

# Lean Principles

**U1 – Enterprise Wide Deployment**

**E1 – World Class Performance**

The Learning element 'World Class Performance' explains the history, value and principles of Lean and Six Sigma. The coherence and differences to other improvement methods is reviewed as well.

# Lean Principles

## Principle 1 – Long-term philosophy

***Do the right thing for the organization, its employees,  
the customer, patients & the society as a whole***

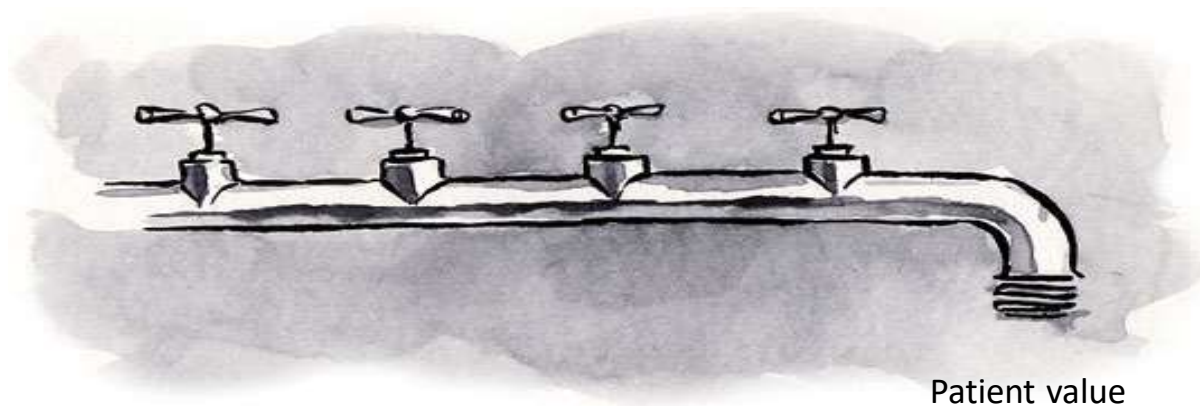
This long-term philosophy is the guiding post of the organization in its continuous quest to offer the best in quality & service to its customers, employees and society



123RF Stock Photo

## Principle 2 – Continuous flow

- Create a continuous flow to identify problems
- Look at the process as a whole instead of focussing on separate activities
- All phases of the process are interdependent



- Streamline company processes
- Everything focuses on the operational process and patient value

## Define what is of value to the patient

### Focus on the patient and customer

- Every process has a customer
- Every process is a customer

### Determine what 'value' means to the customer or patient

- Listen to the customer/ patient
- What will the customer/ patient pay for?
- What will the customer/ patient NOT pay for?
- Measure every activity to the 'patient/ customer value'



123RF Stock Photo

## The Three M's

### Muda: Non-Value Added

- Activities that don't add value to the process
- The eight types of 'Waste' that cause extra waiting time, movement, stock, etc.



123RF Stock Photo

### Muri: Overburdening staff or equipment

- Pushing machines or staff beyond their natural limits
- Results in safety & quality problems and/or breakdowns & defects
- Muri can be avoided through standardized work

### Mura: Unevenness

- Results from an irregular schedule or fluctuating patient volume due to internal problems such as downtime/missing equipment or errors
- Mura can be avoided by levelling out the work schedule: Heijunka

## The eight types of waste



### 1. Transporting

Documents/ moving patients between treatments



### 2. Inventory

Large packaging medicines/ to many patients between process steps



### 3. Movement

Searching, unnecessary movements



### 4. Waiting

Waiting on diagnostic results/ on treatment/ for beds



### 5. Over-production

Too many reports, too much medication



### 6. Over-processing

Taking unneeded steps to process documents/ asking questions again/ blood samples repeated



### 7. Defects

Incorrect or incomplete data input. Protocols incorrect



### 8. Under utilisation of staff

No use of knowledge from workforce. Not sharing information as needed/ expertise



# Lean Principles

## Principle 3 – Pull Principle: customer/ patient pulls first



**Medications in one bin with  
NO method of organization**



**Medications in two bin with FIFO  
(first in first out) organization**

## Principle 4 – Heijunka: levelling out the work schedule

**Achieving Heijunka is fundamental to eliminate Mura, which is fundamental to eliminate Muri and Muda**

### **Example: processing pathology results in a lab is over target cycle time**

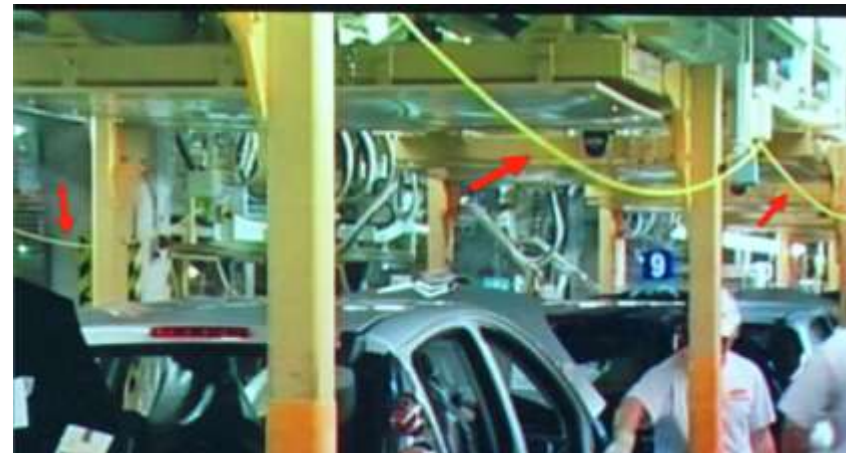
- Courier's deliver samples from doctors labs all over the city mostly arriving in the evening
- Level loading implemented: couriers deliver earlier in day not just in evenings
- Processing of results starts earlier and procedures that take time carried out in one block

	Proportion of Tissue Processed after 4 PM	Proportion of Biopsies Received in Histology <i>before</i> 4 PM	Proportion of Biopsies Processed <i>before</i> 4 PM
<b>Before</b>	87%	8%	0%
<b>After</b>	77%	23%	23%



## Principle 5 – Jidoka/ Automation

- Jidoka provides equipment and staff the ability to detect when an abnormal condition has occurred and immediately stops processes
- This enables processes or procedures to build-in quality at each process step instead of inspecting at the end of the process/procedure
- Every staff member has the permission to stop when a quality problem occurs



## Principle 6 – Standard operating procedure or protocol

- **Standardised tasks and processes are the foundation for continuous improvement and employee empowerment**
- **There are many ways to do something. There is only one optimum way. Define this way and make it the standard for everybody!**
- **If someone determines a better way, this will become the new standard**
- **It is impossible to improve a process until it is stabilized and standardized**

## Principle 7 – Visual management

- Organised work environment (5S programs, labelling)
- Visualisation of objectives and Key Performance Indicators (plan boards)
- Standardised work instructions
- Amount of work in process (Kanban)
- Autonomous maintenance
- Use of Poka Yoke to prevent mistakes



No organised method to store IV-bags. Quantity on hand doesn't match usage



Organised storage method  
Inventory based on usage

## Principle 8 – Reliable technology

- Supporting procedure & process
- New technology should support people, the process and the organisation as a value stream
- New technology must be tested and proven before use
- Reliable products
- Maintenance



## Principle 9 – Grow Leaders

**Grow leaders who thoroughly understand the work, live the philosophy, and teach it to others**

- **Good leaders know how to get their hands dirty (go to the Gemba or source)**
- **Good leaders understand the daily work (worked their way up)**
- **Good leaders follow the long term organisation philosophy**

## Principle 10 – Employee development

**Develop exceptional people and teams who follow the company's philosophy**

### **Respect**

- Respect employees
- Safety is the number one priority

### **Team work**

- Use multidisciplinary teams
- Involve hands on staff in early phases of process development



123RF Stock Photo

### **Continuous improvement**

- Staff drive continuous improvement (bottom up)
- Management should continuously challenge staff (top down: facilitation)



## Principle 11 – Supplier Development

**Respect your extended network of partners and suppliers by challenging them and helping them to improve supplier development**

**An organisation cannot eliminate all waste, its suppliers must also eliminate waste!**

- **Treat partners as an extension of your own organisation**
- **Find solid partners and grow together to mutually benefit in the long term**
- **Challenge partners to grow and develop**
- **Set challenging targets and assist in meeting them**

## Principle 12 – Go to the Gemba

- Go to the source to observe and verify data
- Don't theorize on the basis of what people and computers tell you
- Every high-level manager should spend at least 30 min/day on the floor
- Every activity is subordinate to the operational process



## Principle 13 – Nemawashi

**Make decisions slowly by consensus, thoroughly considering all options and implement decisions rapidly (Nemawashi)**

- **Consent for proposed changes**
- **Slowly lay the foundation**
- **Talk to the people concerned**
- **Gather feedback and support**



123RF Stock Photo

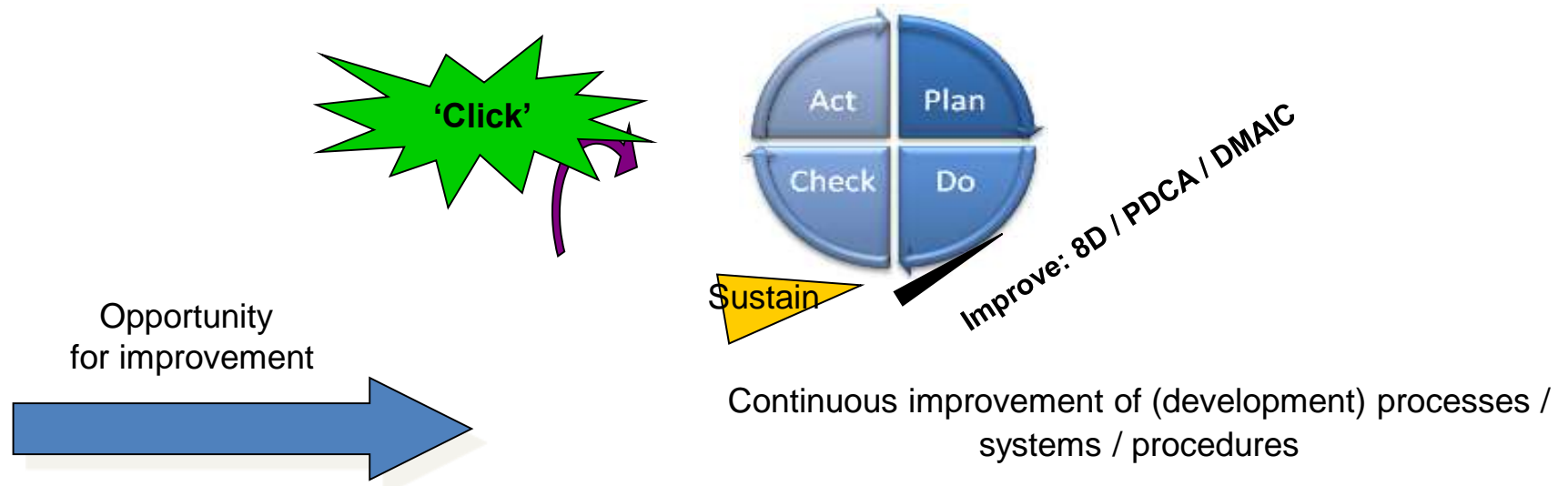
## Principle 14 – Learning Organisation

**Become a learning organization through relentless reflection (Hansei) and continuous improvement (Kaizen)**

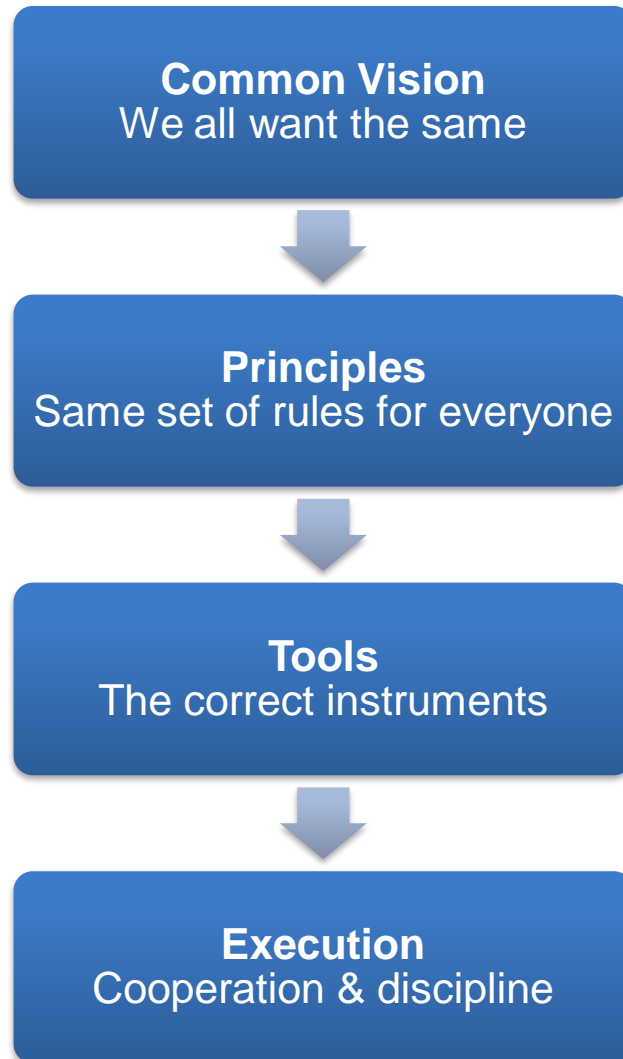
- The manager takes the blame in public and the department works on solving the problem
- Hansei is seen as a learning process - one gets better and stronger

## Continuous improvement – Kaizen

- Sustain what has been achieved!
- Today let's do something better than yesterday
- Turn every employee into a quality inspector



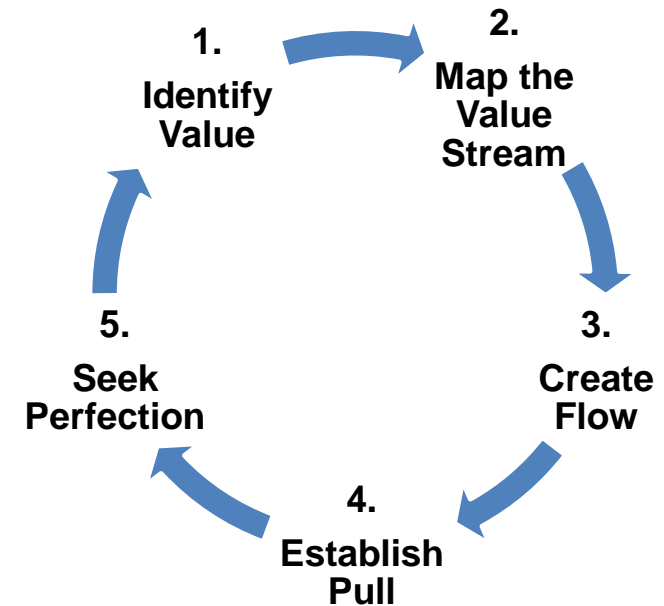
# Lean Principles





## Lean Principles

1. **Value:** define what is of value to the patient
2. **Value Stream:** identify the value stream/ eliminate waste
3. **Flow:** create a constant flow
4. **Pull:** produce based on demand
5. **Perfection:** continuous improvement

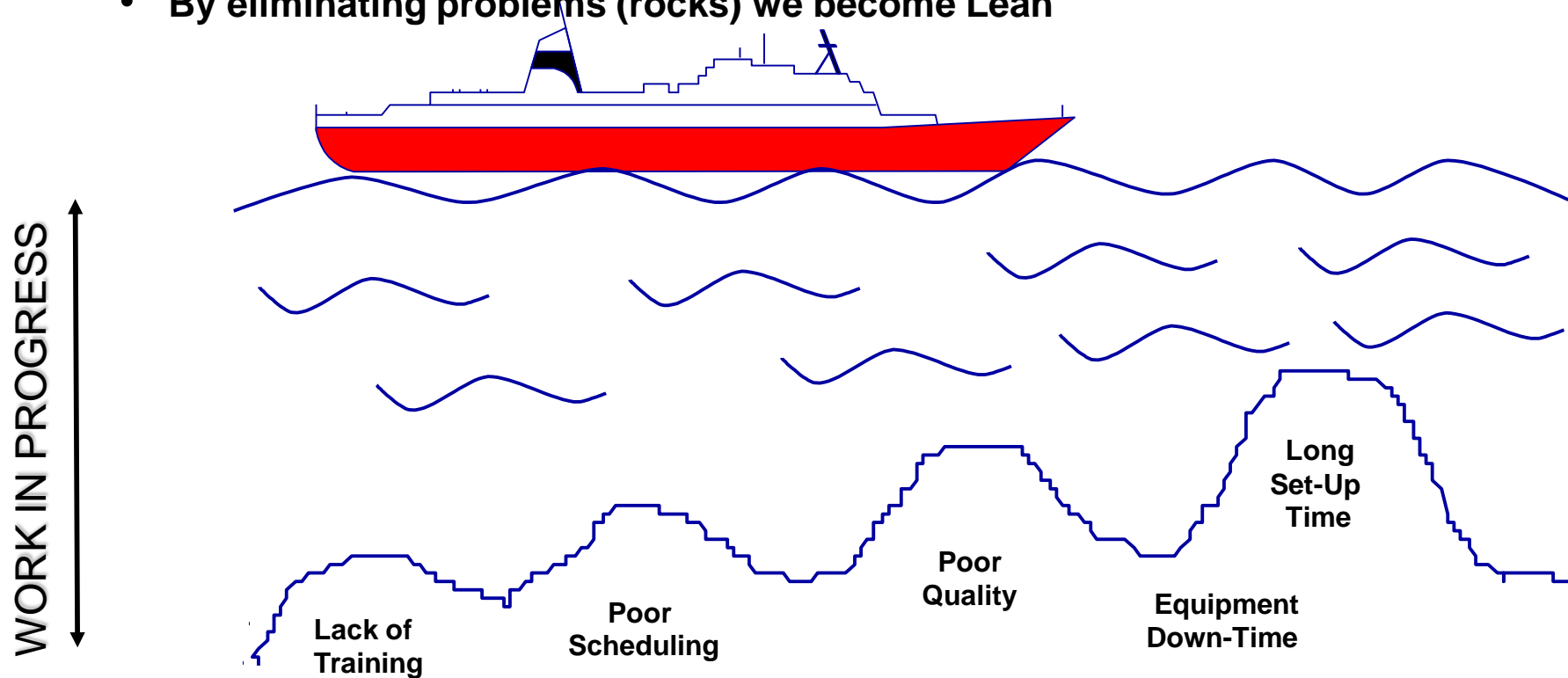


# Lean Principles

## If an organization is not Lean...

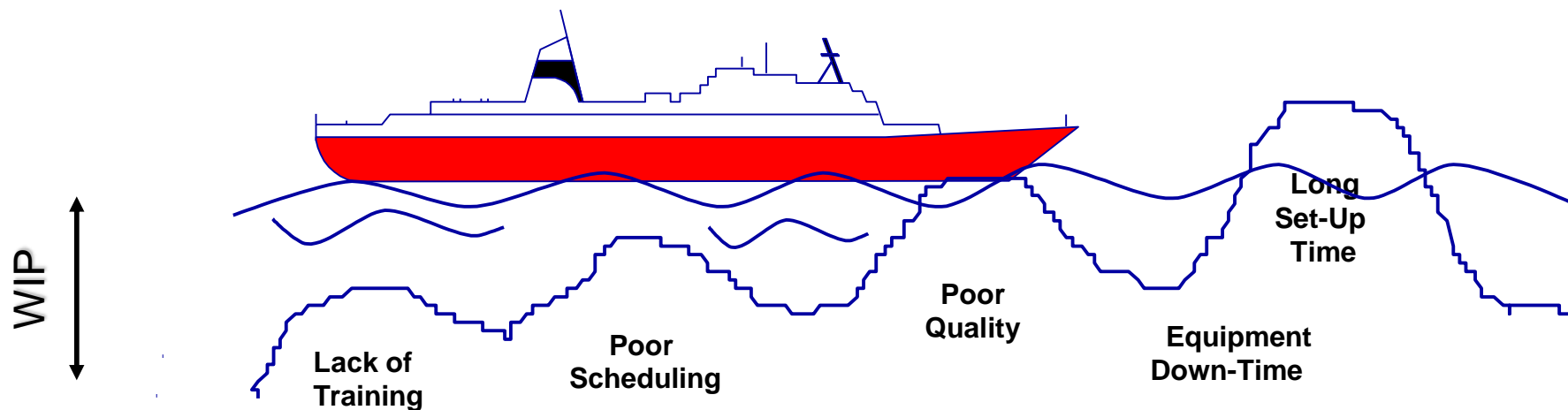
Problems are hidden in a 'sea of resources'

- By eliminating problems (rocks) we become Lean



## When implementing Lean...

- The water level needs to drop to shorten lead-time
- Problems are exposed by 'lowering the water level'
- By eliminating problems (rocks) we become Lean



## Where to start

### 5S

#### 1 – Structure

- Work environment
- Procedures & instructions
- Abnormalities visible

### Kaizen

#### 2 – Overview & Insight

- Visual Management KPI's
- WIP control
- Continuous improvement culture

### Lean

#### 3 – Stability

- Stable processes
- Eliminating Waste
- Flow & Pull

### 6 Sigma

#### 4 – Capability

- Reducing variation
- Process control
- Statistical tools

### DfSS

#### 5 – Robustness

- Robust processes
- Design for Six Sigma
- Quality Function Deployment

DfSS

Six Sigma

Lean

Kaizen

