

Implementation of an Event Reporting and Learning System Leads to Improvements in Patient Safety Culture at UNC Medical Center

Lukasz Mazur, PhD,
Associate Professor,
UNC Dept. of Radiation Oncology,
Director of Division of Healthcare
Engineering

Stephenie Fenton-Wilhelm, JD,
ARME-E, CPHRM, CPPS
Vice President, Risk Management

Alison Amos, PhD
Clinical Assistant Professor, UNC Dept.
of Radiation Oncology, Division of
Healthcare Engineering



Agenda

- Overview of Culture of Safety improvement within UNC Radiation Oncology
- Culture of Safety Improvement Project at UNC Medical Center
- Next Steps for UNC Medical Center

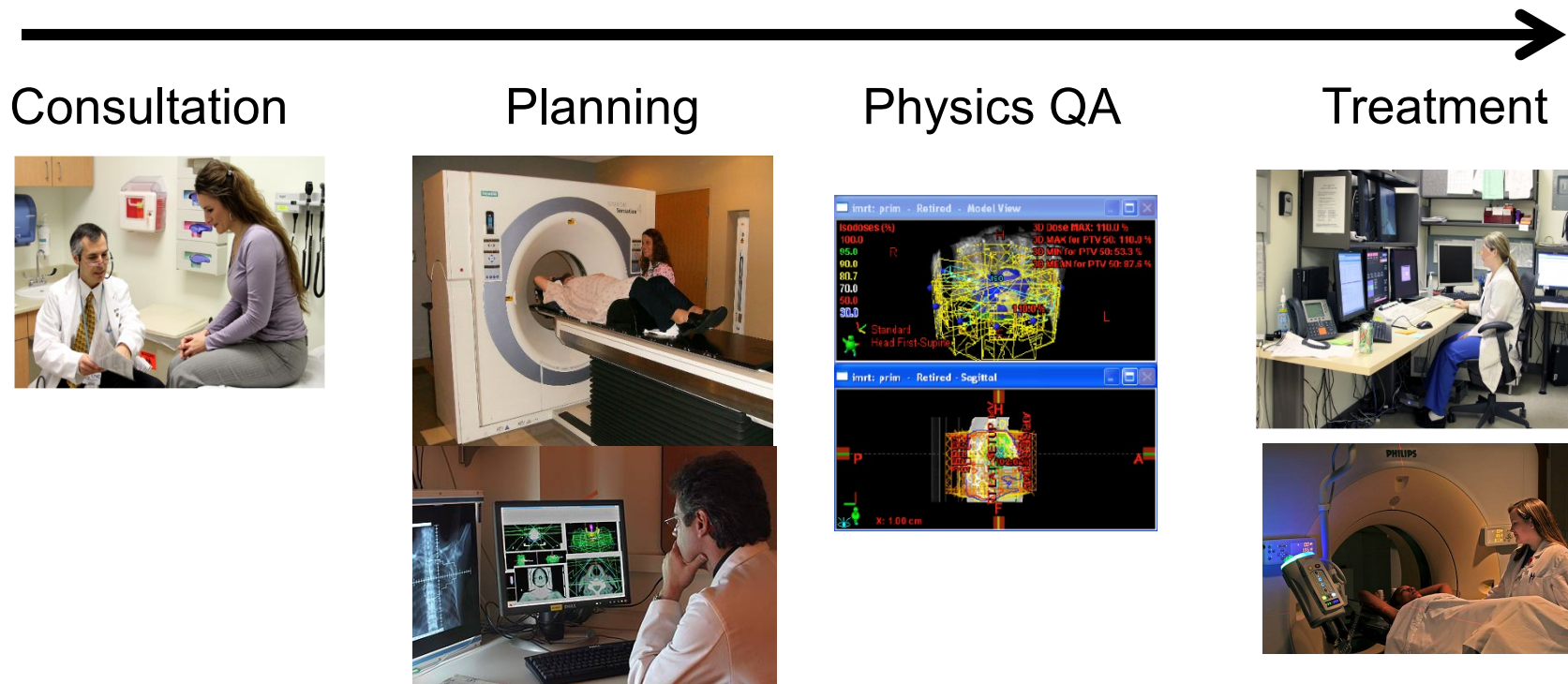
UNC Medical Center Department of Radiation Oncology

- North Carolina Cancer Hospital in Chapel Hill
- Department treats ~120 patients per day
- Approximately ~110 staff members
 - Nurses
 - Doctors
 - Physicists, Dosimetrists, Therapists
 - Administrative staff
 - Researchers



Complex Process

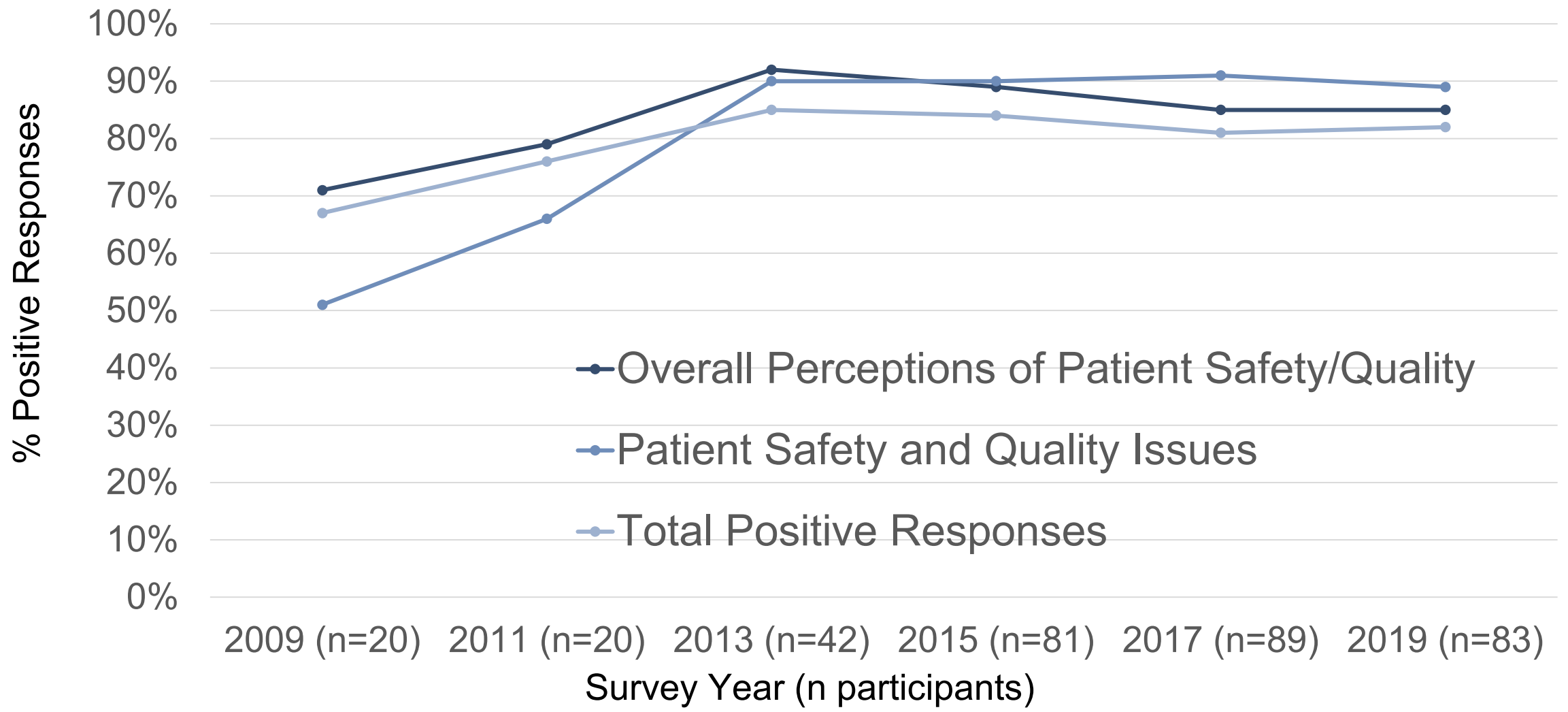
Time-line & Interactions with Computers



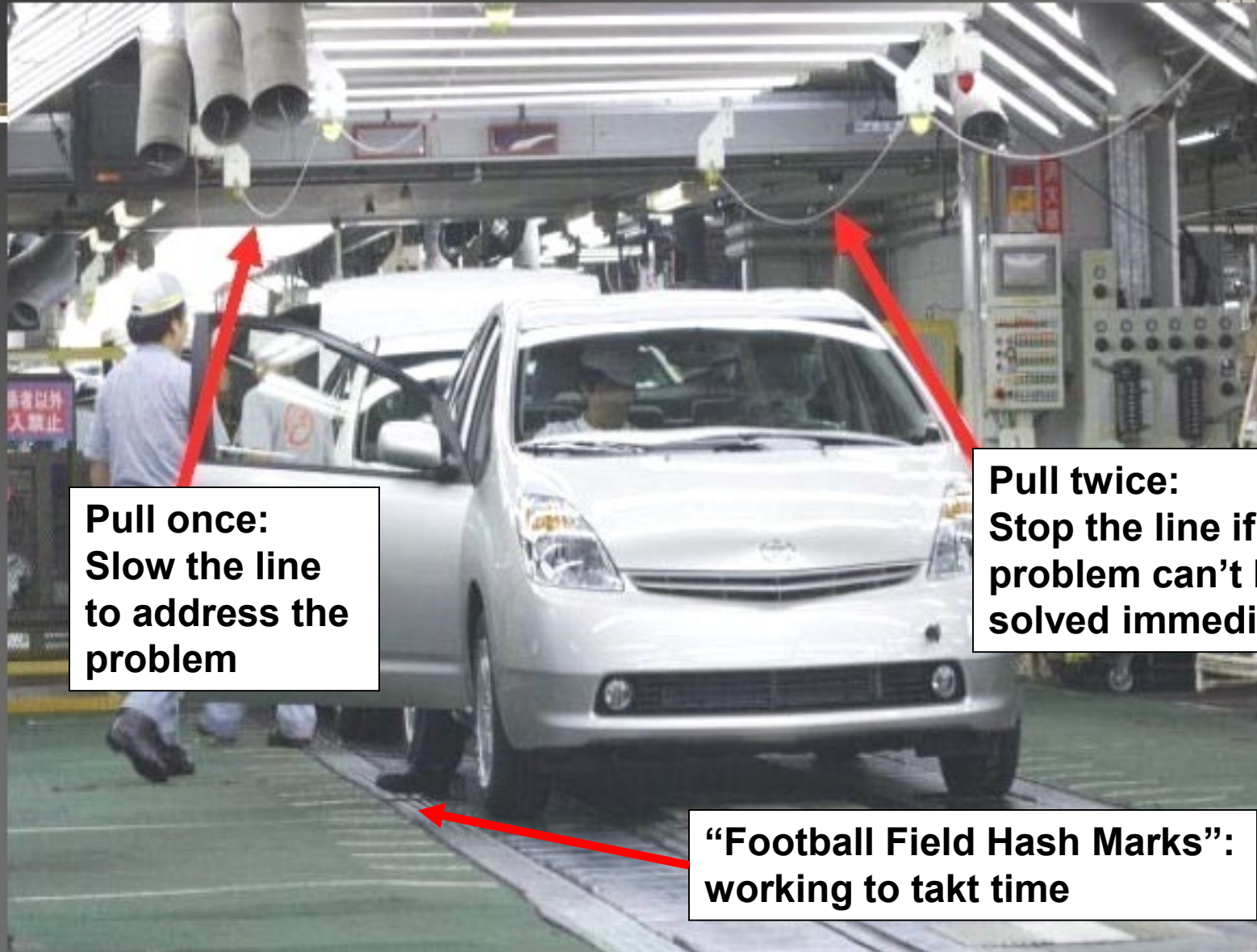
Iterations & Handoffs

IMRT case:
200+ steps,
many hand-offs

SOPS Results over time: Radiation Oncology



Stopping the line



Pull once:
Slow the line
to address the
problem

Pull twice:
Stop the line if
problem can't be
solved immediately

"Football Field Hash Marks":
working to takt time

Daily Morning Conference



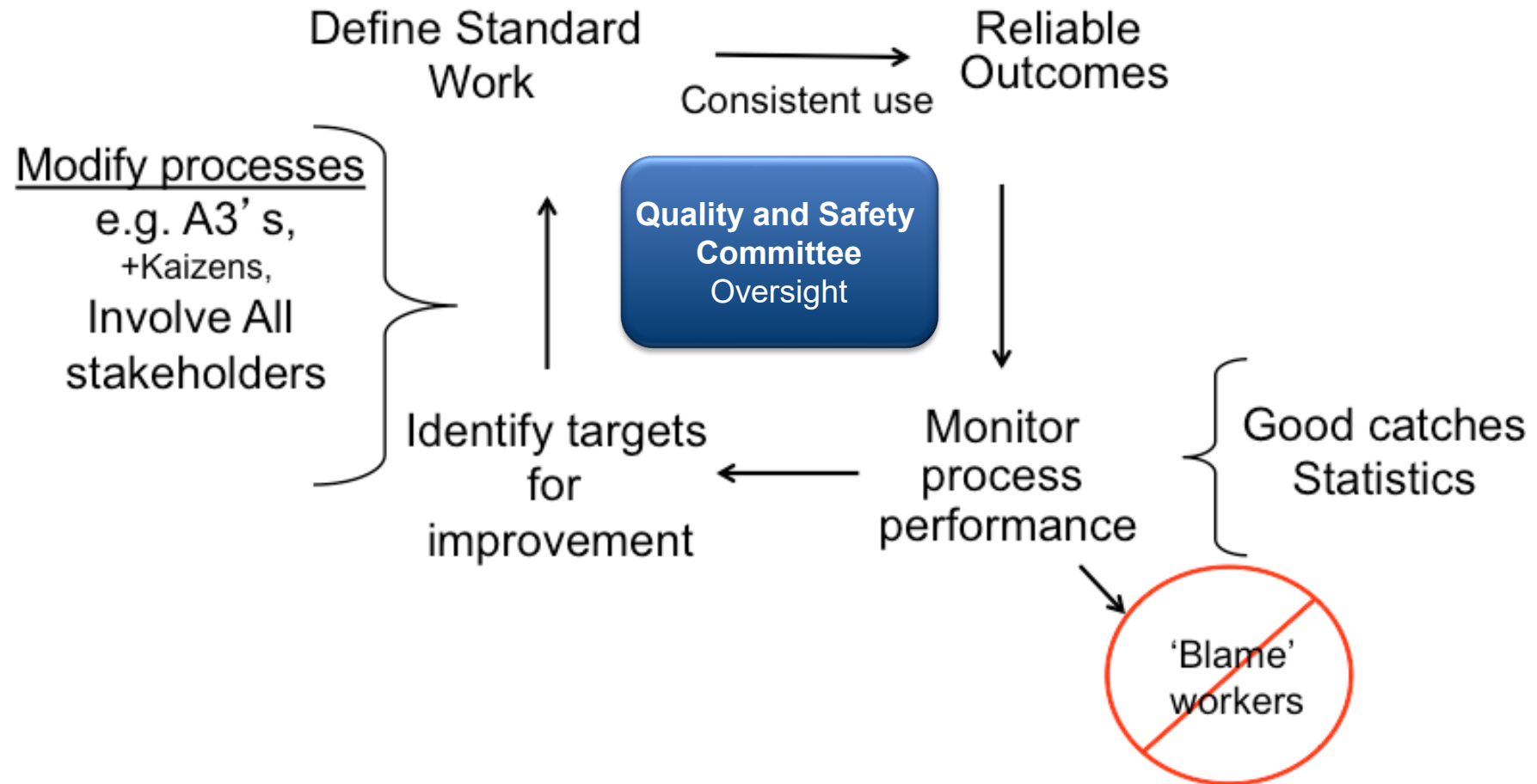
Psychological Safety



Safety Rounds



Improvement Cycle

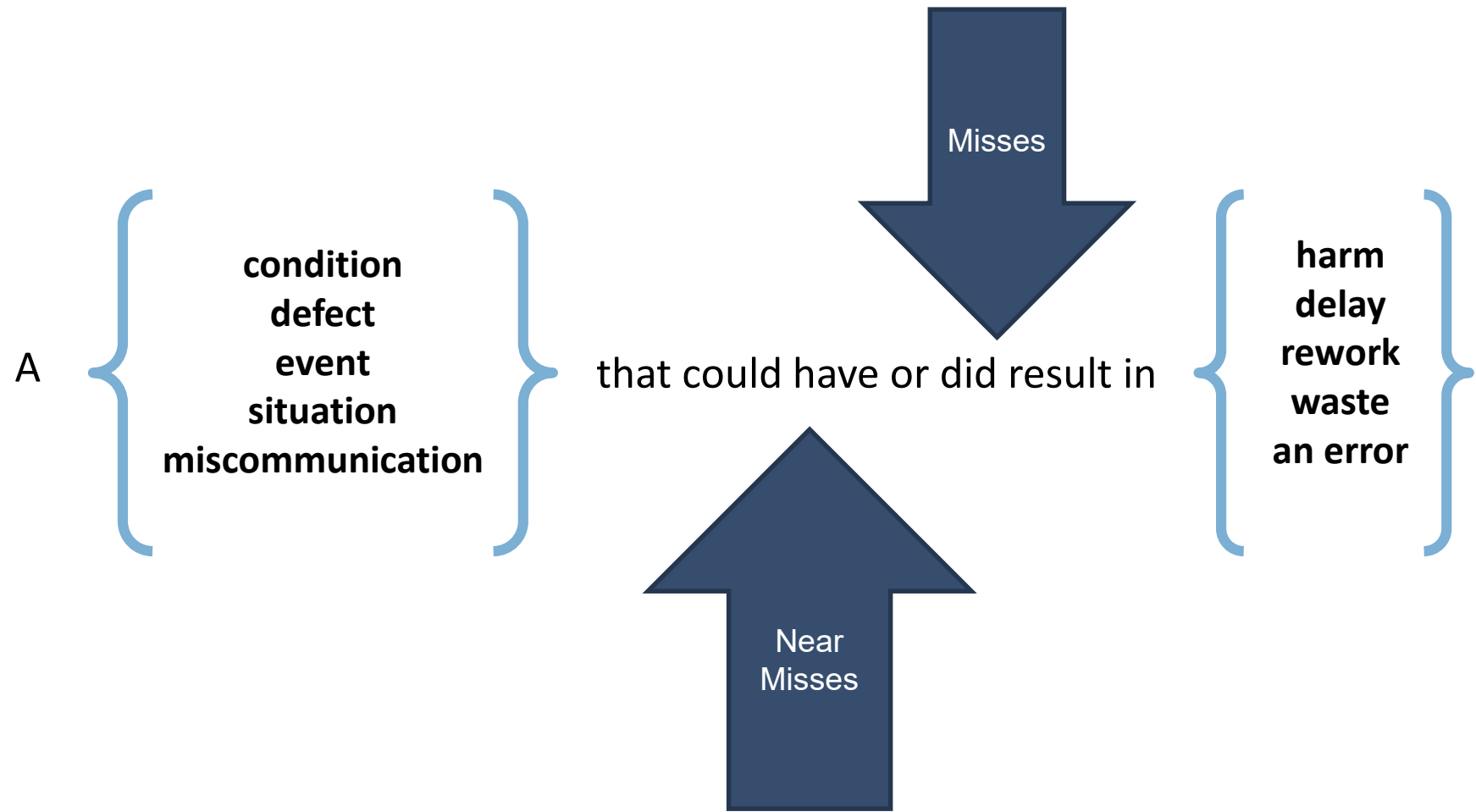


- Make better systems (**it's the process, not the person**)
- Get more people involved in improving systems
- Team-work, cohesiveness, respect, job satisfaction

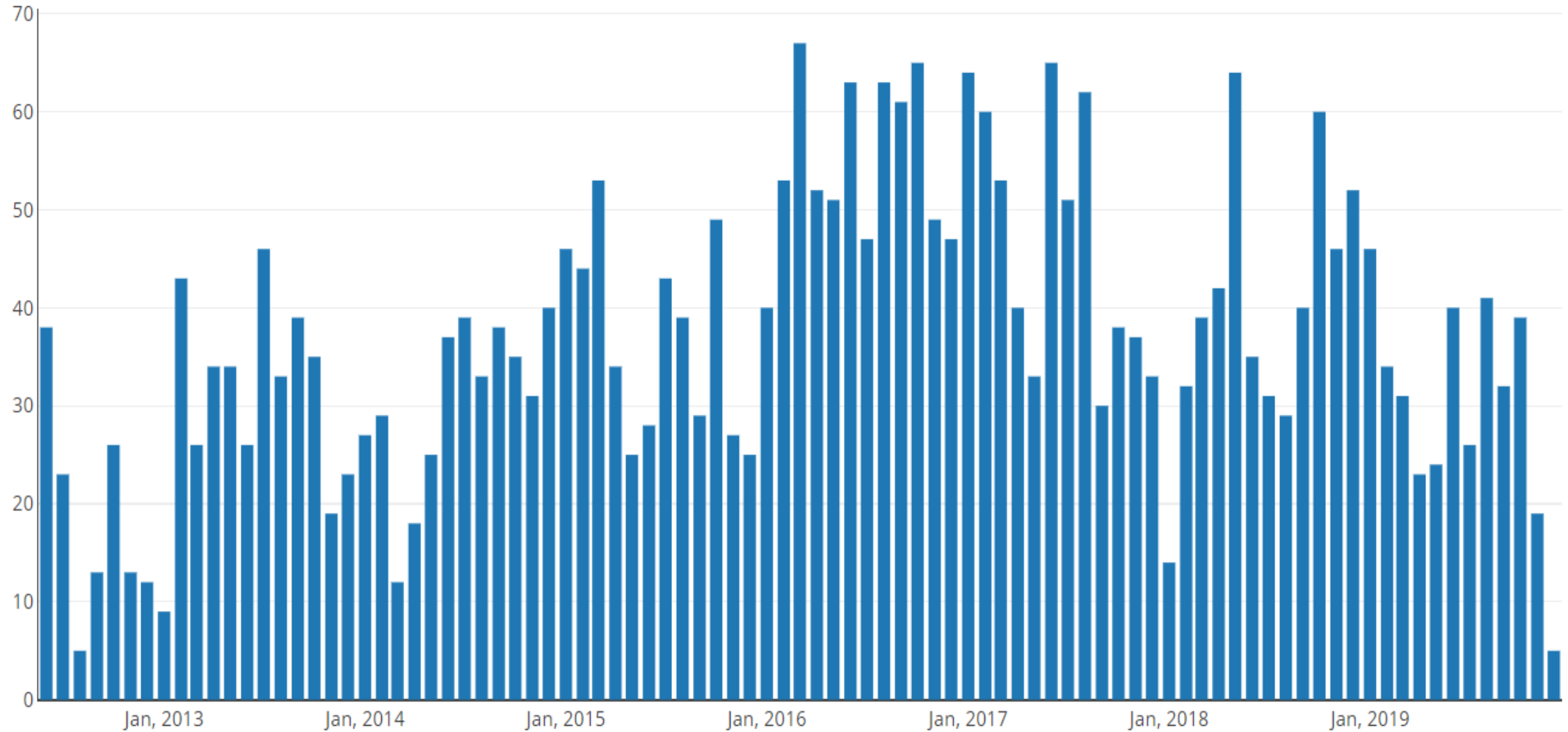
Radiation Oncology Quality and Safety Committee



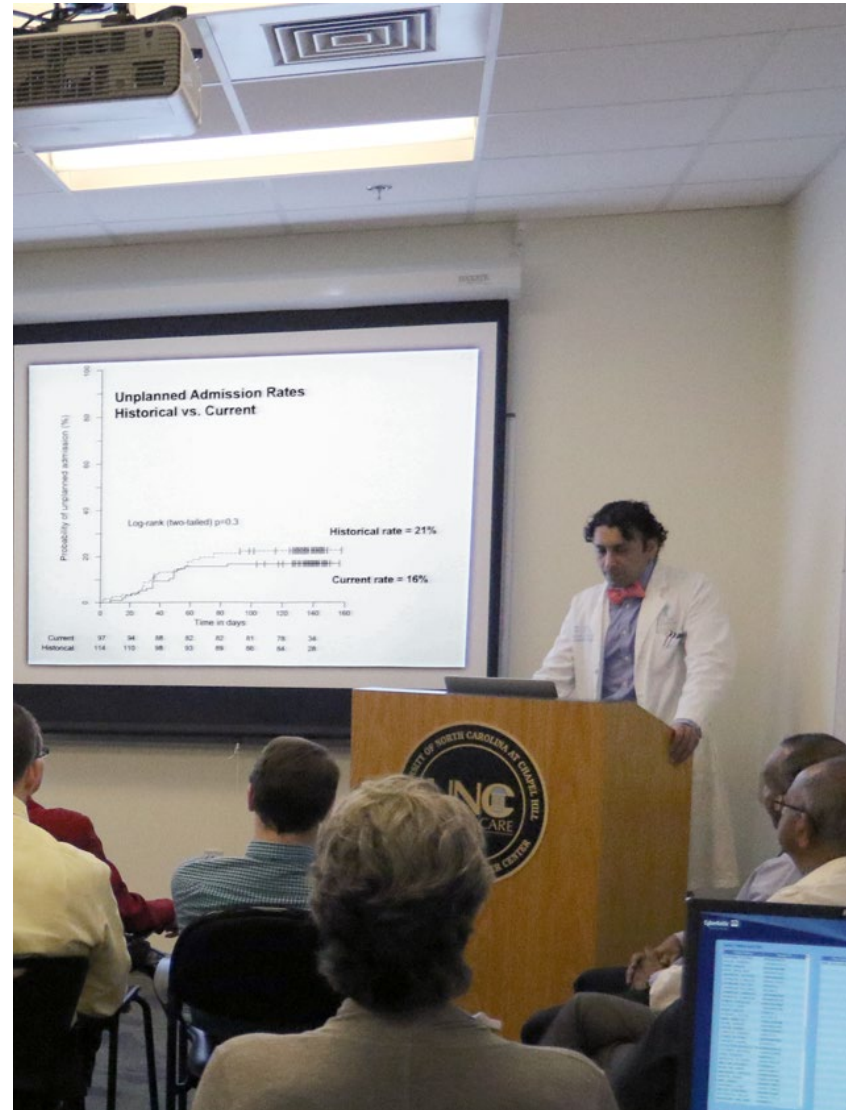
Good Catch – Broad Definition



Total Monthly Submission: Radiation Oncology



Monthly QA Meetings



Summary -- Key Components

- Dr. Marks's (Chair of the Department) vision and support
- Culture of "Stop-the-Line" (Good Catches)
- Provide psychologically safe environment and feedback
- Local *Quality and Safety Committee* with physician engagement and leadership
- Allocate time for improvement activities
 - Dedicated improvement coaches
- Celebrate improvement activities, rewards & recognition,
- Lead by example