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)