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# Project Management for Health Care Technology Projects

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#### What is a project?

#### A Project:

- is directed work that is aimed at achieving specific goals within a defined budget and schedule.
  - A complex, non-routine, one-time effort constrained by scope, schedule, resources, and risk.
  - Characteristics (constraint name)
  - Established objectives with performance requirements (scope, quality)
  - A defined life period with a start and an end (schedule)
  - Predefined assets. money, materials, people (resources)
  - High uncertainty for task, resources and team (risk)
  - The involvement of several departments and professionals (team-work)
  - Something that has never been done before (new)

#### What is project management

- Project Management (PM) could be any/all of the following:
  - A field of practice
  - A profession
  - A body of knowledge
  - An academic discipline

#### PM: A field of practice

- Knowledge
  - Areas
  - Process groups
- Skills
  - Expert judgment
  - Understanding of inputs and outputs
  - Application of tools and techniques
- Tools
  - 。 Tangible implements like software
  - programs, diagrams, formulas, charts
  - Used in activity to produce results
- Techniques
  - Systematic procedure used by a person
  - employing tools to produce a result

#### Project vs. Day-to-Day Operations

- Project:
  - Unique product
  - Done once
- Day-to-Day Operations
  - Repetitive
  - Not a unique product
- Example:
  - Installing PACS system
  - Help Desk process

#### What is Project Management

- Project management is the discipline of planning, organizing, securing, and managing resources to achieve specific goals
- Examples of PM methodologies:
  - PMI
  - Prince 2

#### Project Stakeholders

- All individuals and organizations involved in a project or whose interests will be affected by the project.
- Example: In a PACS implementation project, Radiology department, IT department are considered stakeholders in addition to the project manager.

#### Risks

- Risks represent uncertainties within the projects that can delay or increase the cost of the project.
- Risks can be managed by:
  - Avoidance: finding ways to prevent risks
  - Transfer: such as insurance
  - Mitigation: Decreasing the impact of the risk
  - Acceptance: Accept the risk and deal with it

#### Nature of IT and Technolgy Projects

- Challenges
  - System complexity
  - Increased number of stakeholders
  - Technical expertise
  - Resistance
  - Funds
  - Communications

#### Nature of IT and Technolgy Projects

- Failure reasons
  - Project failure is defined as failing to meet the project objectives in terms of project scope, schedule, or cost
  - Reasons of failure include:
    - Unclear scope
    - · Failure to analyze stakeholders needs
    - · Risk management failure
    - Problems in Communications

#### Life cycle



- Needs Assessment
  - Identifying the need to execute a project
  - Involves analyzing the current environment and identifying potential problems to be solved
- Requirements Gathering
  - Once the need is recognized, the exact requirements of the project need to be gathered.
  - Requirements are gathered from stakeholders involved in the project.

- Review and Approval
  - Once the requirements are gathered, they need to be reviewed by stakeholders, and experts to make sure they will solve the diagnosed problem.
- Request for Information RFI
  - The aim of this process is to identify potential solutions to implement the project.
  - RFI is issued to potential vendors with questions regarding technologies and product features.

- Request for Proposal RFP
  - Once RFI is answered by vendors, the next step is to write an RFP to specify the exact requirements (technical, managerial, financial, procedural) for the project.
  - RFP is written by subject matter experts and must include the data gathered in the "gathering requirements" phase and information retrieved through RFI.
  - A clear RFP helps the vendor to answer the requirements of the customer, and how the relation between them is governed.

- Vendor Management
  - Once project is awarded to a vendor, the relation between customer and vendor needs to be managed
  - The vendor management starts with the contract where the relation is clearly defined. The contract should clearly specify the duties of the vendor and the performance criteria of the project.

- Vendor Management
  - Vendor management activities include:
    - · Contract management
    - · Performance evaluation
    - Performance reporting
    - Change management
    - Approvals
    - Project Termination
    - Project closure

- Project Management
  - This is the methodology used to manage the project to success.
  - It includes processes for:
    - Initiation
    - Planning
    - Executing
    - Controlling
    - Closing

### Vendor management

Pre award	After award
RFP	Project management
Project plan	management
commitment	Deliverables

### Example 1

- Installing PACS system in a large scale hospital
  - The project involves installing the hardware, software as well as user training for a Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS)
  - Stakeholders include IT department, radiology department, and Engineering Department

#### PACS Project

#### Needs Assessment

- The radiology department performance measure finds that there is a great delay in processing patients' radiology images causing delays in appointments and reporting.
- A solution is required to accelerate the process and create a clear workflow for it.
- A PACS system is proposed to solve this problem.



- Requirements Gathering
  - Number of patients
  - Number of images
  - Number and types of modalities
  - Essential system features
  - Current process to handle patients



- Review and approval
  - Once the requirements are gathered, they are reviewed by radiology and IT departments to make sure all requirements are gathered.
  - The requirements are approved and sent in RFI to different vendors



#### ▶ RFI

 RFI is issued to gather data regarding the most recent trends in PACS systems, hardware requirements and the distinct features in each product.



#### RFP

 Subject matter expert from IT, radiology, and engineering work together to write a comprehensive RFP based on the requirements gathered as well as the RFI.



- Vendor Management
  - The customer forms a committee from IT, radiology, and engineering departments to manage the vendor and to take decisions regarding the project.
  - The committee reviews schedule, progress of the project and make sure he project is going according to plans.



- Vendor Management
  - The committee is also responsible for managing project changes and accepting the project
  - The committee is assisted by subject matter experts in project management, IT and radiology.



- Project Management
  - Simplified when the above steps are done clearly and precisely
  - A project manager is assigned to manage the project with the vendor.

### Example 2

- RFID infant protection system
  - This project involves installing a system to monitor newborn movements within the hospital and signal an alarm if the newborn is separated from either the mother or responsible nurse.
  - Stakeholders include IT department, Gynecology department

#### Infant protection system

- Needs Assessment
  - Cases of newborn abduction and accidental changes are reported in hospitals
  - A solution is required to prevent such incidents from happening within the hospital
  - The solution of tracking newborns using RFID is proposed

#### Infant Protection System

- Requirements Gathering
  - Premises to cover with the system
  - Number of newborns and mothers
  - Number of twin cases
  - The suggested process to handle alarms and monitor infants
  - Drawings of the birth wings at hospital

#### Infant Protection System

- Review and Approval
  - Requirements should be approved by departments and higher management in the hospital.
  - Budget should be allocated to project.

## Best luck

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