Curbing the Use of Inappropriate Urine Cultures in a Hospital-Associated Urgent Care Center using LEAN methodologies

*Moses Cone Urgent Care Center*

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**Background**
Treatment of asymptomatic bacteriuria is a leading cause of inappropriate antibiotic prescriptions. One strategy to combat the use of these unnecessary antibiotics is educational interventions. This study analyzed the impact of pharmacist-led educational interventions on the rate of inappropriate urine culture testing in a single urgent care center.

**Goal**
The goals of this project:
1) Reduce the rate of cultures collected in patients without urinary symptoms by 5%.
2) Reducing the rate of contaminated urine cultures.
3) Ensure that organisms that were cultured in symptomatic patients were covered with an appropriate antibiotic.

**Improvement Process**
A clinical pharmacist partnered with the urgent care nursing and medical staff to create targeted educational interventions that included monthly pharmacist attendance at staff meetings to provide education, an educational newsletter, and a visual management board that was kept in the urgent care center. The pharmacist and nursing staff also partnered to create appropriate urine culture collection stations in all of the urgent care bathrooms that included wipes, hand sanitizer, and posted instructions on urine culture collection.

**Results**

![Bar chart showing decrease in cultures collected and contaminated cultures](chart.png)