



Lean Six Sigma in Healthcare

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Message from the Collection Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Lean Six Sigma is a methodology which combines principles and tools of Six Sigma and Lean production in order to avoid wastes. The objective is to optimize the utilization of resources, work areas, production process and, at the same time, to assure high quality in production and in process management. This methodology comes from the manufacturing sector. In fact, Lean thinking has been used to describe the Toyota Production System, while Six Sigma has been developed in 1987 by the Motorola Corporation to improve products quality. Lean Six Sigma is capable of combining the statistical analysis power of Six Sigma with the tools and principles used to eliminate wastes and reduce lead times, which is typical of Lean system.

In the last few years, Lean Six Sigma has been also implemented in the health care sector to reduce wastes and to measure process inefficiency in order to reduce it via corrective actions. Unfortunately, not all the healthcare sector implements Lean Six Sigma. For this reason, it is important to keep the research active.





an Open Access Journal by MDPI

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Scientific discoveries and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a rational basis for informed decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards.

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