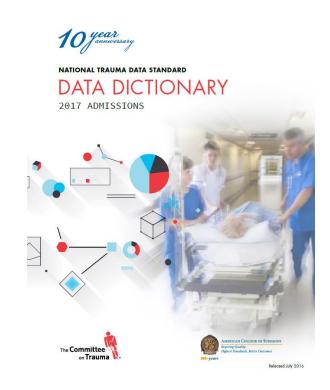
Quantitative & Qualitative Trauma Data Management for Analytical Optimization

Allen Stout, MS
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Munson Healthcare

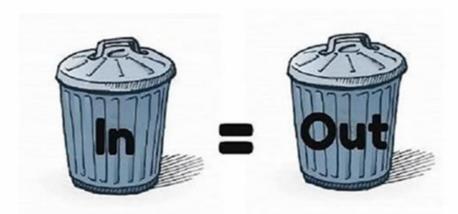
Objectives

- Quantitative Strategies
- Qualitative Strategies
- Merging Datasets
- Analytical Optimization



Importance of Data Quality









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Quantitative Strategies

- Remember NTDB Inclusion Criteria
 - Injury diagnosis (other than superficial) per ICD-10 range
 AND
 - Inter-facility transfers via EMS (even if discharged from ED)

OR

Hospital admission

OR

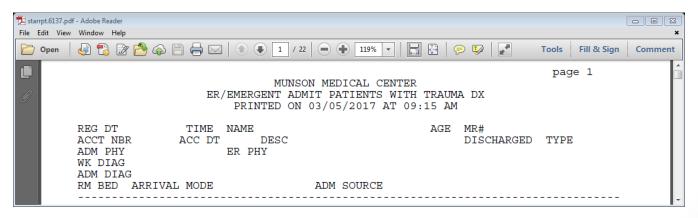
Death resulting from traumatic injury



- Remember Institution Specific Inclusion Criteria (as applicable)
 - All trauma activations
 - All trauma consults
 - Mechanism specific injuries

Quantitative Strategies

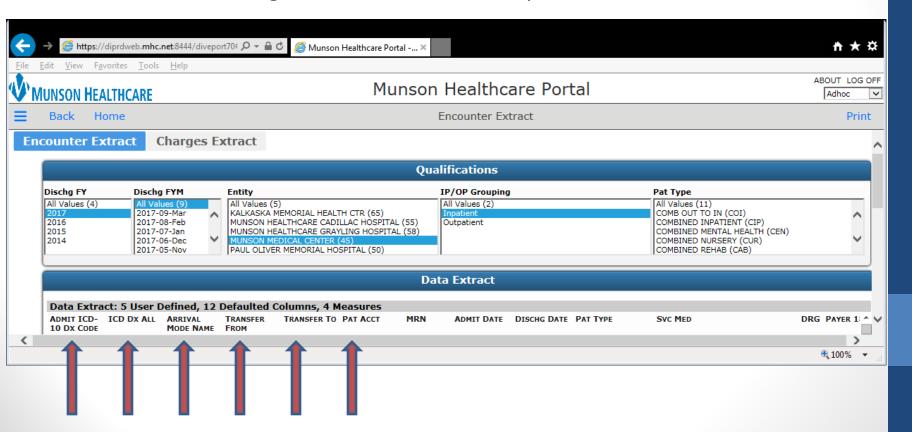
- Ensuring all Trauma Inclusion eligible patients are identified
 - ED / Trauma Logs
 - Trauma Service Patient Lists
 - Daily ED Patient Lists w/ chief complaint (Injury Related)
 - Daily ED Patient List w/ admission source (Transfer from Hospital)
 - Daily I/P Patient Lists w/ chief complaint (Injury Related)



Eliminate single points of failure..."Redundancy ensures competency"

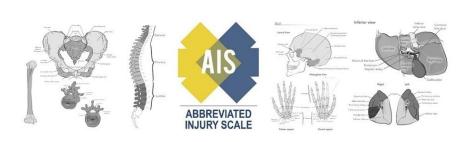
Quantitative Strategies

- Ad hoc audit tools...ensuring no eligible patients are missed
 - Medical billing coding records
 - Clinical intelligence data warehouse queries



Qualitative Strategies

- Ensuring all required & essential data elements are completed
 - Consult ACS NTDB National Trauma Data Standard: Data Dictionary for specific elements
 - Consult MTQIP Data Dictionary as appropriate
 - ALWAYS follow established hierarchies when choosing best source of data for entry into the trauma registry
 - ALWAYS follow Abbreviated Injury Scale coding & ICD-10 coding guidelines & rules

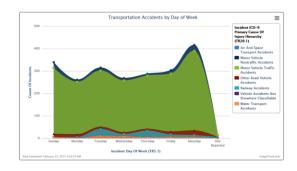


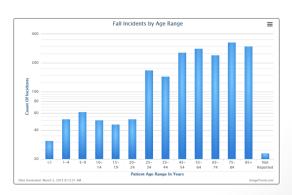
Qualitative Strategies

- Reduce human error in data collection wherever possible
 - Audit records / re-abstract to ensure quality multiple levels of review:



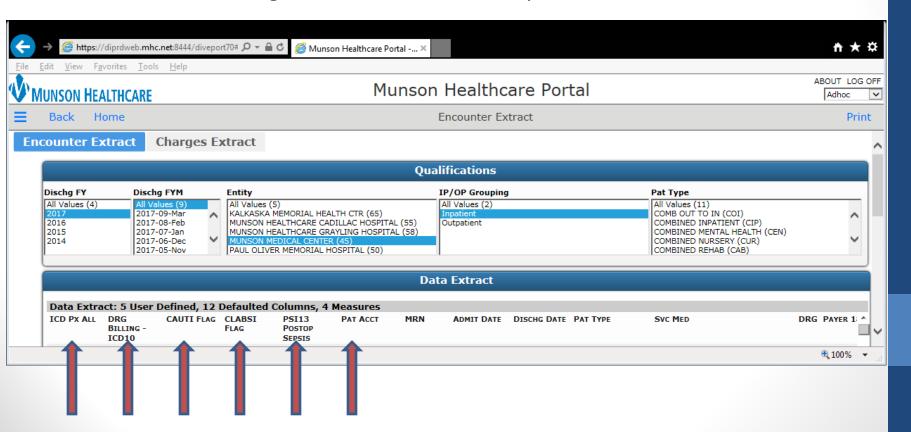
- Automate data entry, if possible, to reduce data entry errors
- Use data analysis tools to verify consistent / accurate data entry





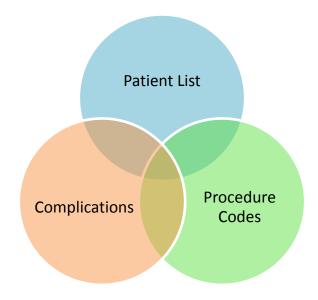
Qualitative Strategies

- Ad hoc audit tools...ensuring no data elements are missed
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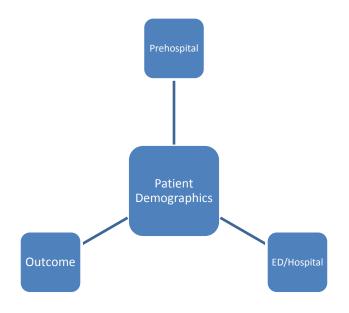
Merging Datasets

- Identify methods to work "smarter not harder"
- Utilize software solutions to merge datasets for entry into the trauma registry or to expand on the trauma registry
 - Spreadsheet type tools (e.g. Excel, csv, XML)
 - Data linkage & query tools (e.g. Access, SAS)



Merging Datasets: background

- Relational database = a database structured to recognize relations among stored items of information
- SQL (Structured Query Language) = the language for querying and maintaining the database
- Bottom line: data management relies on relational databases





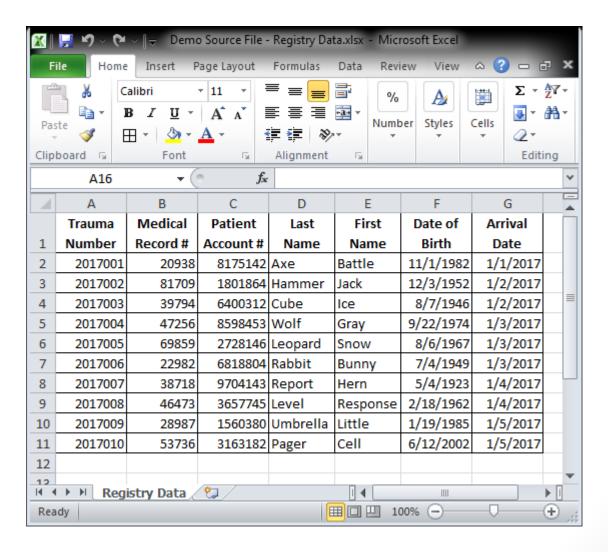
Merging Datasets: basic steps

- Prepare source files
- Import source files
- Write query to link files
- Generate calculations as needed
- Export desired data elements

Merging Datasets: prepare files

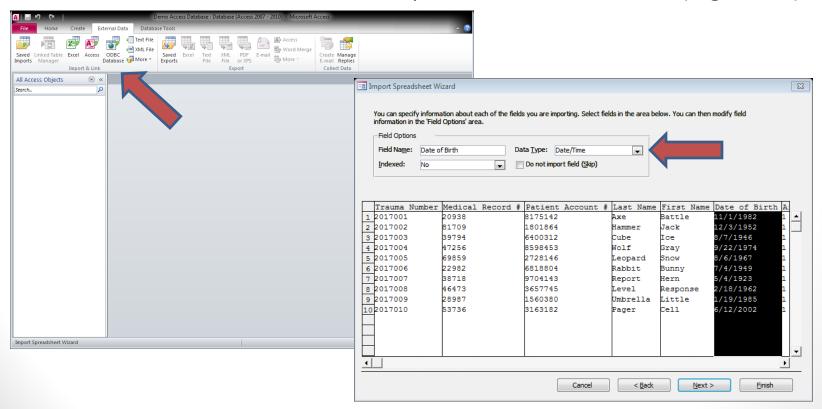
- Prepare source files
 - Identify linkage variable(s)
 - Patient Account # for unique encounters (e.g. for procedures)
 - Medical Record # to look across encounters (e.g. for readmissions)
 - Name & DOB to look across institutions (e.g. for patient transfers)
 - Ensure column headers are in the first row and properly labeled
 - Use column headers that are readily identifiable
 - Delete extraneous rows & columns (e.g. where no data exists)
 - Verify that source files are inclusive given desired criteria
 - Appropriate date ranges (e.g. CY 2016 vs. FY 2016)
 - Defined population (e.g. all I/P vs. all I/P & O/P)

Merging Datasets: prepare files

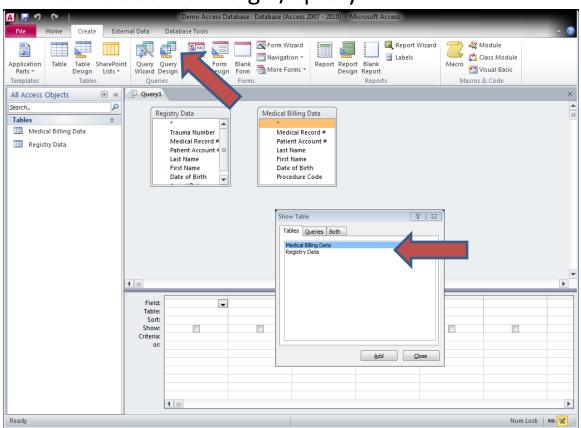


Merging Datasets: import files

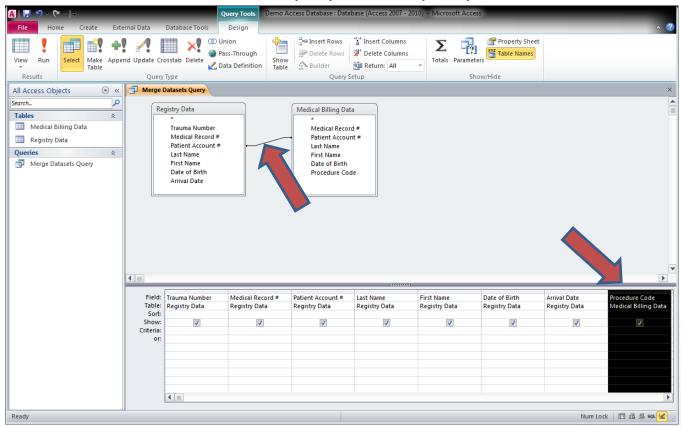
- Import source files {using Microsoft Access as an example}
 - Choose appropriate file type to import (e.g. Excel, XML, Text)
 - Ensure data elements are imported in correct format (e.g. dates)



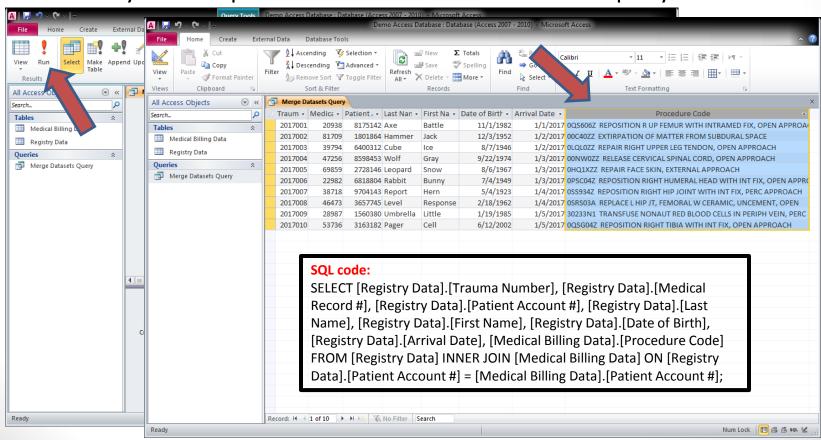
- Write query to link files
 - Select type of query
 - Select files "tables" to merge / query



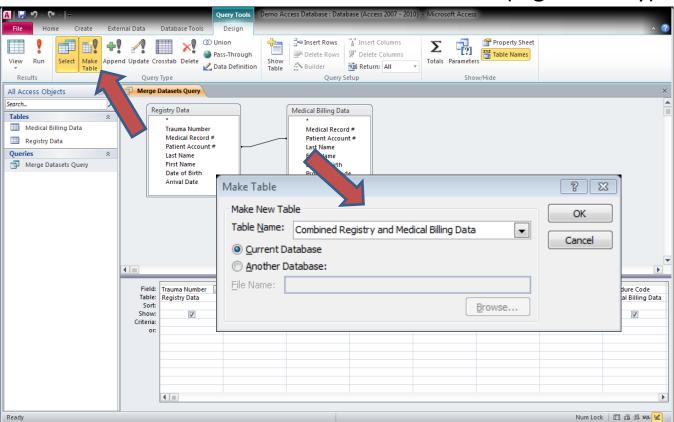
- Write query to link files
 - "Relate" datasets by connecting key linkage variable(s)
 - Select data elements to display in the query



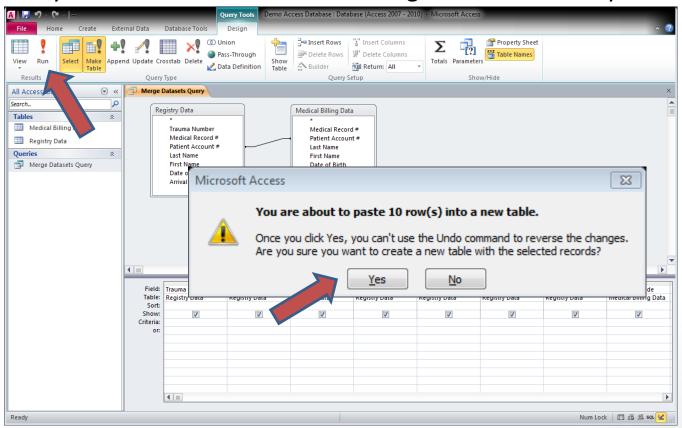
- Write query to link files
 - "Run" the query to generate desired output / table
 - Verify that output is consistent with intent of the query



- Write query to link files
 - Make a new combined table to run additional queries against
 - Select table name that can be reused in future (e.g. monthly)

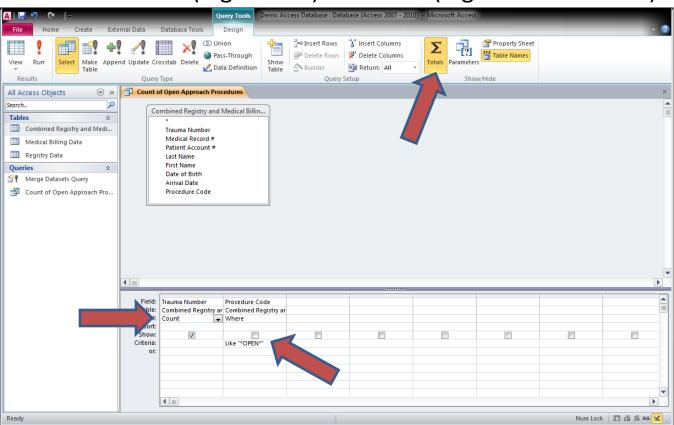


- Write query to link files
 - "Run" the Make Table query to generate desired table
 - Verify record count to ensure table is generated correctly



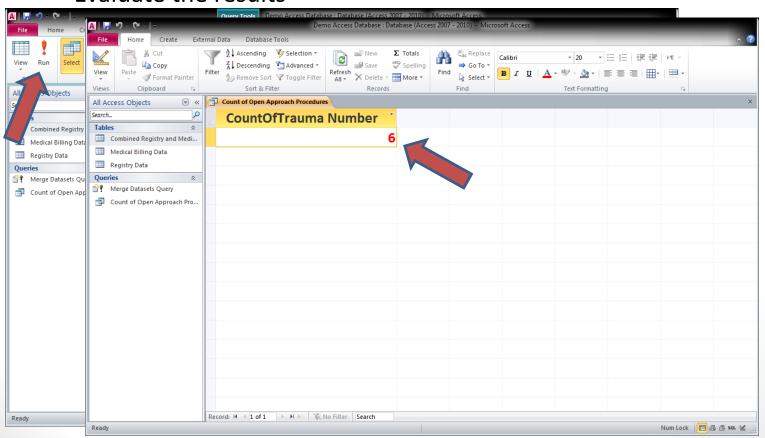
Merging Datasets: calculations

- Generate calculations as needed (narrative search example)
 - Start a query based on new table & select "Totals"
 - Select calculation (e.g. Count) & criteria (e.g. Like "*OPEN*")



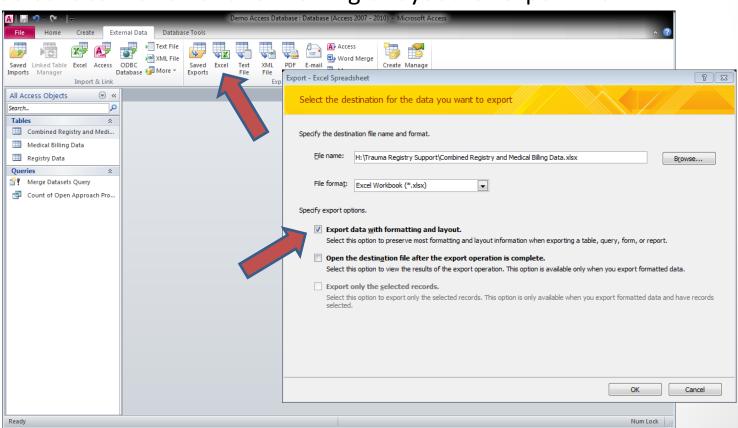
Merging Datasets: calculations

- Generate calculations as needed (narrative search example)
 - "Run" the query
 - Evaluate the results



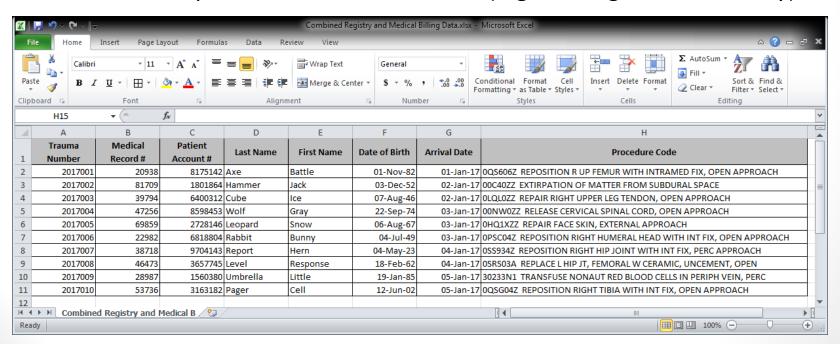
Merging Datasets: export

- Export desired data elements
 - Select table or query to export & type of export file (e.g. XML)
 - Select destination and formatting & layout for export file

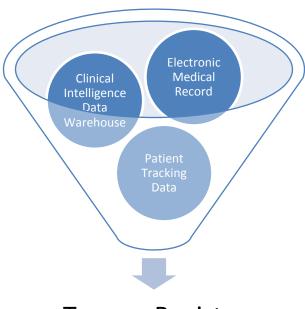


Merging Datasets: export

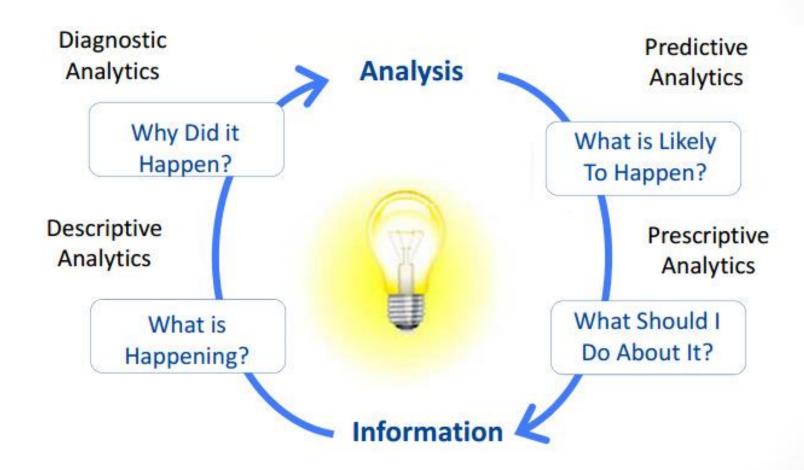
- Export desired data elements
 - Utilize exported file for reporting purposes
 - Utilize exported file as an aid with trauma registry data entry
 - Utilize exported file as an audit tool (e.g. looking for consistency)



- Quantitatively & Qualitatively robust data are essential for optimal data analysis
- Utilizing the full spectrum of data resources (and human resources) to support the trauma registry is key...

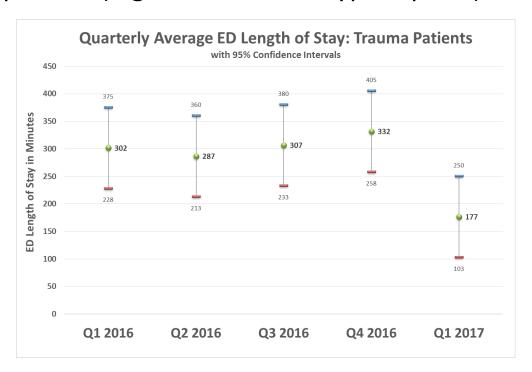


Trauma Registry

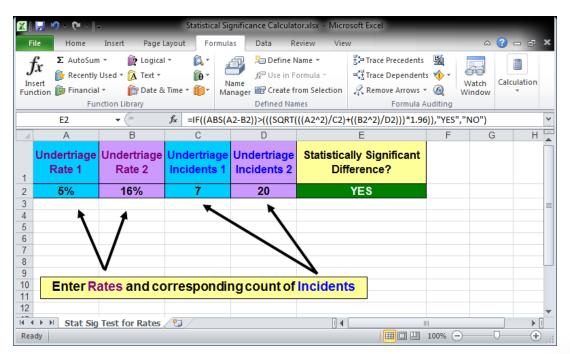


Analytic Excellence Leads to Better Decisions

- Keep issues in perspective...remember random variation occurs with or without external influence
- Take advantage of statistical testing to support the decision making process (e.g. TQIP / MTQIP type reports)



- Utilize tools in Excel to analyze data (if no other software is available) – activatate "Analysis ToolPak" in Options: Add-Ins
- Statistical formulas can also be created in Excel to help determine if rates of change are "significant" or not (e.g. =IF((ABS(A2-B2))>(((SQRT(((A2^2)/C2)+((B2^2)/D2)))*1.96)),"YES","NO")



- Though reports are typically presented as descriptive statistics (showing what is happening NOT why it is happening), the audience will often draw their own conclusions
- These inferential conclusions are often based on presentation, explanation and understanding of the data/issue
- Be aware of possible alternative explanations for changes in the data over time...not just the more obvious

- Present data with meaningful time units (e.g. quarterly vs. monthly)
- Be aware that horizontal axis (time units) and/or vertical axis (quantitative units) can skew perceptions
- Remember that there are often cyclical/seasonal trends that can cause month-to-month variation (avoid tail-chasing)
- Data stability (e.g. rare events unstable)...reporting period/frequency should be appropriate

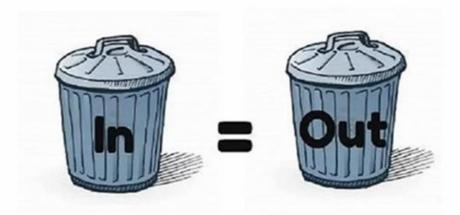
 Do not present data you do not understand (data interpretation requires a well-reasoned argument and, typically, local hospital knowledge)



 Remember: whether or not a particular event results in a failure it is often a matter of chance, so it will not necessarily reflect whether or not a hazard is under control...the absence of "failures" in the trauma registry does not necessarily mean underlying issues do not still remain

Conclusion

Let's talk about data!







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