

# Laboratory Autoverification

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## Kansas City VA Medical Center

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# Problem Statement

- ❧ The Kansas City VA Medical Center performs over 2,000,000 laboratory tests annually. Prior to AV every result had to be individually reviewed by certified laboratory personnel and manually validated by keystroking initials in software before the information can be released to hospital clinicians (physicians and nurses).
- ❧ This labor-intensive system is ultimately unsustainable due to a number of critical constraints—
  - Insufficient and decreasing supply of Medical Technologists
  - Increasing demand for laboratory work caused by a growing & aging veteran population
  - Expanding laboratory test choices driven by technological advancements
  - Increasing regulatory requirements
  - On-going budgetary and cost containment pressures



# What is Auto-verification?

- ❧ Auto-verification uses software logic (rule algorithms) to define “normal” and “abnormal” result criteria. The software automatically approves and instantly routes normal results to the clinician.
- ❧ The exclusion of normal results from the medical technologist’s workload, he or she can concentrate exclusively on abnormal results and provide diagnostics to the clinician more quickly.
- ❧ In both cases, results are released to clinicians with greater speed and efficiency, and with less potential for error.
- ❧ Example- 1200 MRSA tests performed per month
  - On average 80 tests are positive per month
  - 1120 negative results are keystroked out by a medical technologist
  - Utilizing auto-verification would allow 1120 results to pass directly to the patient’s medical record



# Advantages of Auto-verification

- ∞ Averaging 90% AV rate
- ∞ Decreased TAT
- ∞ Decreased error rate
- ∞ Decreased costs associated with paper and toner
- ∞ More tech time devoted to value-added projects such as CAP inspections, expanding test menu by bringing tests in house, inventory control, instrument evaluation prior to contracting etc.
- ∞ IM Workspace offers a more modern platform with the presentation of results that need review instead of pulling up each accession number one by one to determine if it is a stat, critical or need for a dilution or rerun.
- ∞ Offers drop downs, color coding and formatting of the workspace to view multiple instruments or departments on one workspace. This is convenient for off-tour shifts that are monitoring multiple instruments.



# Rules based on Boolean Logic

The screenshot displays the 'Instrument Manager' interface for 'ARCH ALL AV'. The main window shows a tree view of rules under 'Test / In Validation'. The selected rule is 'KCVAMC - i891 - Chemistry Autoverification Ruleset', which is configured with the following logic:

- If:** (No conditions listed)
- Then:**
  - LI - Set Shift for Result Time
  - QC Processing / Biorad Integration
  - Step 1 - Evaluate Diluted Results
  - Step 2 - Error Flag Handling
  - Step 3 - Set Reference Ranges
  - Step 4 - Critical Result Flagging
  - Step 5 - Serum Indices Evaluation
  - Step 6 - Delta Check Flagging
  - Step 7 - Format Results for Vista
  - Step 8 - Specimen Integrity Check
  - Step 9 - i1000 Integrated Ruleset (Hep/HIV Evaluation)
  - Step 10 - Reflex Testing
  - Step 11 - Validate or Hold for Review
- Else:** (No actions listed)

The status bar at the bottom shows: Logged On User: 8164, Locale: KCVAMC, License #: IM-342633, Customer Name: VAMC Kansas City, Date: 9/12/2016, Time: 9:13 AM.





Veterans Information Systems and Technology Architecture (**VistA**) is a nationwide information system and Electronic Health Record (EHR) developed by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Select Process data in lab menu Option: EA Enter/verify data (auto instrument)

Select LOAD/WORK LIST NAME: IRIS-iQ200

Select Performing Laboratory: VA HEARTLAND - WEST, VISN 15// MO VAMC 589

Work Load Area: IRIS-iQ200//

Would you like to see the test list? No// NO

Do you wish to modify the test list? NO//

You have selected 38 tests to work with.

Do you want to review the data before and after you edit? YES//

Select one of the following:

- 1 Accession Number
- 2 Unique Identifier (UID)

Verify by: 1// Accession Number

Accession Date: TODAY// (AUG 01, 2017)

Accession NUMBER: 8// 18

ZZDUCK,GEORGE           000-00-XXXX  
ORDER #: 1652600  
Seq #: 1   Accession: UA 0801 18   Results received: Aug 01, 2017@09:01  
          UID: 2572130018        Last updated: Aug 01, 2017@09:01

Sample: URIN,RAND

Specimen: URINE

ZZDUCK,GEORGE   SSN: 000-00-XXXX   LOC: LAB  
Pat Info:               Sex: MALE   Age: 71yr as of Aug 01, 2017  
Provider: MATHUR,SHARAD C       Voice pager:  
  Phone: 56148               Digital pager: 816-234-XXXX

ACCESSION:           UA 0626 28   UA 0801 18 [2572130018]

URINALYSIS           6/26 09:56d   8/1 08:53d

URINE COLOR           Yellow        Yellow

APPEARANCE,URINE     Clear        Clear

URINE GLUCOSE        NEG         NEG   mg/dL

URINE BILIRUBIN      NEG         NEG

URINE KETONES        NEG         NEG   mg/dl

SPECIFIC GRAVITY     1.018       1.027

URINE BLOOD          Small       NEG

URINE PH             6.0         5.0

URINE PROTEIN        >=500      NEG   mg/dl

UROBILINOGEN         NORMAL     NORMAL   mg/dL

URINE NITRITE        NEG         NEG

LEUKOCYTE ESTERASE   NEG         NEG

\*UR RBC              0-2

\*UR WBC              3-5

URINE BACTERIA

URINE BUDDING YEAST

PRESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE, '^' TO STOP

URINE HYPHAE YEAST

SQUAMOUS EPITHELIAL

\*TRANS EPITHELIAL

URINE MUCUS

SPERM IN URINE

TRICHOMONAS

HYALINE CASTS

WBC CASTS

RBC CASTS

URINE GRANULAR CASTS

FATTY CASTS

WAXY CASTS

TRIPLE PHOS CRYSTALS

CA OXALATE CRYSTALS

URIC ACID CRYSTALS

\*RENAL EPITHELIAL

URINE WBC CLUMP

OVAL FAT BODIES

FAT DROPLETS,URINE

URINE EPITH CELLS

UR AMORPHOUS

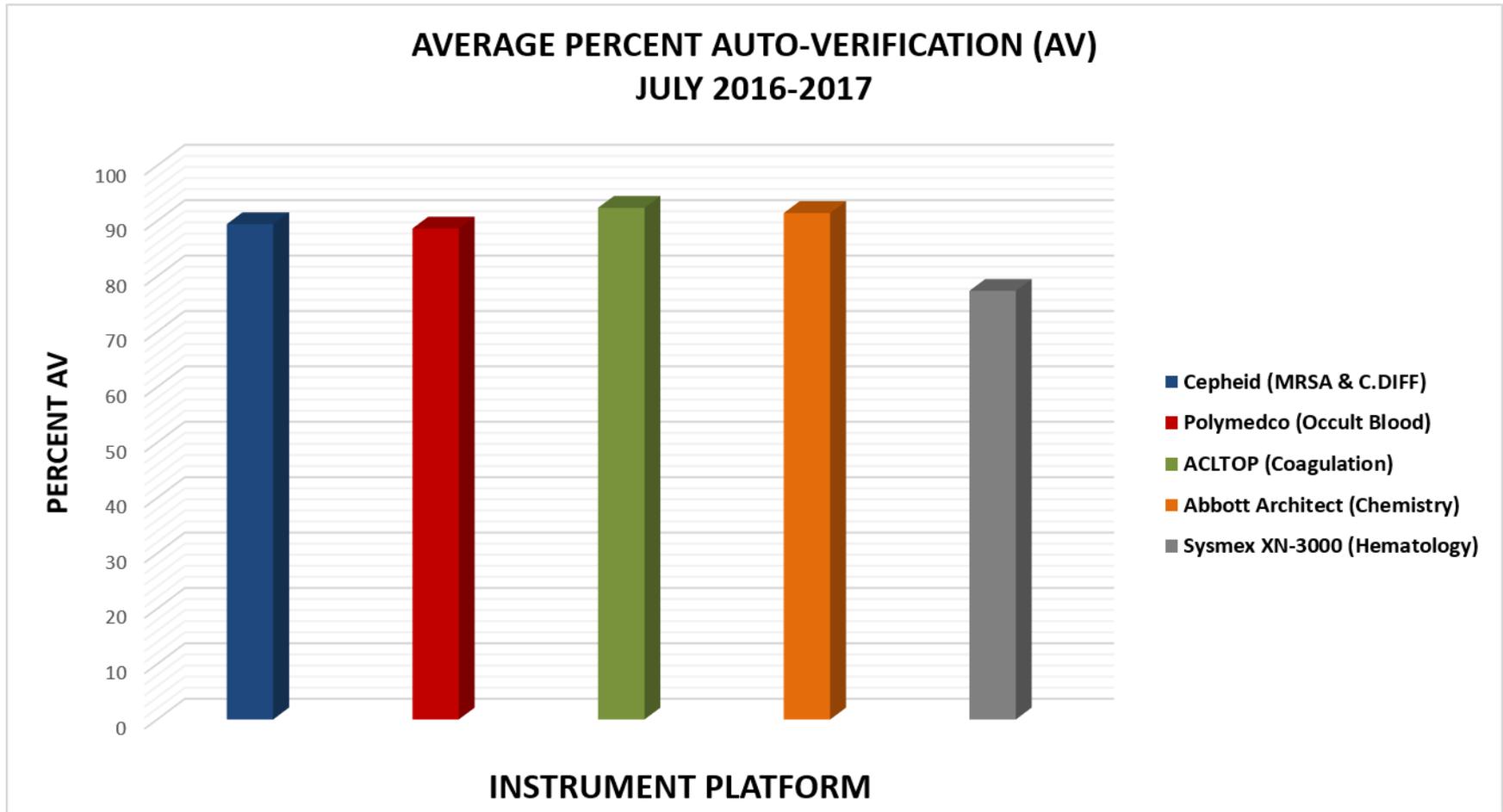
SELECT ('E' to Edit, 'C' for Comments, 'W' Workload):

Approve for release by entering your initials: LTW





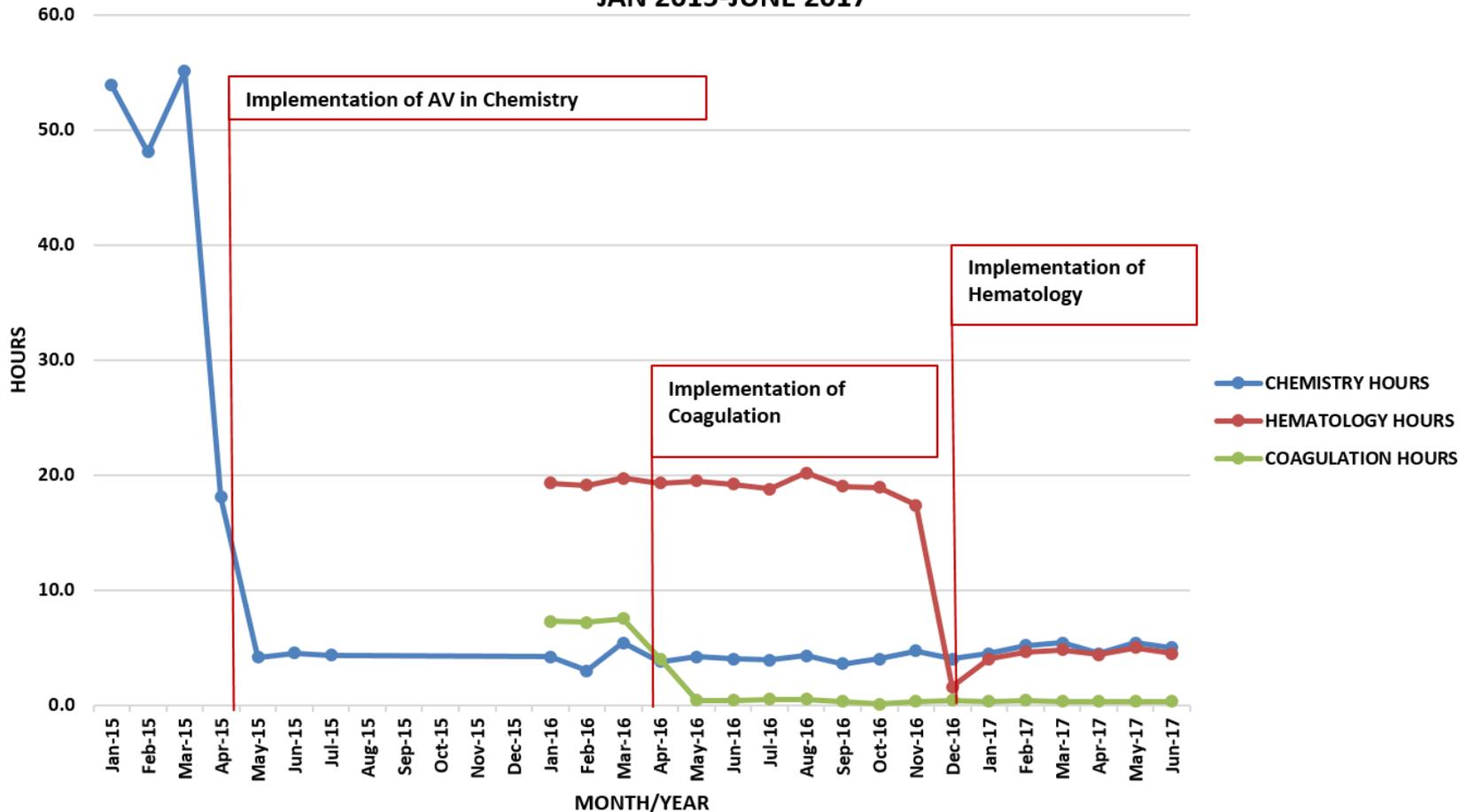
# Operational Excellence- Achieve 70% Autoverification Rate





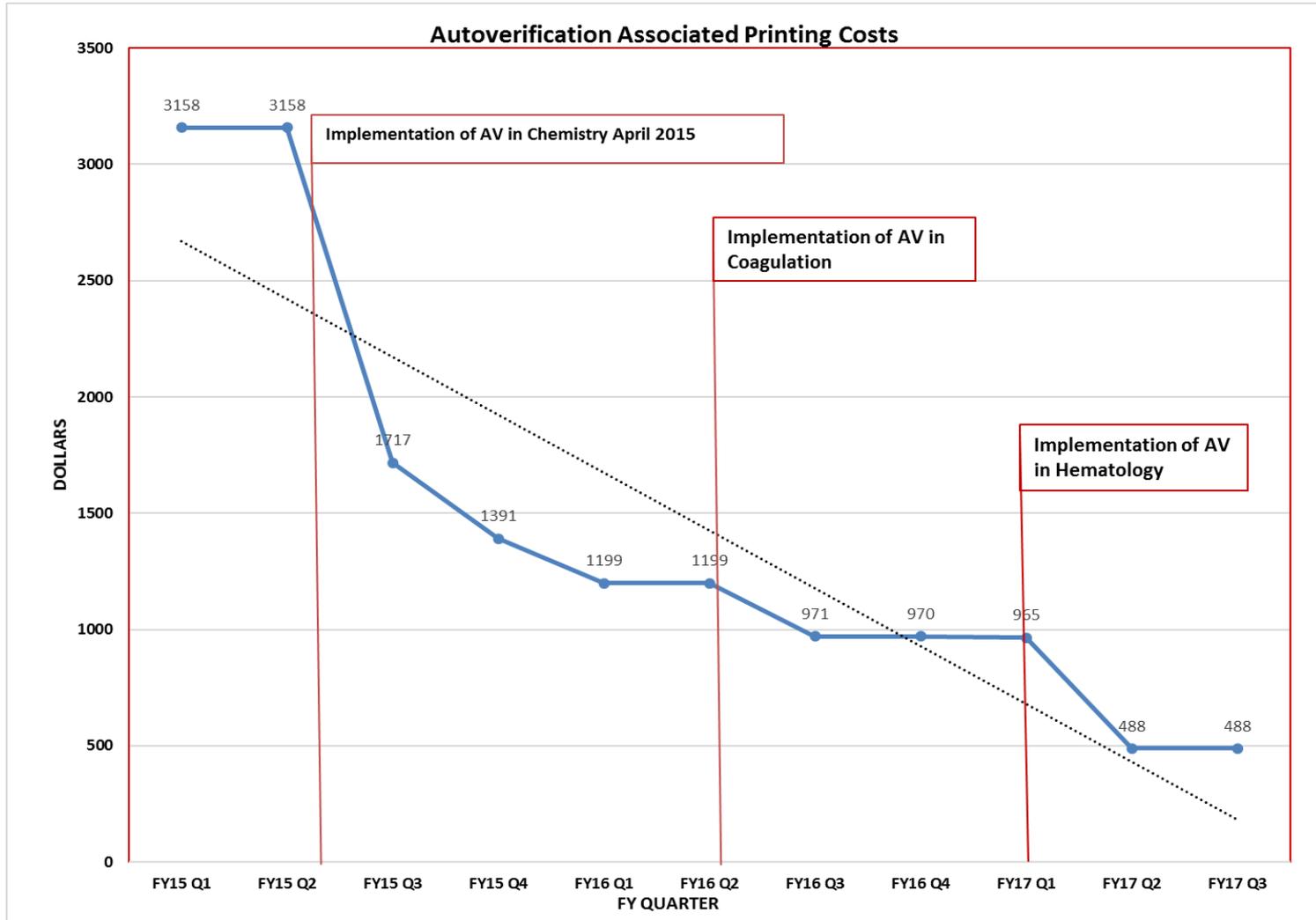
# Cost Containment- Reduction in Time Spent Releasing Reports

Time Savings Using Autoverification  
JAN 2015-JUNE 2017





# Cost Containment- Supporting Executive Order 13101





# Global sites that use Open Source VistA and now have the ability to use autoverification (AV) per Data Innovations

## Global Sites

- 1) We estimate about 500 of the 1,700 have instrumentation and may be candidates for AV
- 2) The highlighted in yellow are the primary market for AV. The ones in green are secondary market and only a small % likely will use AV

Count of Facility Name	Column Labels										Grand
Facility Type	USA	India	Jordan	N. Mariana Islands	Mexico	Egypt	Philippines	Germany	Pakistan		Total
US Govt Clinic	808										808
Native American Clinic	334										334
Small Practice	272										272
US Govt Hospital	163										163
Native American Hospital	42										42
US State Govt Hospital	28										28
US Govt/VA Clinic	19							1			20
International (Non-US) Hospital		8	5		1	2	1		1	1	19
US Local Govt Hospital	10										10
Nursing Home	6										6
US Private Hospital	5										5
US State Govt Clinic	4										4
International (Non-US) Clinic			1		2						3
US Private Clinic	2										2
Native Hawaiian Clinic	2										2
US Local Govt Clinic	2										2
(blank)	1										1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1698</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1721</b>

We are estimating somewhere near 100 VistA, Open VistA and RPMS sites will be using some level of AV by 2020.



# Conclusion & Questions



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