

Leveraging Strategic Consultation for Informatics Modernization

Bonny Lewis Van, PhD
Andrea Prada, MD
Mary Kate Yost Daljev, PhD

Introduction
Laboratory informatics systems selection support services is a need for public health laboratories on an infrequent basis. The typical laboratory software system is used for a decade or longer. This means when replacement is needed and financially possible, the expertise to guide the selection process is often not available internally. The purpose of this presentation is to present a method to leverage independent consultants to make strategic decisions on laboratory informatics.

Methods
Over a period of 10 years, we have created tools, documented themes, and commonalities, and delivered approaches for informatics creation and implementation in public health laboratories. We have served as an extension of the laboratory leadership and staffing and as a go-between from software vendors to the laboratory.

Results
We will present a general approach to systematically determine informatics needs, evaluate existing software options, formulate system requirements, and manage the implementation. Tools, tips, and tricks will be shared. This approach can form the basis to identify the right consulting partners for strategic planning and implementation purposes.

Conclusion
Public health laboratory leadership will be provided with an approach to methodically identify resources to augment IT and laboratory staffing to support laboratory informatics infrastructure.

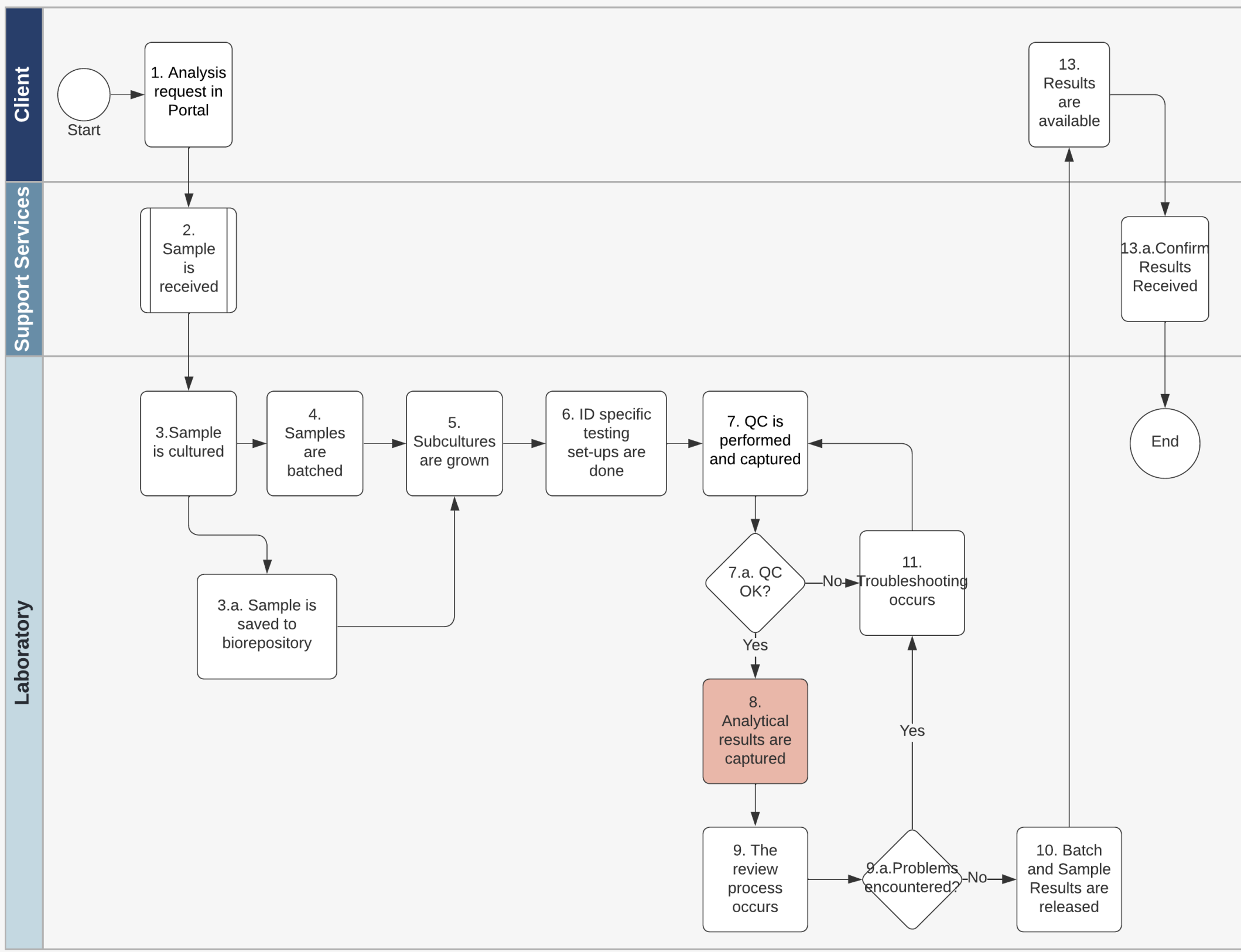
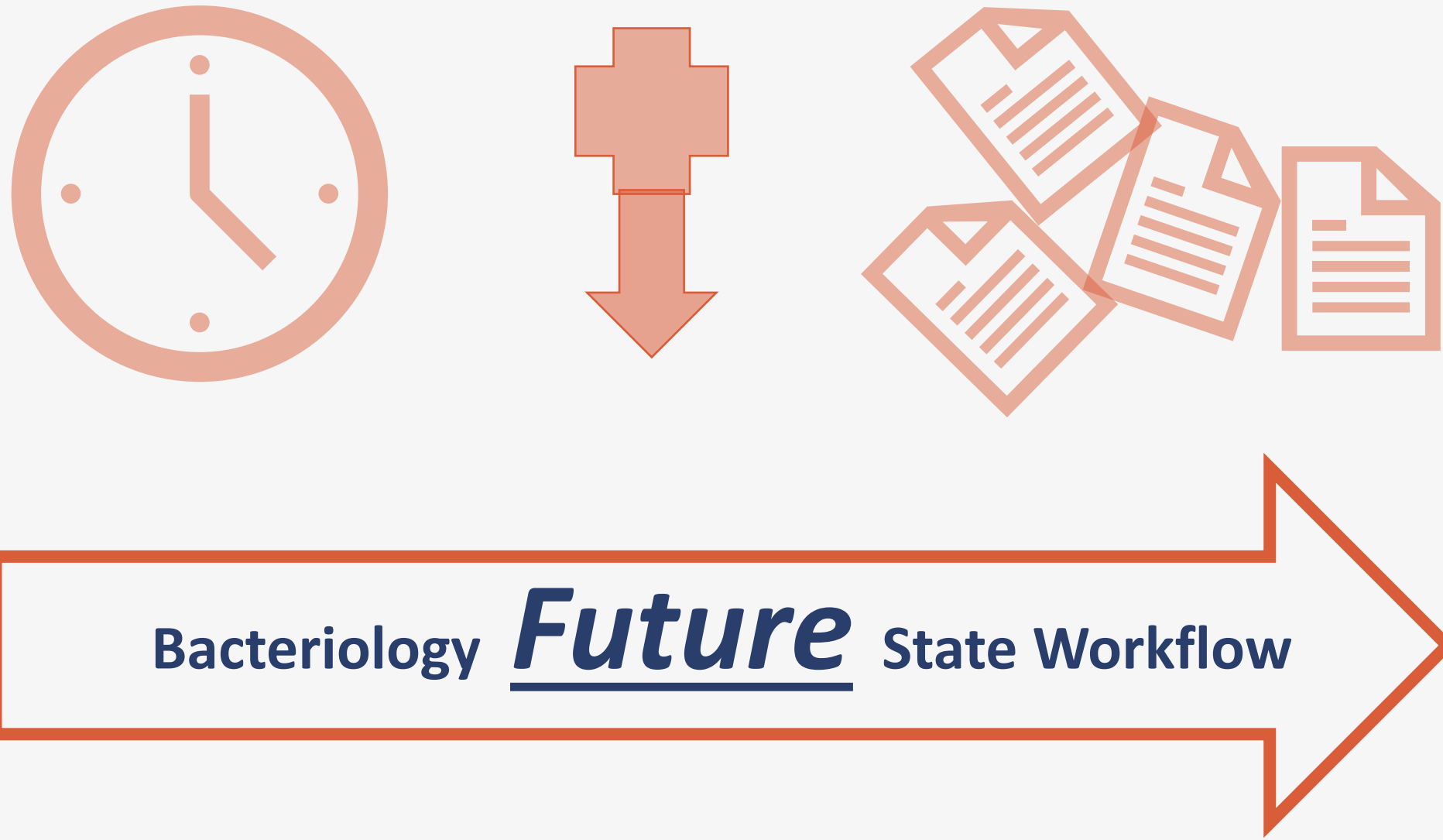
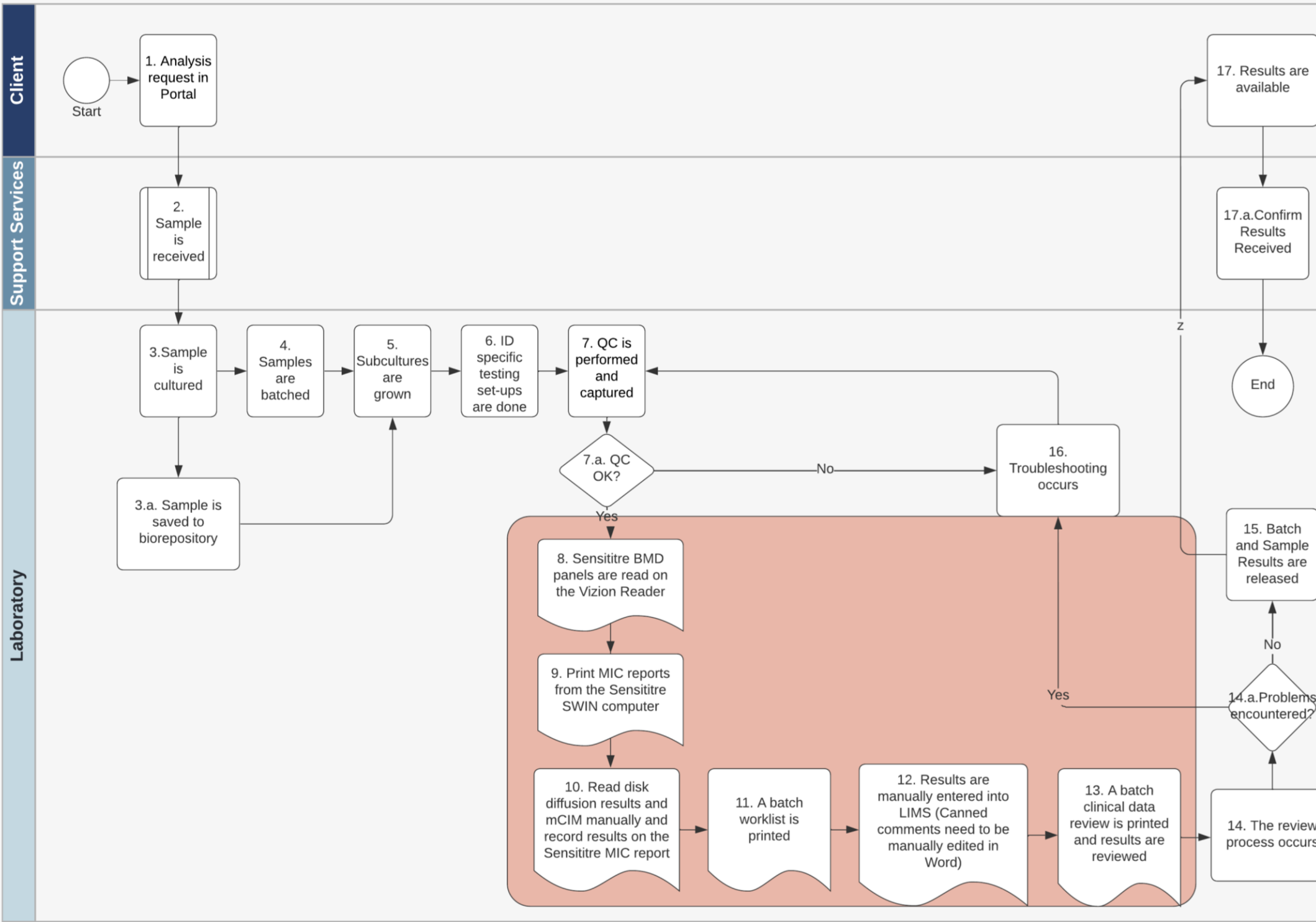


Save Time, Resources and Be Successful

Evaluating, Selecting and implementing Laboratory Informatics



Bacteriology Current State Workflow



Document Current Lab Workflows and Data-flows	Conduct Gap Analysis	Process Improvement Report	LIMS Comparison	RFP Preparation	LIMS Selection
Objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Define and document current laboratory workflows and data flows Tools: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Interviews with lab and program staffGather documentation platform, e.g. TeamsInformation Technology Landscape Assessment (ITLA) QuestionnaireDiagramming and Visualization Software	Objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Compare the current state to the future state workflows and evaluate how well the current LIMS meets the needs of the laboratory Tools: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Gather documentation platform, e.g. TeamsInformation Technology Landscape Assessment (ITLA) QuestionnaireDiagramming and Visualization Software	Objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Leverage the current state workflows and documented gaps to present opportunities for improvement Tools: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Gather documentation platform, e.g. TeamsInformation Technology Landscape Assessment (ITLA) QuestionnaireDiagramming and Visualization Software	Objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Finalize current and vendor supplied information to compare functions, interactions, and corresponding IT needs for different LIMS vendors Tools: <ul style="list-style-type: none">System Requirements questionnaire provided to the vendors as a Request for Information (RFI)Microsoft Excel and Visualization toolsScoring tools to compare vendor information	Objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Finalize system requirements for desired future stateCreate RFP package Tools: <ul style="list-style-type: none">System Requirements questionnaire for vendorsSystem Requirements Prioritization spreadsheetRFP Package templates	Objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Finalize LIMS Selection Tools: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Scoring Tools to compare vendor proposalsDemo scriptsScoring Tools to compare vendor demos

Requirements and information reusability is the process of reusing requirements and information that have already been authored and implemented before in previous phases of the project. This technique is used by JMC to ensure that maximum productivity and consistency are achieved throughout the product development lifecycle.