

What is a Lean Project?



Lean Six Sigma projects use proven, very defined problem-solving processes and tools to systematically review business processes to make improvements.

Lean

- Understanding what the customer, patient, or client values in the product or service provided.
- Process mapping is used to understand how the work progresses, who is involved and what the interconnections and challenges are.
- Establishing improvements to the work, reducing process/ system wastes.
- Focusing on empowering staff in the work area to participate in projects directly increases buy in for change.
- Including staff increases morale, empowering them as experts in their jobs and teaches them to be process and quality minded in their work.

Six Sigma

- Applying a defined scientific method of problem solving.
- Focusing at the front end to define the problem.
- Collecting measures to quantify the problem and issues.
- Gathering baseline data.
- Analyzing metrics for the root cause which increases the speed and chance of successful improvements.
- Implementing Plan-Do-Study-Act cycles to trial improvements and perfect them.
- Ensuring that only successful changes are made permanent.
- Reducing process variation. Process variation reduces efficiency and effectiveness and ultimately increases costs.

These problem-solving approaches are highly collaborative and the project journey is as important as the project outcomes for learners and departments.

- Project rigour- Projects are designed to capture data and document the project progress and key elements that can be reported up, and ideally spread to other departments or clinical areas.
- There are defined communication points to keep projects aligned with program management and allow for good change management practices.