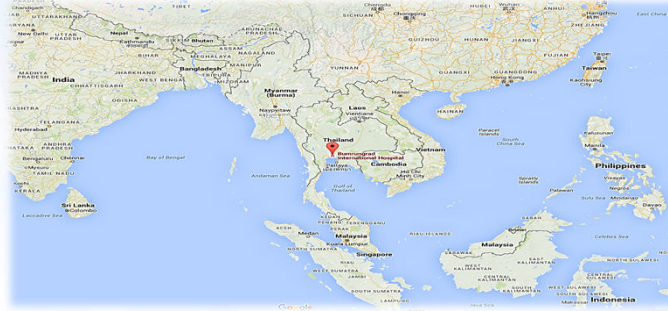


# Quality Improvement and Patient Safety by Decreased Reject Scan

Jaroonroj Wongnil, M.Sc.  
Uthai Wuthichai, RRT  
Wilaiporn Srichuachom, RRT  
Kanittha Luesakul, M.B.A.



Department of Radiology,  
Bumrungrad International Hospital, Bangkok, THAILAND



## INTRODUCTION

- ❖ The aim of radiology is to obtain adequate radiographs for radiologists to interpret results with minimum radiation dose to the patient.
- ❖ The term **reject** means to repeat patient radiographs because of clinically unacceptable images.
- ❖ The patients would get double radiation dose if repeated scan is required.



## BACKGROUND

- ❖ Department of Radiology, Bumrungrad International Hospital provides more than 200,000 radiographs a year for Thai and International patients.
- ❖ The average of reject scan was more than 6% of total x-ray procedures performed.
- ❖ The radiology department has set up the Quality Improvement Team to improve quality of radiograph and to reduce reject scan for patient radiation safety.

## OBJECTIVE

- ❖ **To reduce the percentage of reject scan, from 6.8% to be  $\leq 5\%$  by radiograph quality improvement.**

# METHODS

- ❖ To set up the Continuous Quality Improvement(CQI) Team.
- ❖ To collect information of reject scan from computed radiography (CR) and digital radiography (DR) systems during year 2013-2014.
- ❖ To analyze the data by using the Pareto chart.
- ❖ The major causes of reject scan (84.98%) are;
  1. Positioning Error (35.34%)
  2. Poor Inspiration (30.65%)
  3. Clipped Anatomy (18.99%)

# METHODS

The causes of reject scan (percentage of total in year 2013)

Reason of Reject scan	%Reject scan by reason	% Cumulative
1 Positioning Err	35.34	35.34
2 Poor Inspiration	30.65	65.99
3 Clipped Anatomy	18.99	84.98
4 Dressing Or F/B	6.86	91.84
5 Exposure	5.06	96.90
6 Patient Motion	2.50	99.41
7 Wrong Procedure	0.54	99.95
8 Wrong marker	0.05	100.00
9 Machine Error	0.00	100.00
Total Reject scan	100.00%	100.00%

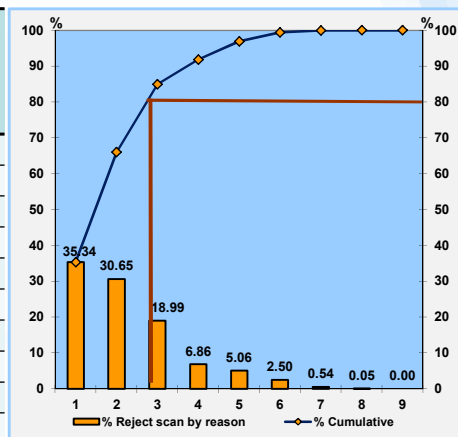
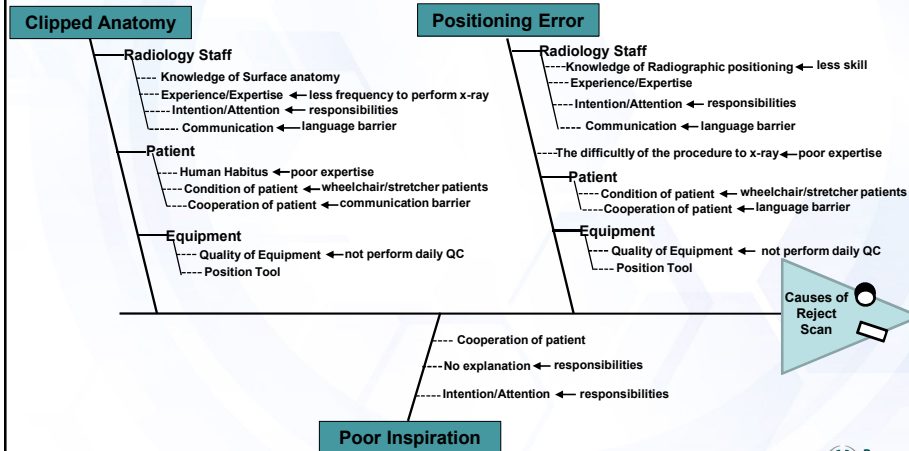


Figure 1: The Pareto chart shown percentage of x-ray classify in causes of total reject in year 2013.

# METHODS

- ❖ The Fish Bone Diagram was used to identify 3 root causes of reject scan.



# ACTIONS HIGHLIGHT

- ❖ The improvement plan there are 2 dimensions.

## Dimension 1: Staffs development

- A. Radiologic Technologist
- B. Other staffs

## Dimension 2: Patient Information

# ACTIONS HIGHLIGHT

## Dimension 1: Staffs development

### A. Radiologic Technologist (Increase efficiency and ability)

To analyze reject scan of 54 RTs by each RT, shown in Scatter Plot.

The results in Figure 2 show the positive correlation between the average number of reject scan and average scan per month.

But the number of reject scan is not correlated with the % reject scan

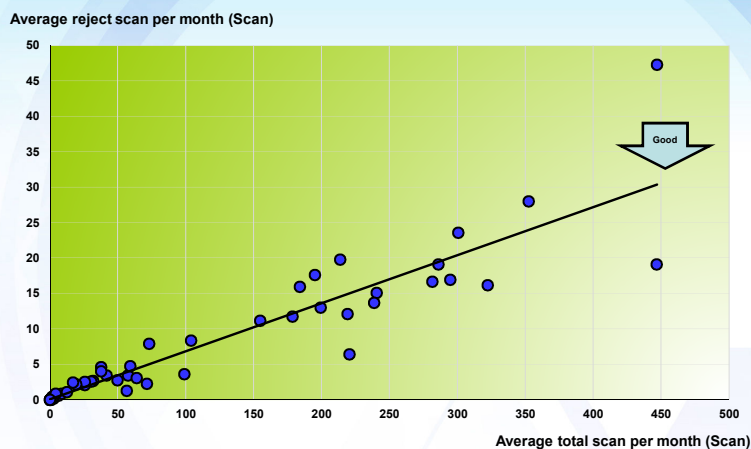


Figure 2: Number of reject scan versus total scan by individual RT

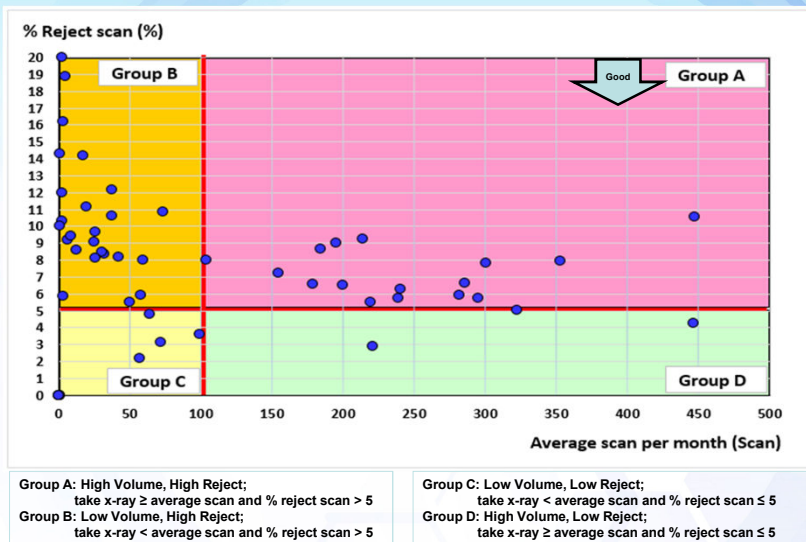
# ACTIONS HIGHLIGHT

## Dimension 1: Staffs development

From the scatter plot between percentage of reject scan versus total scan by individual RT.

We found that it was not correlated between percentage of reject scan and total scan by individual RTs.

We can categories into 4 groups in Figure 3.  
divide the



**Figure 3 : Percentage of reject scan versus total scan by individual RT**

We reduce percentage of reject scan group A & B to group C & D by each group activities as following;

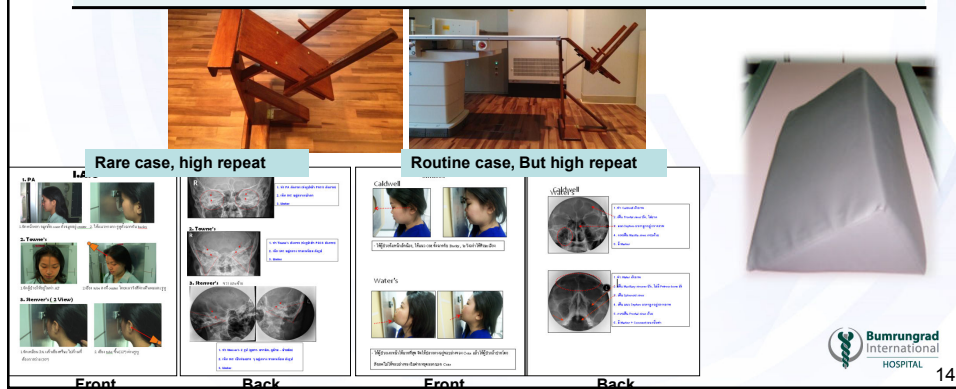
### Group A: High experience/expertise and high number of x-ray, But reject scan > 5%

1. Motivation: To create activity "Star of the month" (give award to RTs who have highest x-ray & lowest reject scan).
2. After Action Review: to record and discuss a daily interesting cases among RTs which lead by senior RTs.
3. To increase awareness: knowledge sharing and discuss as a group by senior RTs in monthly staff meeting which is supported by a radiologist.



### Group B: Less experience/expertise, less number of x-ray and reject scan > 5%

1. Quick Guide & Quick Tip: To create a short guide x-ray for reminder.
2. X-Ray accessories: To provide tools to correct x-ray positioning.
3. Retrain Positioning: Set up training by anatomical part, lead by senior RTs who will be responsible for pre-post test and follow up to enhance technical skill.



- ❑ A monthly feedback about percentage of reject scan was noticed individually, cause of reject and body part error are informed in order to develop RTs competency.

Technician ID	Body Part	Clipped Anatomy	Dressing On / Off	Exposure	Machine error	Patient Motion	Room Inspiration	Positioning Error	Wrong Procedure	Total Reject	Grand Total	% Reject of part not include Error
3333	Abdomen	5				1		2		12	193	4.5
	Ankle									1	6	0.00
	C-spine									0	6	0.00
	Chest	1								13	195	2.12
	Dental									1	3	33.33
	Foot									2	8	0.00
	Hand									1	10	0.00
	Hip									1	6	16.67
	Humerus									0	2	0.00
	Knee									0	3	0.00
	L Spine									2	7	0.00
	L.Spine									0	1	0.00
	Mandible									0	3	0.00
	Nasal Bones									1	3	0.00
	Pelvis									0	1	0.00
	Shoulder									0	2	0.00
	Sinuses	1						2		5	21	14.29
	Skull									0	6	0.00
	T.L Spine									0	2	0.00
	T.spine									0	2	0.00
	Tibia Fibula									0	2	0.00
<b>3333 Total</b>										<b>39</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>3.79</b>
95623	Abdomen					1				1	11	9.09
	C-spine									2	4	0.00
	Chest	1								6	76	2.67
	Femur									0	4	0.00
	Hand									0	1	0.00
	Hip									0	1	0.00
	L Spine									1	5	20.00
	Nasal Bones									0	2	0.00
	Shoulder									0	1	0.00
	Sinuses					1				2	13	15.38
	Skull									0	3	0.00
<b>95623 Total</b>										<b>13</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>5.00</b>
4950	Abdomen	2				1		1	2	4	38	7.83
	Ankle									0	8	0.00
	C-spine									4	11	9.09
	Chest	1						2		9	209	2.50
	Dental									0	4	0.00
	Facial Bones									0	3	0.00
	Femur									1	2	0.00
	Foot									0	2	0.00
	Forearm									0	4	0.00
	Hand									1	17	0.00
	Hip									0	1	0.00
	Knee									0	2	0.00
	L Spine	2				1				3	16	20.00
	Nasal Bones									1	3	33.33
	Pelvis									0	2	0.00
	Pelvis									0	2	0.00
	Pibs									2	10	10.00
	Scapula									1	3	0.00
	Shoulder									1	4	25.00
	Sinuses									6	39	7.69
	Skull									0	4	0.00
	T.L Spine									0	2	0.00
	Urea									0	3	0.00
<b>4950 Total</b>										<b>33</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>4.43</b>

% Reject scan by Individual

## ACTIONS HIGHLIGHT

### Dimension 1: Staffs development

#### B. Other staffs (Assistant technician, Imaging officers)

- Create guideline for staffs to prepare the patients.
- Create checklist to evaluate patient preparation.



ภาษา	Thai	Cambodian	Burmese	Vietnamese	Arabic	Japanese	Bangali	Ethiopia	Mongolian
	ยืน	โຈຣ໌	မံကံ ထံ	ยืน	قف	立つ (たつ)	စာ ရာဏ	መ ሕህ	ᠨᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠰᠢᠳ ᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠷᠠ ᠨᠠ
	นั่ง	ဆီဝဲ	ပိုကံ ပီ	นั่ง	جلس	座る (ざる)	ပျံ ချေ	መ ሕህ	ᠰᠤ ᠭᠠ ᠢ
	นอนหงาย	ထော့ထော့	မံကံ ထံ	นอน	نام	寝る (ねる)	မံကံ ထံ	መ ሕህ	ᠨᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠰᠢᠳ ᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠷᠠ ᠨᠠ
	นอนคว่ำ	ထော့ထော့	မံကံ ထံ	นอน	نام	寝る (ねる)	မံကံ ထံ	መ ሕህ	ᠨᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠰᠢᠳ ᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠷᠠ ᠨᠠ
	ยกเข่งขึ้น	ဆီဝဲ	ပိုကံ ပီ	ยก	رفع	上げる (あがる)	မံကံ ထံ	መ ሕህ	ᠨᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠰᠢᠳ ᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠷᠠ ᠨᠠ
	กางเขน	ဆီဝဲ	ပိုကံ ပီ	กาง	رفع	上げる (あがる)	မံကံ ထံ	መ ሕህ	ᠨᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠰᠢᠳ ᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠷᠠ ᠨᠠ
	กางเขน	ဆီဝဲ	ပိုကံ ပီ	กาง	رفع	上げる (あがる)	မံကံ ထံ	መ ሕህ	ᠨᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠰᠢᠳ ᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠷᠠ ᠨᠠ
	กางเขน	ဆီဝဲ	ပိုကံ ပီ	กาง	رفع	上げる (あがる)	မံကံ ထံ	መ ሕህ	ᠨᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠰᠢᠳ ᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠷᠠ ᠨᠠ
	กางเขน	ဆီဝဲ	ပိုကံ ပီ	กาง	رفع	上げる (あがる)	မံကံ ထံ	መ ሕህ	ᠨᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠰᠢᠳ ᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠷᠠ ᠨᠠ
	กางเขน	ဆီဝဲ	ပိုကံ ပီ	กาง	رفع	上げる (あがる)	မံကံ ထံ	መ ሕህ	ᠨᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠰᠢᠳ ᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠷᠠ ᠨᠠ
	กางเขน	ဆီဝဲ	ပိုကံ ပီ	กาง	رفع	上げる (あがる)	မံကံ ထံ	መ ሕህ	ᠨᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠰᠢᠳ ᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠷᠠ ᠨᠠ
	กางเขน	ဆီဝဲ	ပိုကံ ပီ	กาง	رفع	上げる (あがる)	မံကံ ထံ	መ ሕህ	ᠨᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠰᠢᠳ ᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠷᠠ ᠨᠠ
	กางเขน	ဆီဝဲ	ပိုကံ ပီ	กาง	رفع	上げる (あがる)	မံကံ ထံ	መ ሕህ	ᠨᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠰᠢᠳ ᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠷᠠ ᠨᠠ
	กางเขน	ဆီဝဲ	ပိုကံ ပီ	กาง	رفع	上げる (あがる)	မံကံ ထံ	መ ሕህ	ᠨᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠰᠢᠳ ᠠ ᠵᠠ ᠷᠠ ᠨᠠ

# Chest X-Ray Announcer





Burmese



Arabic



Mandarin



Bangali



Cambodian



Ethiopia



Japanese

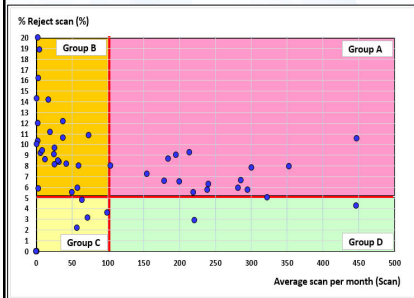


Mongolian

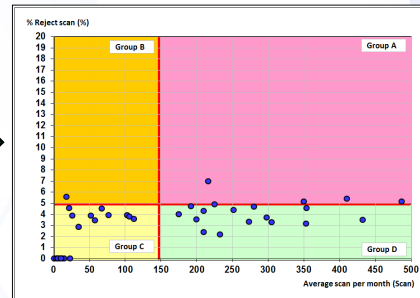
# RESULT

## ❖ Result (Staff Development)

Comparison of the scatter plot between pre implementation in 2013 and post implementation in 2014.



Pre-implementation in 2013.



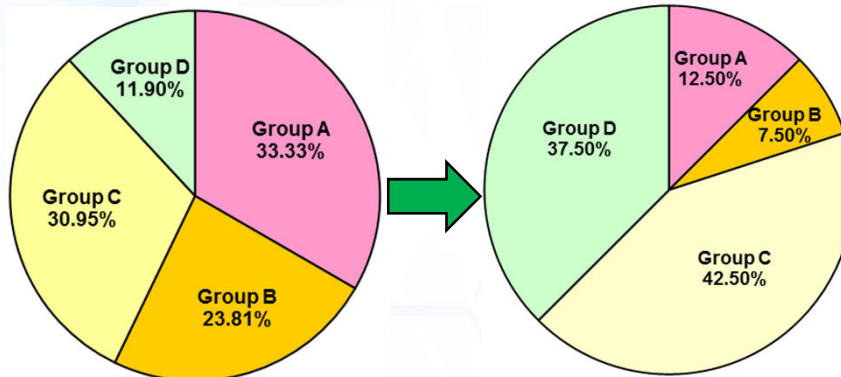
Post-implementation in 2014.

Figure 4: Comparison the scatter plot between pre and post implementation.

# RESULT

## ❖ Result (Staff Development)

The percentage improvement by groups between pre implementation in 2013 and post implementation in 2014.



Pre-implementation in 2014.

Post-implementation in 2014.

Figure 5: Improvement of 4 groups RTs.

## ❖ The major causes of reject scan

Post implementation which was started from June to December in 2014.

### 1. Positioning Error

The average percentage of positioning error in 2014 from Jan-Jun and Jul-Dec were 1.78 and 1.24, respectively. The reduction percentage was 30.34.

To compare between Jan-Dec 2013 and Jan-Dec 2014, The reduction percentage was 40.

The percentage of positioning error has been reduced as shown in Figure 6.

### 1. Positioning Error

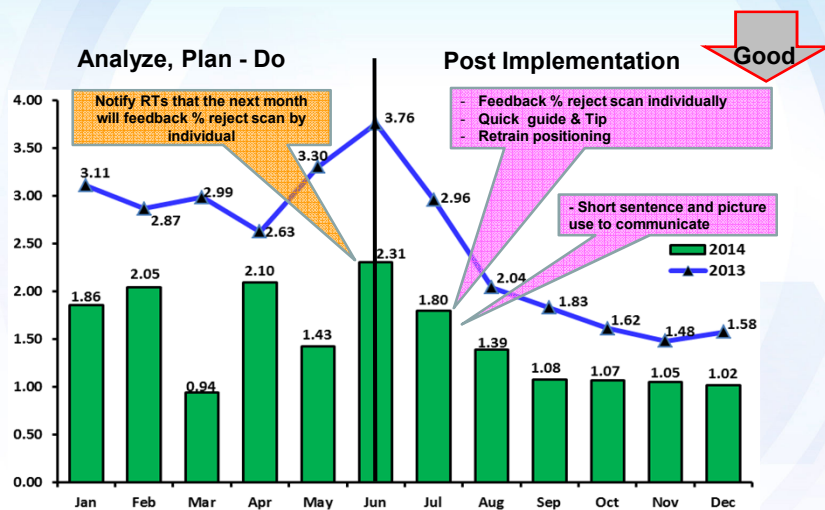


Figure 6: Pre-post action for percentage of positioning error result

## 2. Clipped Anatomy

The average percentage of clipped anatomy in 2014 from Jan-Jun and Jul-Dec were 1.32 and 0.96, respectively. The reduction percentage was 27.27.

Compare between Jan-Dec 2013 and Jan-Dec 2014, The reduction percentage was 10.68.

The percentage of clipped anatomy has been reduced as shown in Figure 7.

## 2. Clipped Anatomy

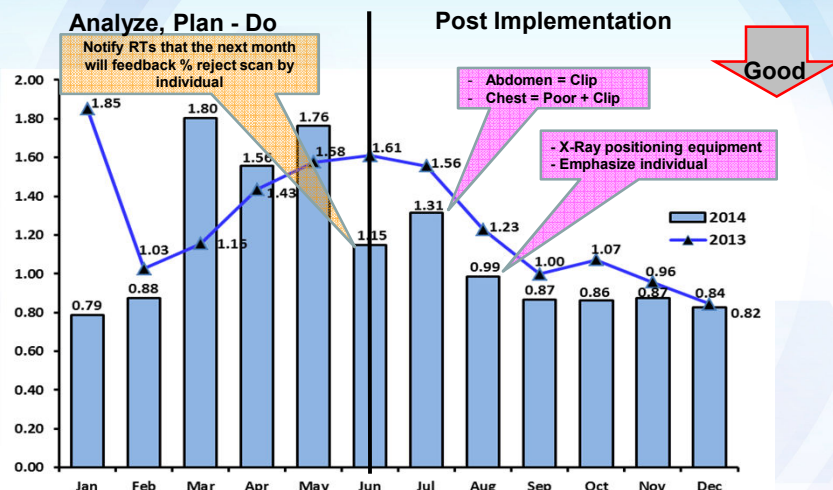


Figure 7: Pre-post action for percentage of clipped anatomy result

### 3. Poor Inspiration

The average percentage of poor inspiration in 2014 from Jan-Jun and Jul-Dec were 1.38 and 1.08, respectively. The reduction percentage was 21.74.

Compare between Jan-Dec 2013 and Jan-Dec 2014, The reduction percentage was 38.69.

The percentage of poor inspiration has been reduced as shown in Figure 8.

### 3. Poor Inspiration

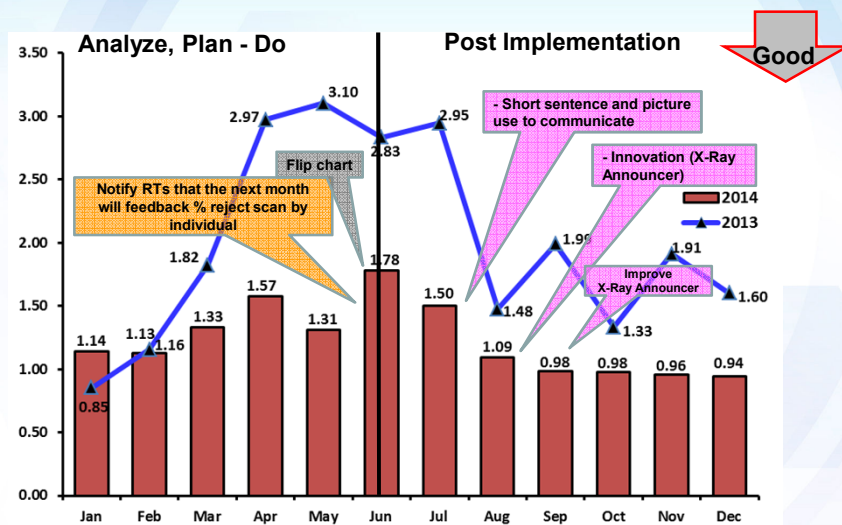
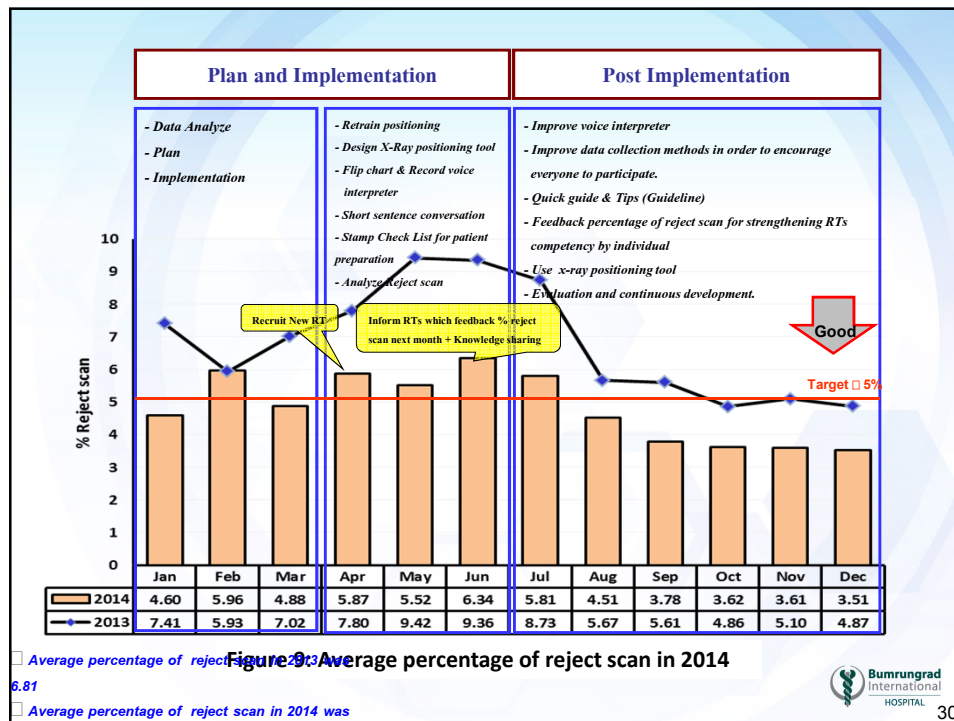


Figure 8: Pre-post action for percentage of poor inspiration result

# RESULT

The average percentage of reject scan decreased from 6.81 (January-December 2013) to 4.83 (January – December 2014).



## Summary of activities which directly solve the problem of reject scan

Activity	Causes from Staff			Language Barrier	Results
	Experience/Expertise	Communication	Attention		
Improve training & evaluation New RTs	✓				Average % Reject scan new RTs decreased
Award for highest x-ray & lowest % reject scan			✓		% Reject scan of Department decreased
Flip chart multi-languages		✓		✓	% Poor inspiration decreased
Quick guide 20 procedures	✓				% Positioning error decreased
Feedback % Reject scan individually			✓		
Daily interesting cases	✓		✓		% Reject scan of department decreased &
Retrain positioning RTs	✓				the number of RTs. Group A & B decreased
Knowledge sharing in monthly staff meeting	✓		✓		
Short sentences to frequently used		✓		✓	% Poor inspiration & % Reject scan of
Innovation-X-Ray Announcer		✓		✓	Department decreased
X-Ray Positioning Tools	✓				% Positioning error & Clipped anatomy decreased
Improve data collection			✓		% Reject scan of Department decreased
Quick Tips	✓				% Reject scan of Department & Positioning error decreased

## LESSONS LEARNED

1. The success of quality improvement come from the cooperate of everyone through positive thinking, using motivation as an improvement tool.
2. The selection of appropriate quality tool can determine root cause analysis, leading to efficiency improvement.
3. The knowledge sharing from experienced staff is valuable to develop Tacit & Explicit knowledge for sustainable staffs development.
4. Brainstorming creates Innovation, Innovation solve the problems.

