



I-FMEA Item Definitions

| Item | Primary Task I-FMEA | Interruption I-FMEA |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| Task | Subtasks or steps in primary task being analyzed. | Interruption or secondary task arising during time when responsible healthcare worker is busy with other activities. |
| Failure Mode | What can happen if this primary task is suspended to do something else? | What happens if this secondary task is not addressed immediately? |
| Effect | Specific undesirable outcomes associated with stated failure mode | |
| Severity Ranking | For this failure mode, what extent of harm can be expected? 1: Negligible harm; 10: Severe harm. | |
| Occurrence Probability | How likely is this failure mode to take place? 1: Improbable; 10: Frequently. | |
| Detection Ranking | How easy is it to detect the failure mode? 1: Easy to detect; 10: Difficult to detect. | |
| Risk Priority Number (RPN) | Obtained by multiplying risk scores for severity, likelihood, and detection. | |
| Efficiency | Refers to cognitive and physical efforts needed to suspend and resume primary task. 1: Very easy to interrupt and resume after interruption | Refers to cognitive and physical efforts needed to start secondary task as time passes from when the need arises. |
| | (negligible interruption and resumption lags). 10: Requires careful placement of resources and information before interrupting and at resumption (significant interruption/resumption lag, >50% of task time). | 1: No resources or personnel needed to start task. 10: Needs to search/relocate resources or personnel available at point when need arises. |
| Patient Satisfaction | How will satisfaction of patient involved in primary/secondary task be affected? 1: Not likely to be affected. 10: Very likely to cause dissatisfaction to patient involved in task. | |