Detection</u>	<u>RANKING</u>
Detection not possible at any point in system	0 of 10	10
Remote		9
Low	1 of 10	8
Low likelihood that error will be detected before error reaches patient	2 of 10	7
Moderate		
Moderate likelihood of detection before error reaches patient	4 of 10	6
	5 of 10	5
		4
High		
Error likely to be detected before error reaches patient	7 of 10	3
		2
Very High		
System will always detect error	9 of 10	1

Failure Mode & Effects Analysis

FMEA

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- **Risk Priority Number (RPN)**
 - Is the product of Severity x Occurrence x Detection
 - Has values ranging from 1- 1000
 - Should be used to rank order potential failures
 - Special attention should be given when severity is high

Source: Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG)

Failure Mode & Effects Analysis

FMEA

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•Recommended Actions

- Corrective actions developed for highest RPN's
- Corrective actions can be aimed at reducing risk associated with either the severity, occurrence and/or detection ranking
- Should be reviewed on a regular basis to stay on track

Source: Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG)

Why the Blood Transfusion process?

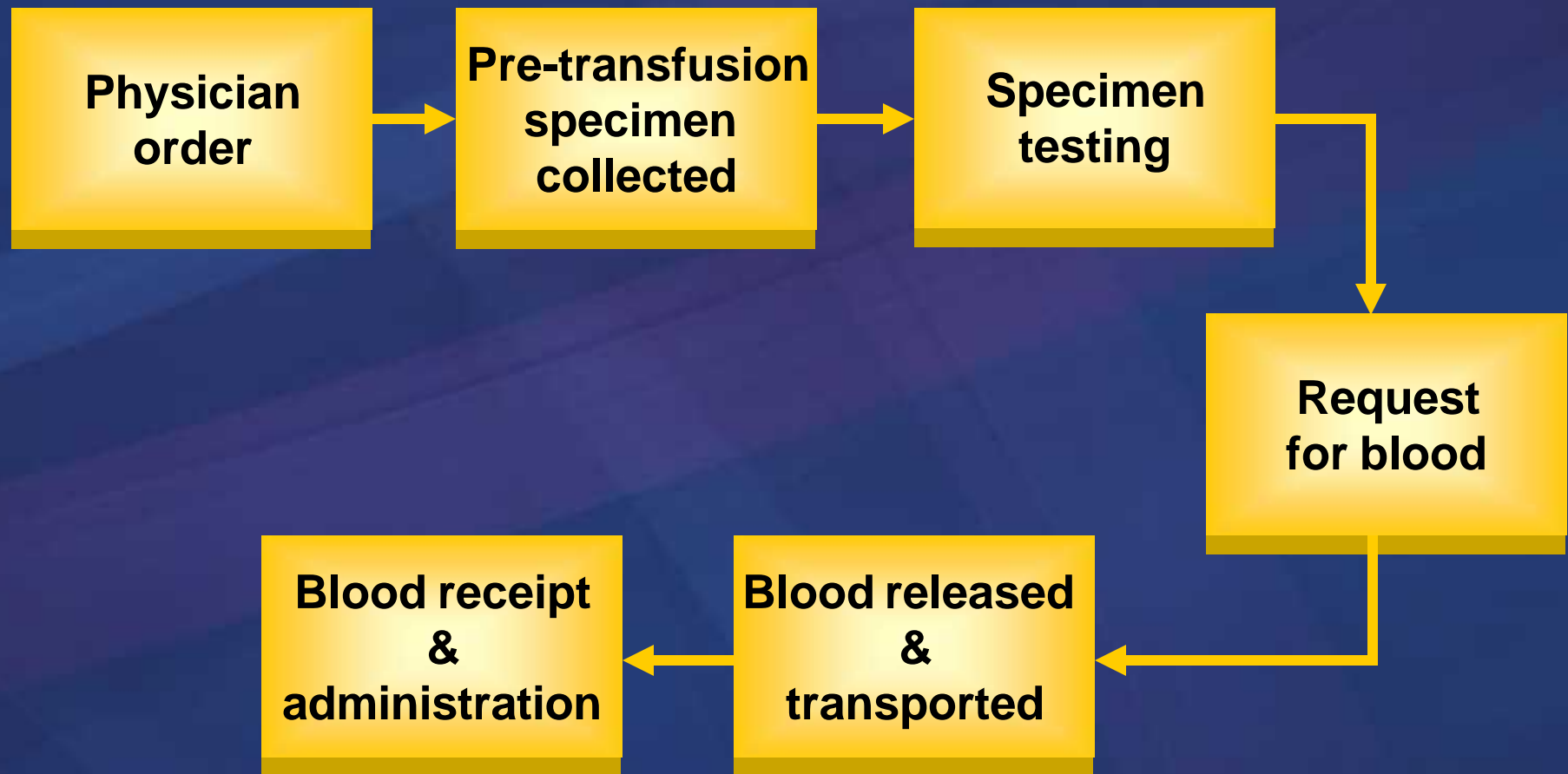
- ∇ High risk, high volume process
- ∇ JCAHO Sentinel Event Alert
- ∇ Multiple hand-offs
- ∇ Interested & engaged staff

Wanted to make a safe process, **Safer**

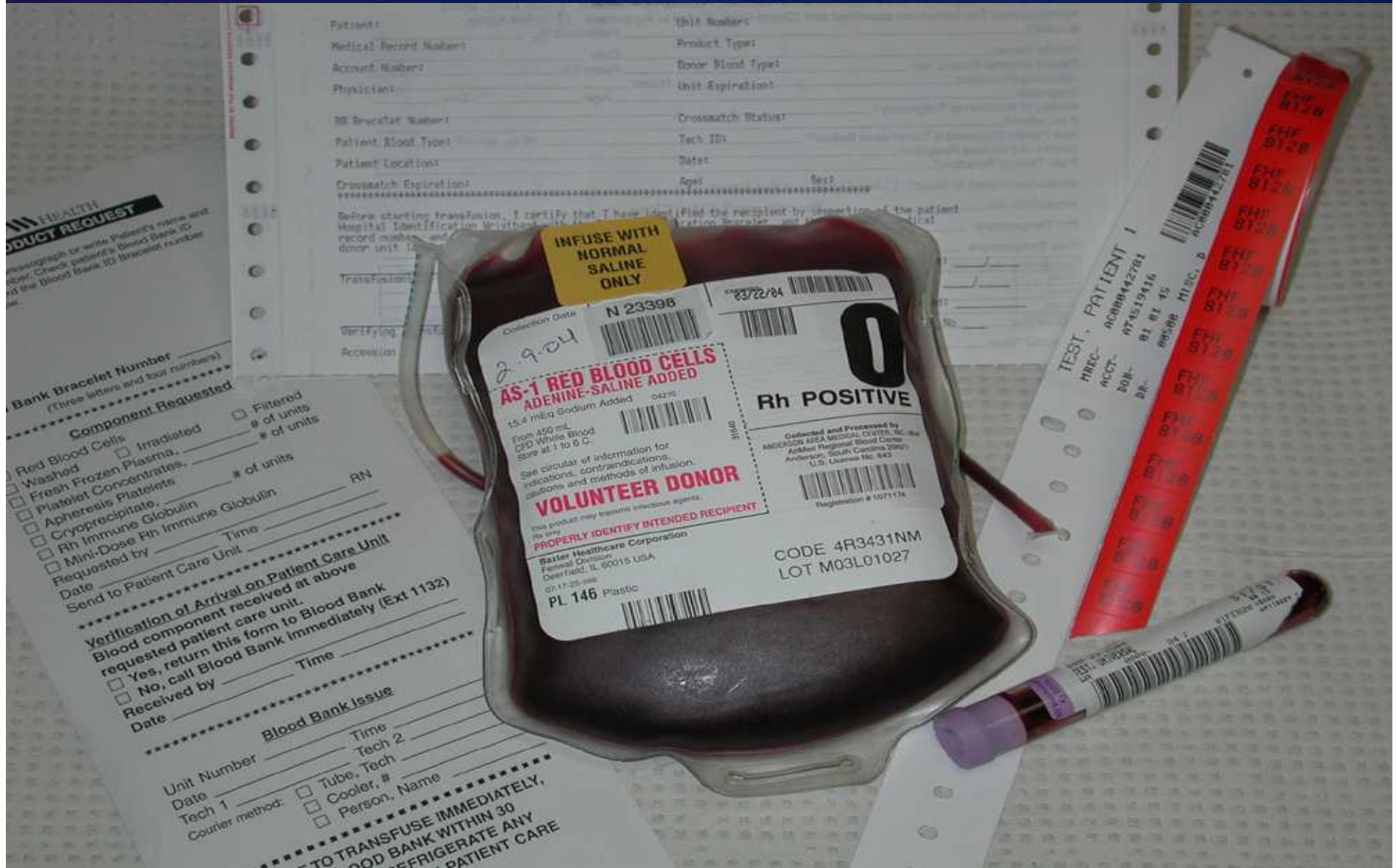
Blood Transfusion FMEA Team

- ∨ Medical Director of Laboratory
- ∨ Laboratory Director
- ∨ Laboratory QA Manager
- ∨ Blood Bank Manager
- ∨ Nurse Manager - Women's Services
- ∨ Nurse Manager- Intensive Care Unit
- ∨ Nursing – Special Projects and Research
- ∨ Staff Nurses
- ∨ Quality and Process Improvement

Blood Transfusion FMEA Scope



Process Controls



Blood Transfusion

FMEA Summary

- √ 30 Potential Failure Modes identified
- √ 26 Causes of Failure
- √ 3 Failure Modes had Risk Priority Number (RPN) greater than threshold of 200
- √ Average Risk Priority Number (RPN) = 76

Blood Transfusion FMEA

Prioritized Areas of Focus

1. Specimen drawn on wrong patient
2. Wrong patient label placed on specimen
3. Transfusion started with patient receiving dextrose

Worst Case Scenario...

- ∨ Pre-transfusion specimen drawn from wrong patient, however, specimen was labeled with the intended patient's label
- ∨ The intended patient has no prior testing history in the healthcare facility
- ∨ The specimen from the wrong patient & the intended patient have different blood types

Blood Transfusion

Recommendations/Issues/Actions

∨ Patient Identification & Specimen Labeling

- Policy & Procedures reviewed & revised
 - Labeling in patient care room or area
- Rejection of specimens
 - Recollection of specimens
 - Scripting for staff
- Staff Accountability
 - Consistent policy enforcement throughout organization

Blood Transfusion

Recommendations/Issues/Actions

∨ Patients with No Prior Testing History

- Policy & Procedures developed & approved
- Validation typing conducted in Blood Bank
- Currently, 40% of patients have no prior testing history in facility
- Of all the patients with no prior history, only 8% have to incur another stick
- Scripts developed for staff to use

Blood Transfusion

Recommendations/Issues/Actions

∨ Label printer Technology

- Label printer at bedside (mobile printing technology)



Blood Transfusion

Recommendations/Issues/Actions

- ∨ Awareness label placed on units of blood
 - Infuse with Normal Saline only

- ∨ Staff education & support
 - Train-the-trainer sessions
 - Specimen Labeling Procedures
 - Staff accountability process

Blood Transfusion Physician Awareness

- ∨ Medical Executive Committee approval
- ∨ Re-sampling of patients who have no prior testing history at AnMed Health
- ∨ Specimens will be rejected & recollected when not labeled according to policy
- ∨ Staff will be held accountable

Impact of Recommended Actions

- ∨ RPN reduction in identified failure modes by over 43%
- ∨ No adverse outcomes to date in the Blood Transfusion process
- ∨ No reported occurrences related blood transfusions being started on a patient receiving dextrose products

Overall Lessons Learned

FMEA

Factors for Success

- Multidisciplinary team
 - Overall better understanding of processes
 - Well defined scope
- Resource commitments
 - Invest time into determining how processes can fail
- Open sharing of information
 - Team members were open to sharing potential failures
- Management support

Other FMEA Applications...

- ✓ **Surgical Specimen process**
- ✓ **Patient Controlled Analgesic process**
- ✓ **Home Infusion process**
- ✓ **Insulin Administration process**
- ✓ **Reportable Conditions
(Microbiology)**



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