WE ROCK – YOU ROLL:
SURGICAL STAGING UNIT PROPELS ON-TIME FIRST CASE START INITIATIVE
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A significant decline in operating on-time first case start times to less than 45% prompted a Magnet® hospital to re-evaluate current workflow and implement process improvement measures.

A multi-disciplinary team was formed with representation from all key stake-holders: perioperative leadership, anesthesia, surgeons and front line staff from the OR, staging and PACU. The team met biweekly and began examining data and recurrent themes surrounding late first cases. These biweekly meetings also allowed each discipline to present their current process, review its effectiveness, and offer suggestions for improvement. Standard work for each department and role was developed to define responsibilities and timing.

Once comfortable with the decision to implement the process, common goals were identified and consistent education was provided for all staff. The changes were implemented in small pilot groups and adjustments were made through trial and error. Finally, we tied it all together- it was time to “go live.” The new process was a tremendous success and on time first case starts have been sustained at over 80%. The Operating Room day starts in the Surgical Staging Unit, we proudly claim the title: WE ROCK—YOU ROLL!