

Surgical Optimization and Standardization (SOS)

The Surgical Optimization and Standardization (SOS) initiative was identified as an opportunity to standardize and report data consistently across perioperative services during the Anesthesia Reporting and Monitoring Device (ARMD) initiative. While working with the anesthesia and perioperative community across multiple military treatment facilities (MTFs), it was noted that each MTF was measuring and reporting operating room metrics using different methodologies.

A business case was developed to determine the benefits of accurately and consistently measuring operating room metrics across the Military Health System (MHS) in a common manner. A standardized report would provide leadership with the ability to better understand and compare business operations within and across Services. The report would also highlight areas that are exceeding or lagging in comparison to other MTFs and determined targets. Identification of such areas would provide opportunities to utilize actionable performance improvement efforts to drive change where needed. The dashboard could also provide a forum to share and learn about leading practices across Services. The business case indicated that better understanding of business practices would provide an opportunity to improve efficiency in the perioperative environment while recapturing surgical volume leaking outside the system.

Phase I was completed in 2009 and included collection of data at each participating site and the creation of a dashboard that measured each site using a standardized approach. This was the first time there was a standardized approach and data sharing across Services that detailed utilization and efficiency at a variety of MTFs and was consistent with industry best practices.

In March 2009, the IIP Board of Directors approved contract modification for Phase II that would identify key leaders across the perioperative community who would work collaboratively to determine which metrics, definitions and targets would be used on a Tri-Service SOS Dashboard on a regular basis. The purpose of the SOS Dashboard was to utilize best practices from the MHS and commercial industry to identify and define key metrics that would be reported on a consolidated dashboard. This workgroup identified ten metrics that have been approved for piloting a regular reporting dashboard to senior MHS leadership. These metrics include:

1. Total Case Volume
2. Total "Patient in Room" Minutes
3. Total Prime Time Minutes Available
4. Total Prime Time "Patient in Room" Minutes
5. Prime Time Utilization
6. Percent of On-time First Case Starts
7. Average In-between Case Time

8. Add-ons
9. Case Cancellations
10. Average Number of Staffed Rooms

It is estimated that the first SOS Dashboard for the participating pilot sites would be completed in January 2010.