

Decision Log*

*This worksheet was adapted from a 2011 book published by the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) entitled "Improving Outcomes with Clinical Decision Support: An Implementer's Guide, Second Edition."

Clearly there are a myriad of decisions associated with all the components of a CDS program, and it is unrealistic to expect that trying to capture all of them in a single log would be possible or desirable. Nonetheless, there will be certain circumstances in managing CDS assets in which you will want to keep a record of the process and outcomes for key decisions. Examples include establishing the content and deployment characteristics for a high-stakes, interruptive alert.

Depending on the situation, you might track decisions using different tools and formats. This worksheet is offered as a sample to help trigger your thinking about the occasions in which you may want to track key decisions, and how you might do so. In this case, we've organized the decision log by a CDS objective.

Decision Log

Clinical Decision Support Objective	Decision Name	Decision Description	Decision Date	Decision Owner	Critical Decision Factors	Impact	Follow-up/ Comments
Reduce preventable allergic reactions	Interruptive allergy alert override	Make coded alert override reason a mandatory field when prescriber overrides an allergy alert	4/25/12	CPOE alerts committee	Coded reasons necessary to rapidly process data; plan reviewed with end user champions and stakeholders, who agreed to trial of this approach to enhance safety	May still get push back from some physicians but approach consistent with alerting plan. Will provide communication support before/during go-live	Revisit user response and log data in 3 months and re-evaluate whether mandatory override reason still necessary