Many of the issues in today’s healthcare supply chains come down to human error, obsolete processes, and poorly managed inventory. Follow these seven simple steps to identify and tackle these issues.

1. **Make a list**
   - Create a comprehensive list of all your inventory issues by gathering information from across your supply chain. No one person will have all the answers.

2. **Categorize**
   - Categorize the list so you can better understand where the bulk of the problems lie.

3. **Investigate**
   - Don’t make assumptions. Investigate any issues that have unclear origins. Follow the supply chain to properly identify why they are occurring.

4. **Prioritize**
   - Prioritize what needs to be dealt with first. Not all issues are created equal and there will be some that demand more immediate attention.

5. **Track frequency**
   - Track the frequency of the issues to get a clearer measure of how frequently they occur. What may seem urgent may not occur frequently enough to be a priority.

6. **Organize existing inventory**
   - Tidy up the existing inventory and stock records based on your findings.

7. **Automate**
   - Implement a longer-term solution by introducing automation to your supply chain. Not only will a dedicated healthcare management solution solve data inconsistencies, but it will help you forecast the usage of stock, request material promptly, and enable users to scan and use items immediately.

Learn how you can streamline your healthcare supply chain management.

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