

Quality Control at the Scanner: QI on a QC tool

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Despite clinicians being aware of various quality issues with image acquisition within the radiology department, no single system existed to collect information regarding these deficiencies/quality issues. To remedy this, a "Quality Control at the scanner" reporting tool was created to collect information regarding quality issues encountered when reviewing the imaging. This instrument was initially piloted with the MHealth Fairview system, and after a trial period, it was determined that increased buy-in across the MHealth Fairview system could increase understanding of data trends and thereby help radiology departments with internal system level QI projects. Potential invested parties were identified and targeted for input on opportunities for change/improvement in the structure of the QC at the scanner data collection tool. Invested parties included: radiologists across the various radiology specialties, quality improvement hospital administrators, site/department managers, and technicians across various imaging modalities. Opportunities for improvement in the design of the QC at the scanner tool included: improved and tailored wording regarding the deficiency or quality issue identified, as well as the opportunity to celebrate/recognize outstanding exams performed by radiology technologists and sonographers. With these changes, the revised QC at the scanner tool was ready for system wide MHealth Fairview implementation. Ideal next steps include: increasing awareness of the QC at the scanner tool, increasing utilization of the QC at the scanner tool, and implementing new QI projects in radiology divisions/sections based on data trends identified and communicated via the QC at the scanner tool. Work is ongoing for quality assurance of the new tool.