**The Problem**
The BIDMC OPAT program is dedicated to providing longitudinal care for patients requiring prolonged intravenous antimicrobial therapy in the outpatient setting.

- Our program received 547 enrollments from 7/1/13 to 6/30/14 with a continued rise in requests with 400 enrollments from 7/1/14 to 1/30/15.
- Based on a chart review and analysis of a time study performed over 4 individual weeks in ID clinic, our major challenges recognized were:
  - Enrollment is requested by email communication, which is prone to error.
  - Patient tracking is performed using an excel spreadsheet leading to significant time spent on updating and managing this list.
  - Failure to update the excel sheet when labs are received leads to waste from unnecessary time spent calling for labs.

**Aim/Goal**
- To implement IS support for patient enrollment, lab monitoring and clinic visit tracking to eliminate the need for an excel spreadsheet.
- To study a change in available time dedicated to direct patient care, lab review and management of abnormal lab results.

**The Team**
Division of Infectious Diseases: Mary LaSalvia, M.D., Rachael Richardson, Mary Stone, Rachel Baden, M.D., Dept. of Health Care Quality: Sarah Moravick, M.B.A., Ken Sands, M.D., IS Application Developer: Paul Panza.

**The Interventions**
- The OPAT team worked with IS programming to create an OPAT List Management tool utilizing the new list management application.

**The Results/Progress to Date**
- Representative examples of our programming from the Test System are shown below.

**Lessons Learned**
We expect to significantly decrease the time required to manage our census with IS support and to eliminate the need for email requests for enrollment. In its early implementation, the engagement of IS to create a customized panel management tool has already enhanced situational awareness of the location and status of our patients.

**Next Steps/What Should Happen Next**
- Repeat our time study post implementation to demonstrate saved time by our staff to focus on other improvement efforts.

For more information, contact:
Mary LaSalvia, M.D., Clinical Instructor, Division of Infectious Diseases
mlasalvi@bidmc.harvard.edu