









How to Centralize Procurement and Purchasing for a Multilocation Network

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Learning Objectives



- Describe methods to centralize procurement and purchasing.
- Discuss strategies to engage internal stakeholders across all functions operations, finance, and clinical.









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Level-Set: Central Procurement vs. Purchasing

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Definitions:

 Central Procurement (Step 1): Contracting, pricing, vendor selection, vendor relationships, and GPO relationship

 Central Purchasing (Step 2): Acquiring goods via a centralized team through a preferred purchasing system





Main Line Health®

Main Line Health, a large health system in the Philadelphia suburbs, owns and manages a large network of physician practices and urgent care centers (125 practices; many with multiple ship to locations). The network consists of specialty, primary care and surgical practices located through out the Philadelphia suburbs. (Chester, Delaware and Montgomery County)

Procurement & Purchasing:

- Centralized Procurement and Purchasing
- Contracting is managed centrally
- In collaboration with our clinical team, we built a supply formulary and all items in this formulary are built into our ERP.
- Our practices requisition supplies through the ERP and orders are placed by 2 staff members.

Non-formulary / Capital:

For all supplies outside of the formulary, or capital purchases,

- Separate routing system for approvals
- In process of updating this process and procedures

Furniture and equipment:

Furniture and equipment is standardized for the most part throughout our practices



Company Overview



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Highlights:

- In Business Since 2008
- Headquarters = Kirkland, WA
- Surgery Centers = 61
- Consultation Offices = 48
- States = 37

- Surgeons = 185⁺
- Procedure Types =
 - Liposuction (awake)
 - Excess Skin Removal (awake)
 - Breast Augmentation (asleep)



Central Procurement (Contracting)

- Supply Chain Team creates all items in Purchasing System
- Each Center creates Weekly Purchase Orders (excluding Central Order items)
- Supply Chain Team approves all Purchase Orders
- Centers cannot order items outside of Purchasing System

Central Purchasing (Ordering)

- Includes five critical items:
 - Epinephrine Lactated Ringers Surgical Packs
 - Lidocaine
 Fat Canisters
- Centers enter Weekly Inventory Counts for each item into Purchasing System
- Supply Chain Team calculates quantities needed based on Surgical Forecast
- Supply Chain Team creates Purchase Orders



Company Overview





US Eye is a PE backed healthcare management group with 5 ASCs and 60+ clinical/retail locations across 4 states.

Independent Operations:

Independence

Initially, all of these offices and entities operated independently

Fragmented operations

- Purchasing
- Contracting
- Procurement
- Lack of oversight and visibility

Integration Efforts:

Unified ERP

Established our ERP platform and integrated all locations

Contract migration

- All contracts moved to the National level with our GPO
- Selected relationships/ partners by category
- Instituted national model reducing decision-making

Procurement:

Centralized procurement model

- All locations submit requisitions
- Eliminated ordering outside of our controlled environment
- Ordering must go through our centralized team

Outcomes:

- Better relationships
- Better pricing
- Consistent product mix and alignment
- Better visibility to spend
- More opportunity to standardize and streamline
- Overall, more effective purchasing

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Panel Discussion: Critical Stakeholder Engagement



Questions:

- Who were your critical stakeholders?
- Why were they important to central procurement and purchasing?

Panel Discussion: Tools and/or Technology



Questions:

- What tools or technology are you deploying to support your teams?
- And why?

Panel Discussion: Effective Collaboration and Partnerships

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Question:

 Ambulatory care providers are complicated and often understaffed when it comes to procurement and purchasing. How do you leverage partnerships or create collaboration to achieve results?

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Panel Discussion: Implications of Acquisitions or New Builds to Procurement



Question:

 As you acquire or build new locations, how do you optimize results while also remaining flexible?

Lessons Learned



Things to do:

- Communicate Communication with stakeholders is the key
- Manage with dates Having a project with date expectations is necessary
- Manage Expectations Managing expectations from the outset is important.
- Obtain Feedback Obtain feedback from others including the practices before rolling out a new process.

Things to avoid:

- Overexplaining Most stakeholders are not versed in supply chain. Don't be too technical.
- Moving too fast Complete a task and make sure there is full understanding before proceeding.
- Wrong stakeholders not including the right people
- Closed-minded Don't get stuck with one approach instead of being open to other ideas.





- Start Small Centralize one category or segment at a time
- Centralize Procurement First Then move to centralize purchasing
- Leverage Technology Purchasing systems provide control
- Simplify Processes Clinical staff should focus on patient care
- Change Brings Opportunity Growth is a welcome challenge











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