Supply Chain Management Resource

This resource is meant to be used as a template to determine supply management and is not prescriptive to any particular institution.

A successful supply management process should build in redundancy to prevent gaps in coverage, while balancing adequate supply versus wastage.

- Consider the following areas that may influence amount of stock and par levels:
  - Number of operating rooms your department covers
  - Number of cases - this can be separated into months or weeks to determine demand
    - Consider also the frequency of use by type of procedure (e.g., if an item is only used during a specific type of case)
  - Delay or shipping time (e.g., if it takes 6 weeks for disposables to arrive, keep this delay in mind)
  - Storage capacity in pump room or on-campus building
  - Feasibility of getting back up items
  - Number of surgeons or difference in disposable use rate (i.e., if one surgeon operates more frequently than another)
- Dealing with backorders or low supply:
  - Create a list of backup items for all vital disposables; this may include possible alternate vendors/manufacturers
    - Identifying alternatives in advance will prevent delay in receiving substitutes
    - Identify items with frequent or extended backorders to have alternative plan
  - May want to verify with surgeon if relevant changes made (i.e., changing aortic cannula)
  - Determine if supply exchange with a local, instate, or in-system hospital is an option (i.e., borrowing or buying supplies from a neighboring hospital)
    - This can also be helpful for expensive items that are expiring soon (e.g., exchanging a soon-to-expire high value item(s) with a local hospital that does more procedures or likely to utilize it before expiration)