


# SIMULATION MODELING

## RADIOLOGY ANALYTICS NEW PARTNER

Michael M. Zimmer, Ph.D.  
Sr. Business Consultant  
Systems & Procedures



VIDANT HEALTH™

# VIDANT MEDICAL CENTER



VIDANT HEALTH™



System details

1	2
32	
95	
77	
68	
0	
89	
00	


Center  
Vidant Duplin Hospital  
Vidant Beaufort Hospital

5 Foundations and 3 development councils  
Wellness centers  
MISSION


To improve the health and well-being of eastern North Carolina

2

## PURPOSE



Running over 90% capacity



# Situation?

Vidant Medical Center has increasingly expanded many medical services creating consistent demands on Radiology

Services to **keep up** with capacity, partly with MRI and VIR

More FTEs for Techs & Nurses

New equipment requires infrastructure construction


Purchasing of new MRI & VIR Single-Plane to increase capacity

Radiology Demand

≈5,400 Inpatient MRIs/year  
13 VIR procedures/day

3


## METHOD



The proposed solution will require millions of dollars. Leadership would like a clear understanding of the current capacity and utilization operational efficiencies made?

**SIX SIGMA: DMAIC Methodology**

A structured process improvement project was deployed to critically assess and analyze MRI and VIR operations. This allowed to develop the data needed for discrete event simulation modeling and devise operational improvements.

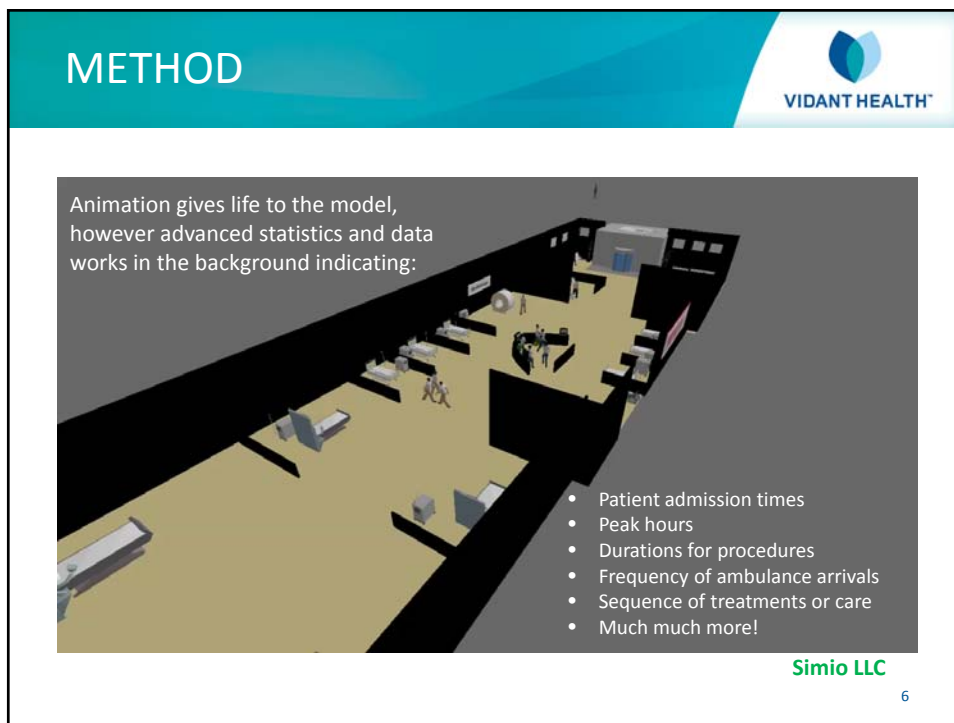
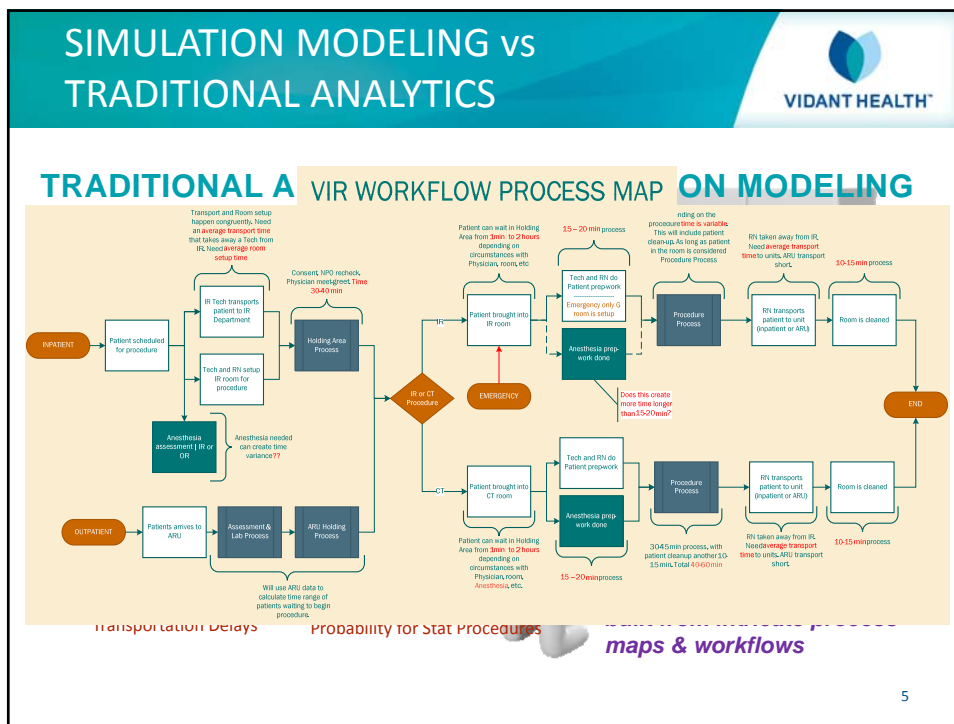


**BIG DATA to help support BIG INVESTMENTS**

**Leadership Support**  
The analytics produced from simulation modeling increased confidence in how to proceed with the recommendations for radiology services.

**Improved Strategic Planning**  
With Leadership able to make better decisions, an improved strategic plan was developed that had improvements to radiology operations with major cost avoidance opportunities.

4



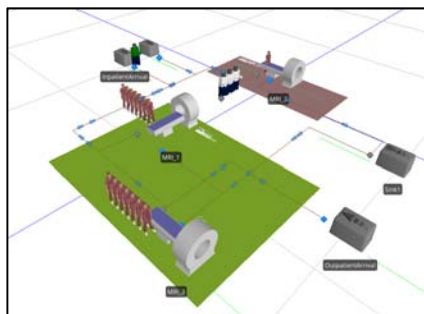
# MRI & VIR MODELS – METHOD



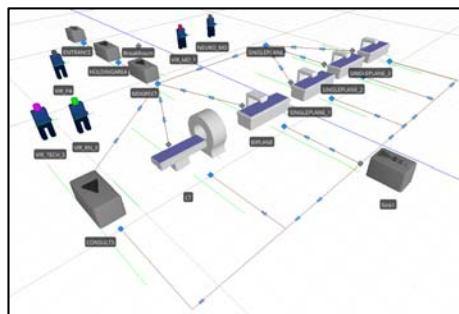
## SOLVING THE OBJECTIVES FOR MRI & VIR OPERATIONS

- For MRI operations, what can be done to specifically increase the capacity for inpatient volume?
- What do we know about utilization of each operating room and staff resources in VIR?

Producing the answers for Leadership to make the appropriate decisions for their investments!



MRI Simulation Model Design

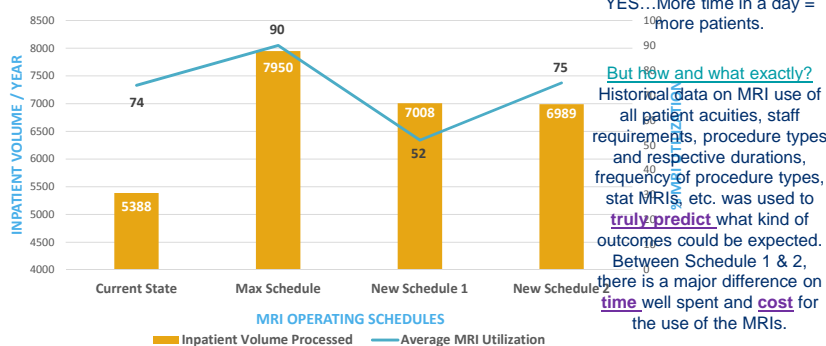


VIR Simulation Model Design

# MRI RESULTS



## MRI SIMULATION MODEL RESULTS




YES...More time in a day = more patients.  
 But how and what exactly? Historical data on MRI use of all patient acuties, staff requirements, procedure types and respective durations, frequency of procedure types, stat MRIs, etc. was used to truly predict what kind of outcomes could be expected. Between Schedule 1 & 2, there is a major difference on time well spent and cost for the use of the MRIs.

### MRI OPERATING SCHEDULES

CURRENT STATE	MAX SCHEDULE	NEW SCHEDULE 1	NEW SCHEDULE 2
MRI 2 operating 24 hours per day, 7 days a week MRI 1 & 3 operating from 6AM to 11PM, MON – FRI	Current State schedule but assuming no delays and a perfect transition through all parts of the process. This was used to find the upper limit only.	MRI 2 operating from 6AM to 11PM, MON – FRI MRI 1 & 3 operating 24 hours per day, 7 days a week	MRI 2 operating from 6AM to 11PM, MON – FRI MRI 1 & 3 operating 24 hours per day, MON – FRI MRI 2 operating 24 hours per day, SAT & SUN

## VIR RESULTS




		UTILIZATION CURRENT STATE			UTILIZATION CURRENT STATE
VIR WORKERS	NEURO MD	20.36	VIR EQUIPMENT (OPERATING ROOMS)	SINGLEPLANE A	30.67
	VIR MD 1 (7A-3P)	69.96		SINGLEPLANE B	29.53
	VIR MD 2 (8A-5P)	65.38		SINGLEPLANE C	29.32
	VIR MD 3 (12P – 7P)	59.33		BIPLANE	21.46
	VIR PA	47.95		CT	17.48
	VIR RN 1	32.76			
	VIR RN 2	30.74			
	VIR RN 3	32.22			
	VIR RN 4	32.74			
	VIR RN 5	31.31			
	VIR TECH 1 (7A-330P)	64.22			
	VIR TECH 2 (7A-330P)	65.23			
	VIR TECH 3 (8A-430P)	62.27			
	VIR TECH 4 (8A-430P)	60.59			
	VIR TECH 5 (9A-530P)	60.06			
	VIR TECH 6 (7A-530P)	63.81			
	VIR TECH 7 (1030A-7P)	55.38			
	VIR TECH 8 (1030A-7P)	55.25			

UTILIZATION Δ

Worker Productivity ≠ Equipment Productivity

The simulation model gave critical insight on how staff operated within the VIR center. When you feel you're busy, you think your operation is at peak capacity. BUT...is that really true?

## CONCLUSION



Value of Simulation

- Supported the decision making process with quantitative descriptive analytics
- Illustrated the correlation between MRI/VIR utilization, capacity and clinical resources
- Validated the ROI of additional staff needed to support potential volume increases
- Leveraged simulation to dispel myths, support opinions and show relationships between operational processes and outcomes
- Expanded professional development of key stakeholders through active participation in the design and testing of key outcomes

10