

Analysis of Predictive Maintenance of Accelerator Beam Uniformity Using Statistical Process Control

Wake Forest Predictive Maintenance Team

Charles M. Able, MS

Alan H. Baydush, Ph.D.

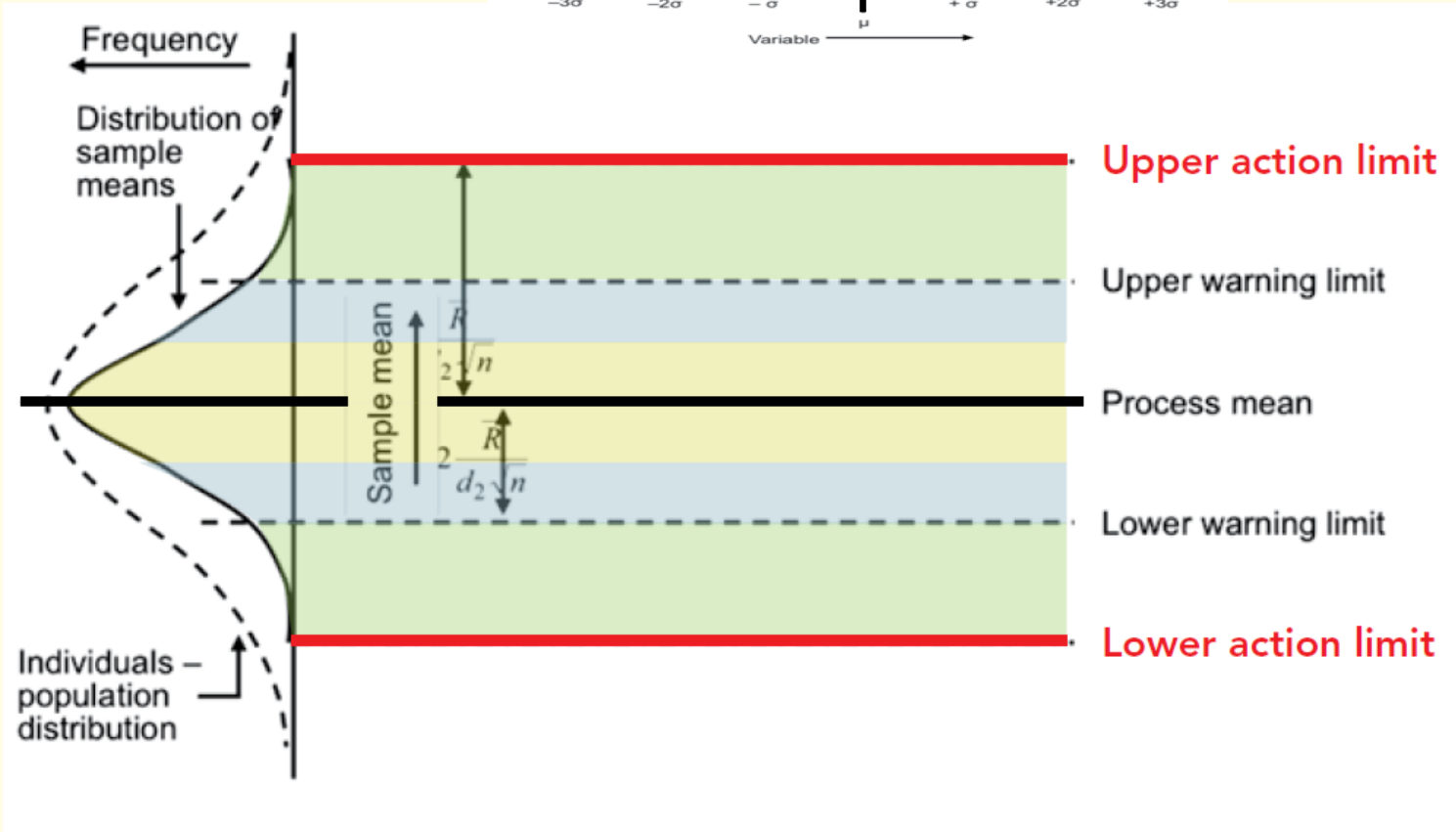
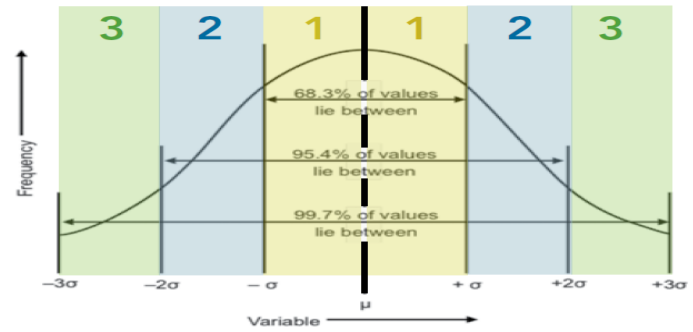
Michael T. Munley, Ph.D.

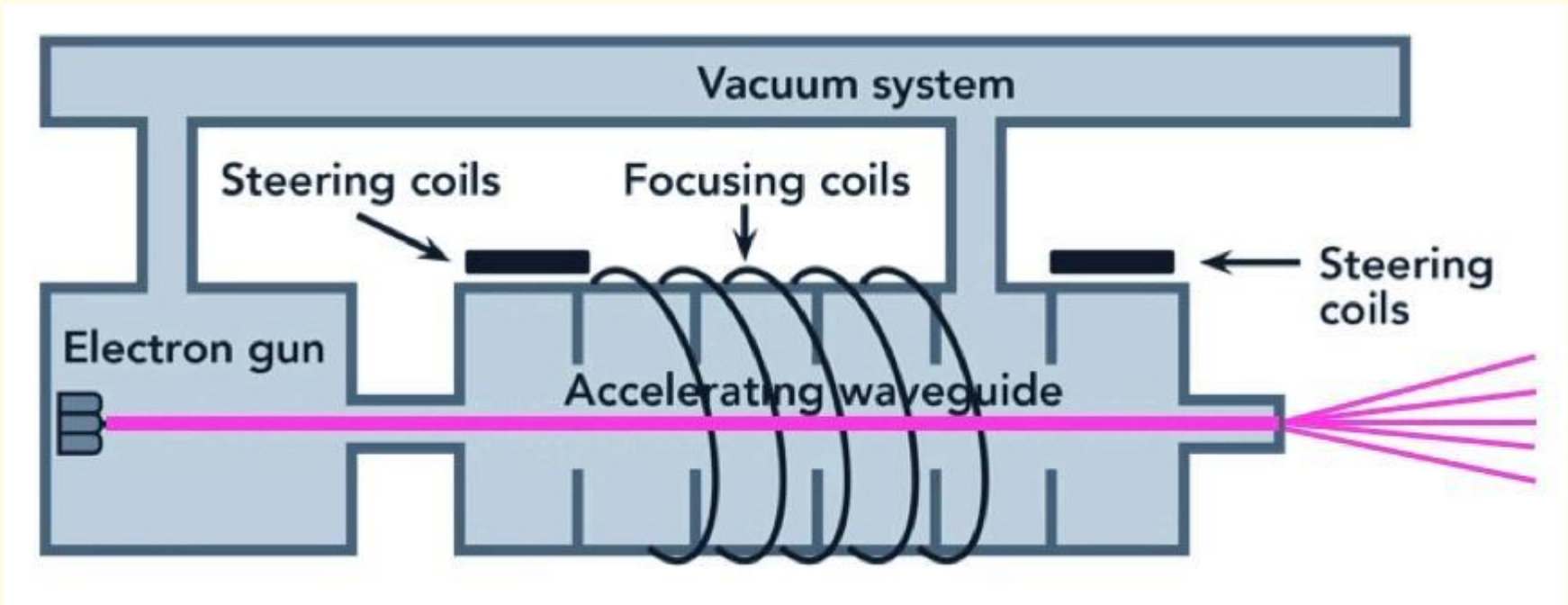
December 2, 2013

RSNA Meeting, Chicago, IL



**This work was supported by a research grant from
Varian Medical Systems, Inc.**



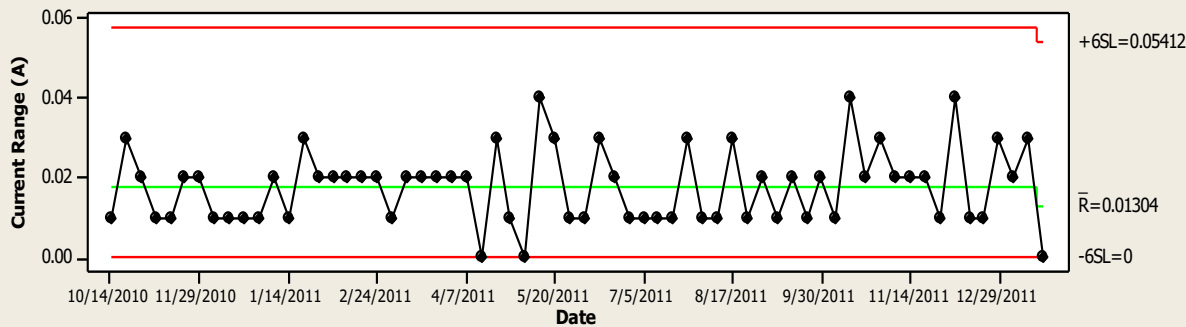
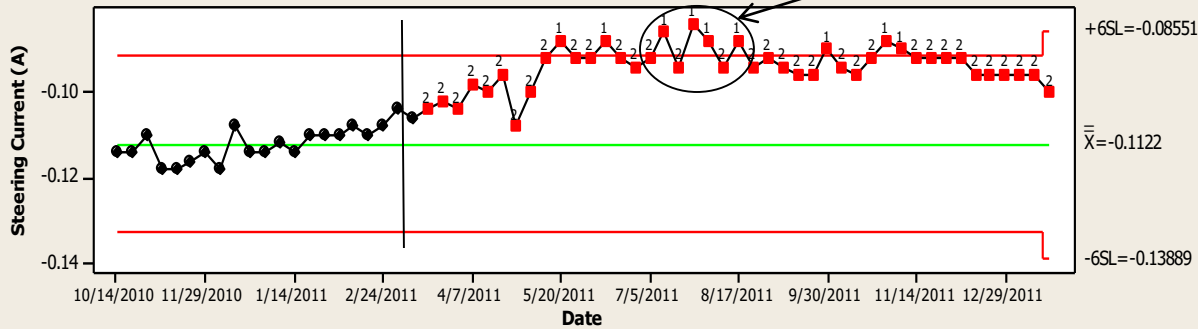


We sampled the Steering Coil Current (SCC) to evaluate optimal operation of beam uniformity.

Xbar-R Chart of Angle Transverse

Linac 3 - 6 MV Photons

Beam Scanned



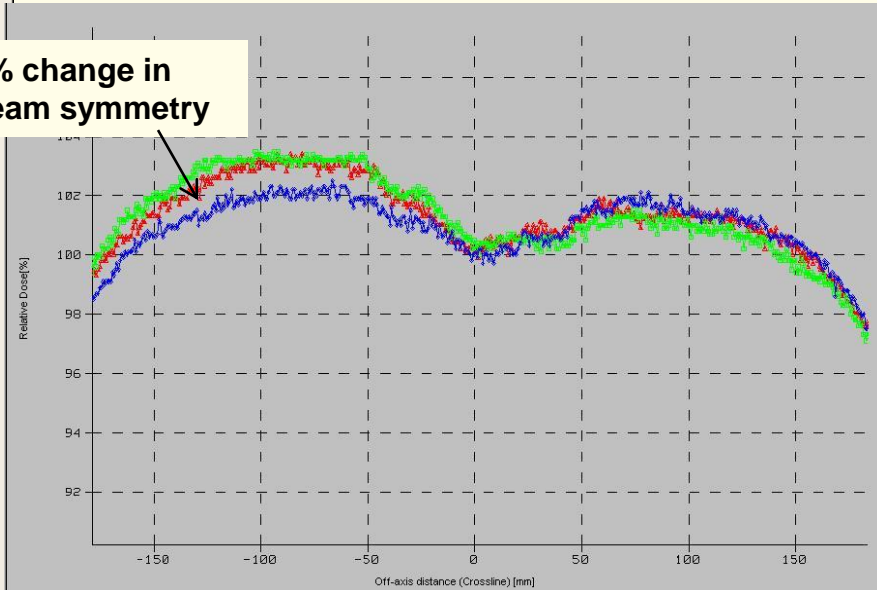
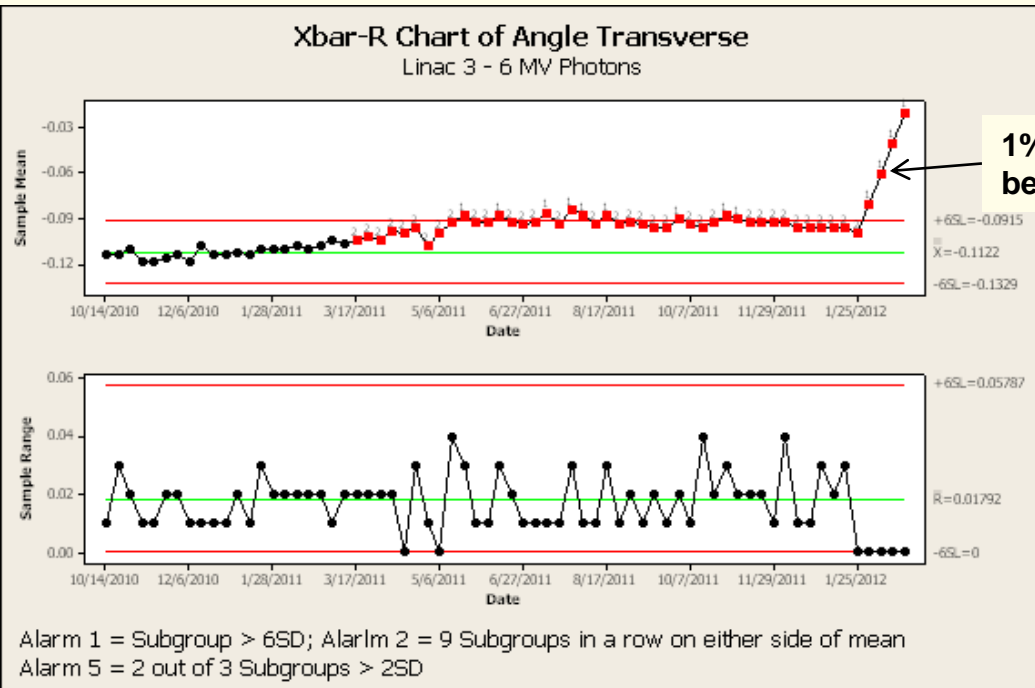
Alarm 1 = Subgroup > 6SD; Alarm 2 = 9 Subgroups in a row on either side of mean
Alarm 5 = 2 out of 3 Subgroups > 2SD

- 3 Linacs were tracked for >15 months

- Mock intervention was initiated after SCC exceeded control limit

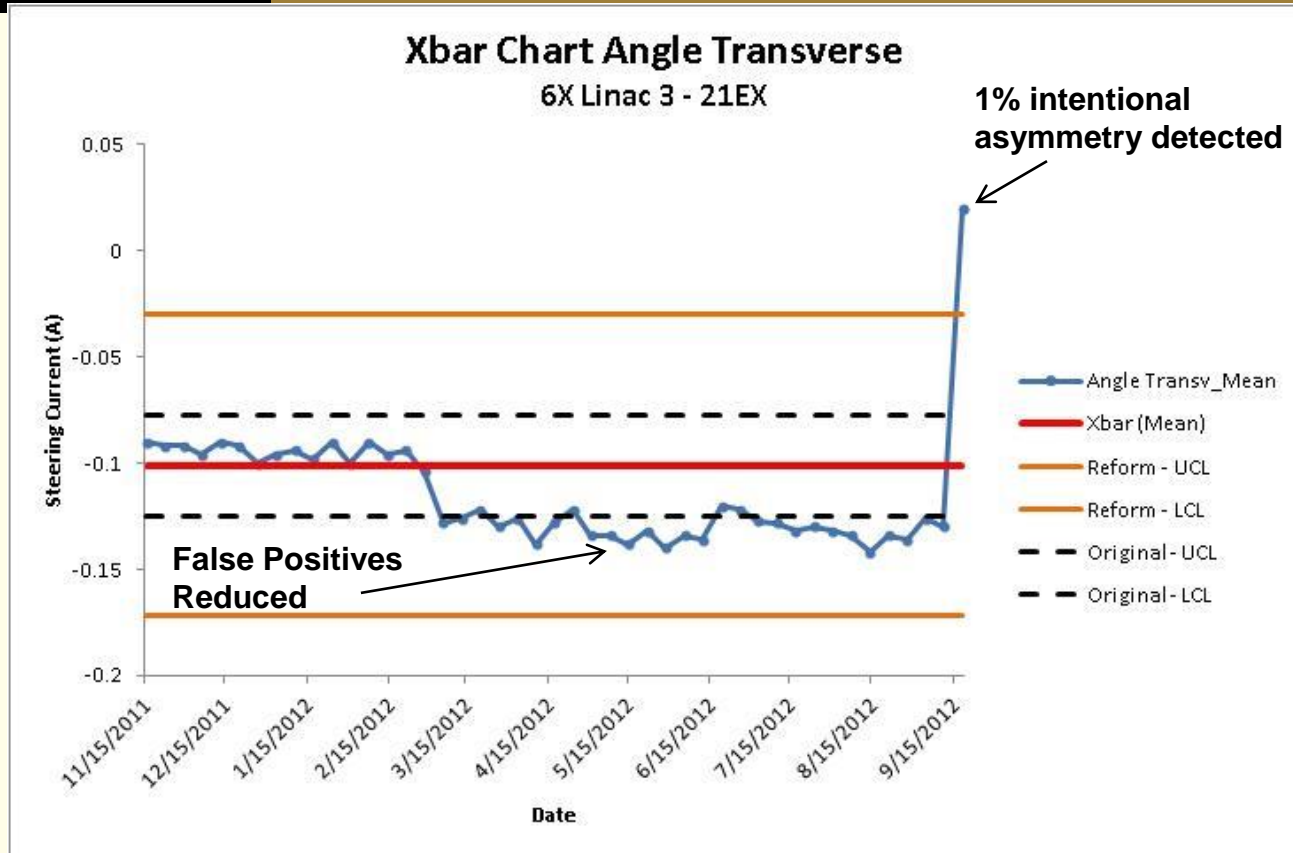
- Overall, results ranged from minimal change to no measurable change in beam uniformity

Controlled Experiment: Single SCC change vs Beam Uniformity

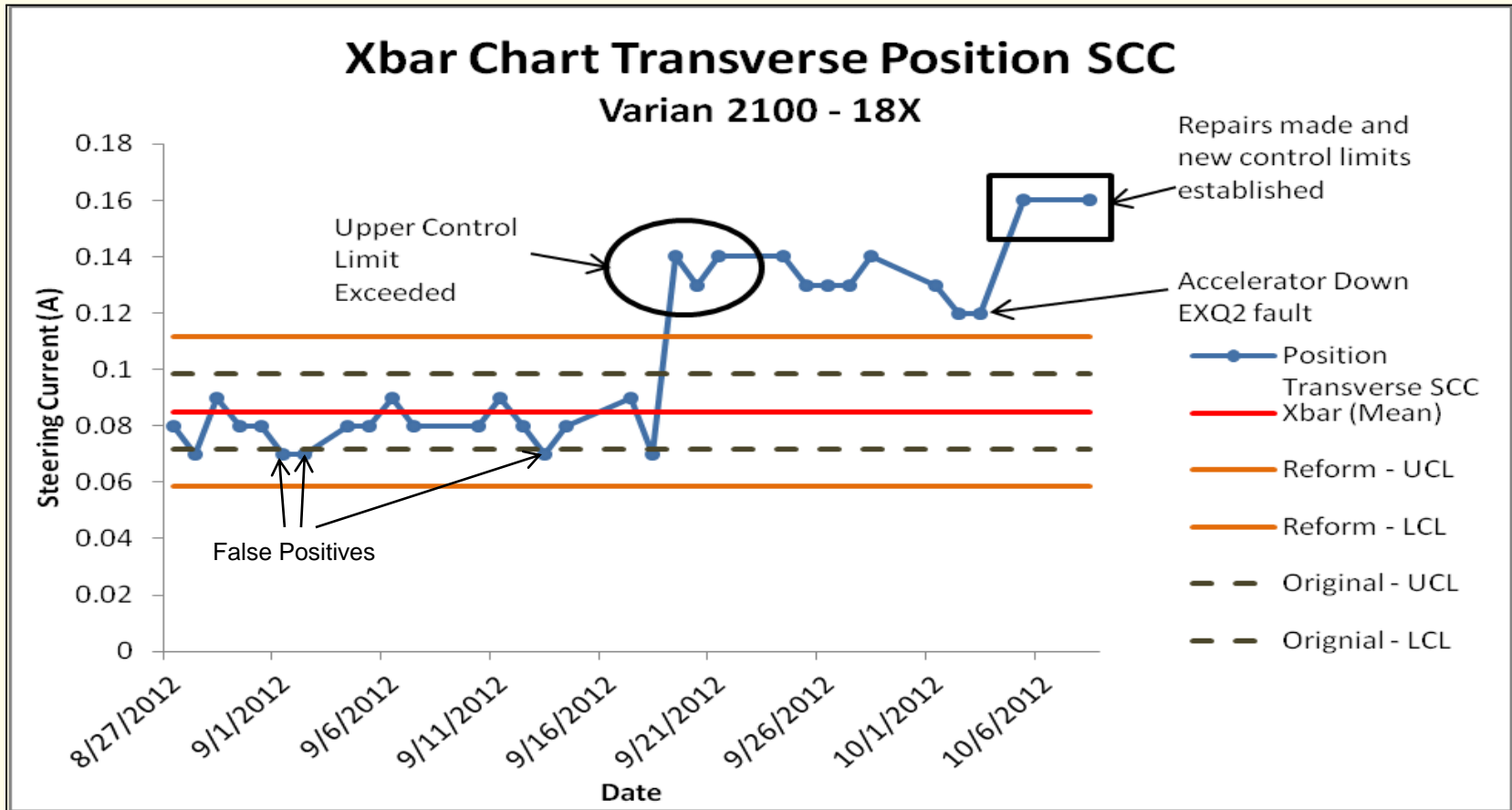


- Based on experimental observations the control limits were reformulated
- Goal was to reduce false positive rate but ensure detection of 1% change in beam uniformity

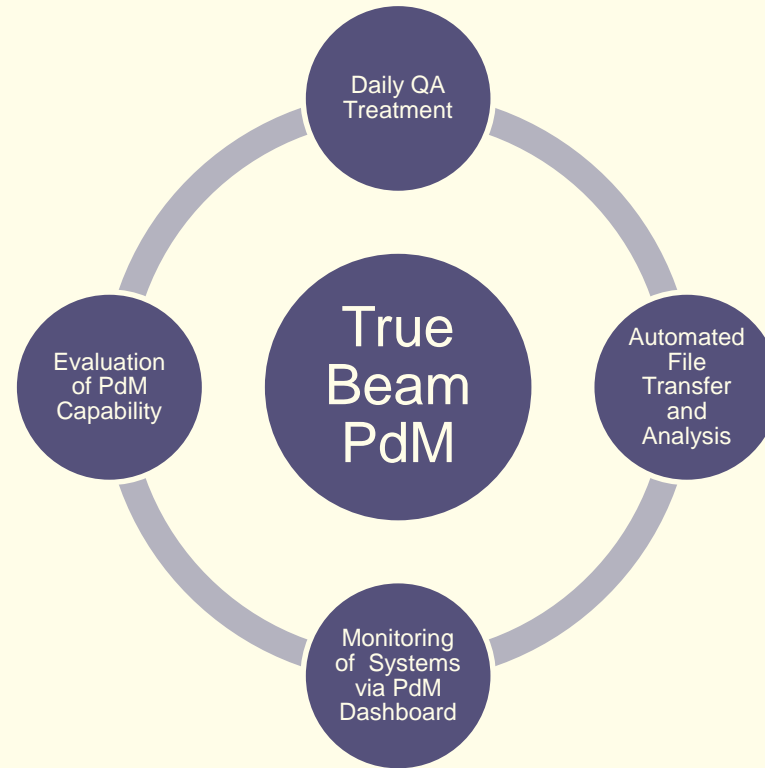
Comparison of Original Limits & Reformulated Limits



- 3 Linacs tracked for another 8 months with no limits exceeded
- Beam scanning confirmed no change in beam uniformity
- 1% intentional asymmetry results in control limit alarm



The reformulated upper control limit was exceeded on Sept 19 but the accelerator did not go down until Oct 3.



We are in the process of developing first generation software for a TrueBeam predictive maintenance program.
