

**An Educational Presentation on**



# **Medical Errors:**

**Frequency, Costs, and Systemic  
Causes: A Comprehensive  
Solution**

**Presented to:**

**The First National HIPAA Summit  
October 17, 2000**

**Presented by:**

**Safety-Centered Solutions, Inc.**

***2000 Winner of the Healthcare Innovations in Technology Systems Award (HITS)  
Honoring Partners in Healthcare Technology***

# ***What Gets Measured, Gets Managed: Grim Facts***

- ◆ **Nationally, 44,000 - 98,000 People Die Unnecessarily in Hospitals Each Year**

*(Institute of Medicine [IOM] Report)*

- ◆ **44,000 Deaths from Medical Errors Exceed Annual Deaths from Motor Vehicle Accidents, Breast Cancer or 3X AIDS**

*(IOM Report)*

- ◆ **The Death Rate Equates to Three Jumbo Jet Crashes Every Two Days**

*(Lucian Leape, MD)*

# ***What Gets Measured, Gets Managed: The Research***

## **Harvard Medical Practice Study (1991)**

- ◆ 70% of Adverse Events Due to “Systemic” Causes, Not Negligence
- ◆ 80% of Adverse Events Are Preventable

*Lucian L. Leape, MD  
JAMA, Dec. 21, 1994*

# ***1999 OIG & IOM Reports: Watershed Reports***

- ◆ Office of Inspector General (OIG) Report Finds “Patients at Risk” & “Major Regulatory Deficiencies” (7/99)
- ◆ IOM Report Sets National 5-Year Agenda to Reduce Error (11/99)
- ◆ Federal Government Adopts IOM Report (2/00)
- ◆ Quality Interagency Coordination (QuIC) Task Force Expands Federal Actions Beyond IOM Report (2/00)

# ***Federal Government Adopts IOM Report Recommendations***

## ◆ **Adopted the IOM Goal:**

50% Reduction in Medical Errors in Five Years

## ◆ **Adopted the IOM Recommendations:**

- *“(Hospitals have) serious, visible, and on-going commitments to creating safe systems of care & develop a culture of safety”*
- *“implement...new safety measurement systems...to improve safe practices at the delivery level”*
- *“set and enforce explicit standards for safety...by regulators...accreditors”*

## ◆ **Adopted Purchaser Requirements:**

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Is Requiring All 300 Health Plans Serving Federal Employees to Implement Patient Safety Initiatives Beginning in 2001.

# *The Silver Lining for Hospitals*

- ◆ New Comprehensive Error and Cost-Reduction Methodologies Exist
- ◆ Use Other Industries as Models (Motorola, G.E., Saturn, Airline Industry)
- ◆ Data-Driven Medical Error Reduction Cuts Significant Costs
- ◆ Case Study: Utilizing the New Data-Driven Methodologies

What are the types of information  
that will need to be protected  
in the future related to medical errors  
(patient safety)?

A look at the patient safety  
information of the future:  
large, protected databases essential  
to determining systemic causes  
and implementing prevention strategies

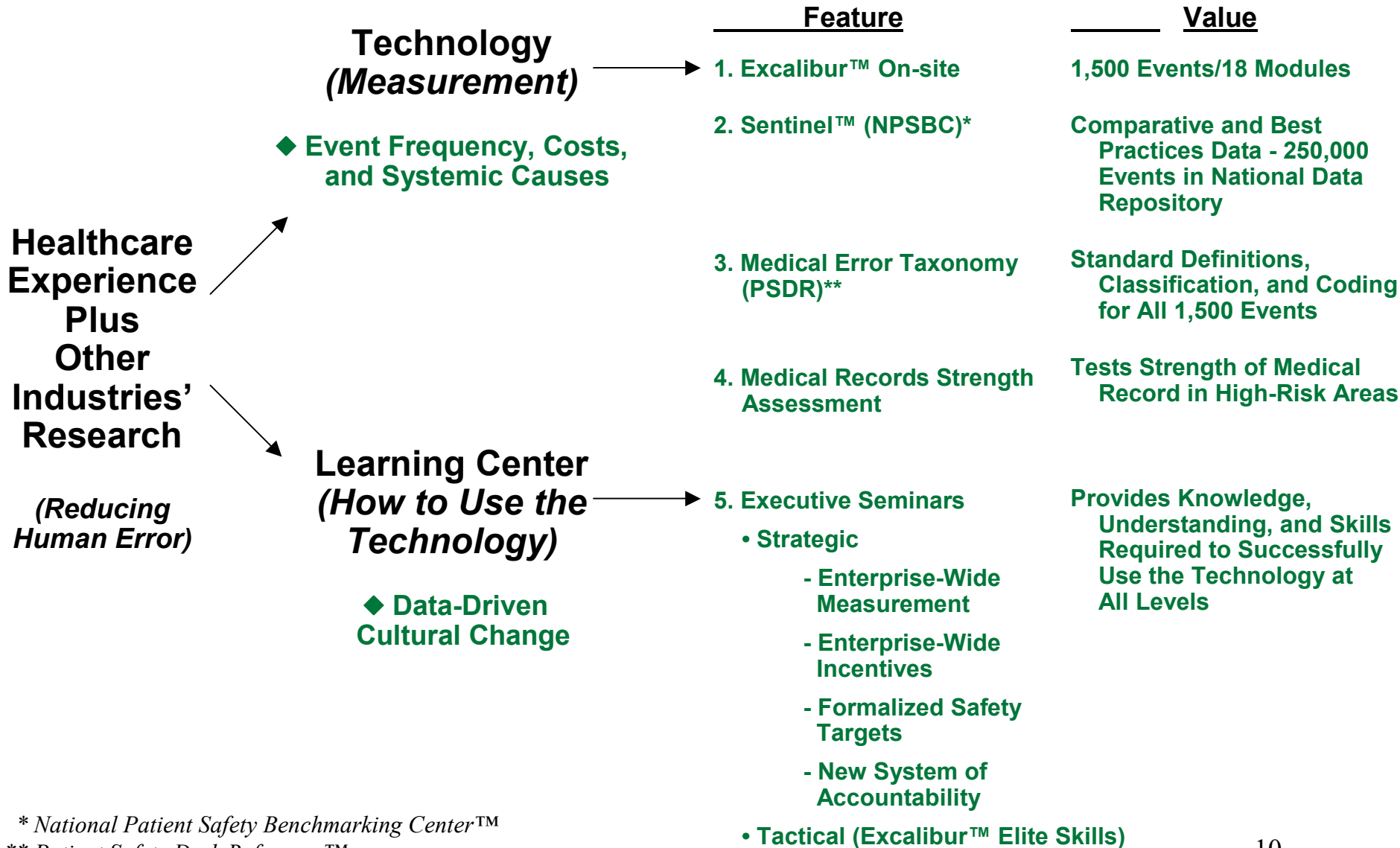


# ***New Medical Error Reduction Methodologies***

- ◆ **Comprehensive Taxonomy of Medical Errors**  
Consistent Definitions, Classification & Coding; Relevant for Research & Clinical Application
- ◆ **Comprehensive Hospital-Wide Inventory**  
All Potential Error Sources
- ◆ **Relational Database**  
Linking the Taxonomy, Demographics, Associated Additional Costs & Days, and Enabling Extensive Drill-Downs, and Ongoing Measurement and Trending
- ◆ **Comparative Error & Associated Data**  
Enabling Use of Data for Best Practices and Benchmarking Purposes
- ◆ **Technical & Cultural Education**  
Building a Strong Foundation for a “Culture of Safety” and Replacing the Cultures of Blame and Silence

# Safety-Centered Solutions, Inc.

## Overview of Safety-Centered Care™



\* National Patient Safety Benchmarking Center™

\*\* Patient Safety Desk Reference™

# ***The Economics of Patient Safety***

- ◆ **National Costs Associated with Preventable Medical Errors, Estimated at \$17 - \$29 Billion of which Health Care Costs Are Over One-Half**

*(IOM Report)*

- ◆ **At the Hospital Level, 25-35% of All Hospital Admissions Are Involved in an Adverse Event**

*(SCS)*

- ◆ **At the Hospital Level, Errors Cost 10-15% of a Hospital's Annual Operating Budget - \$10 - \$12 Million for a 200-Bed Hospital**

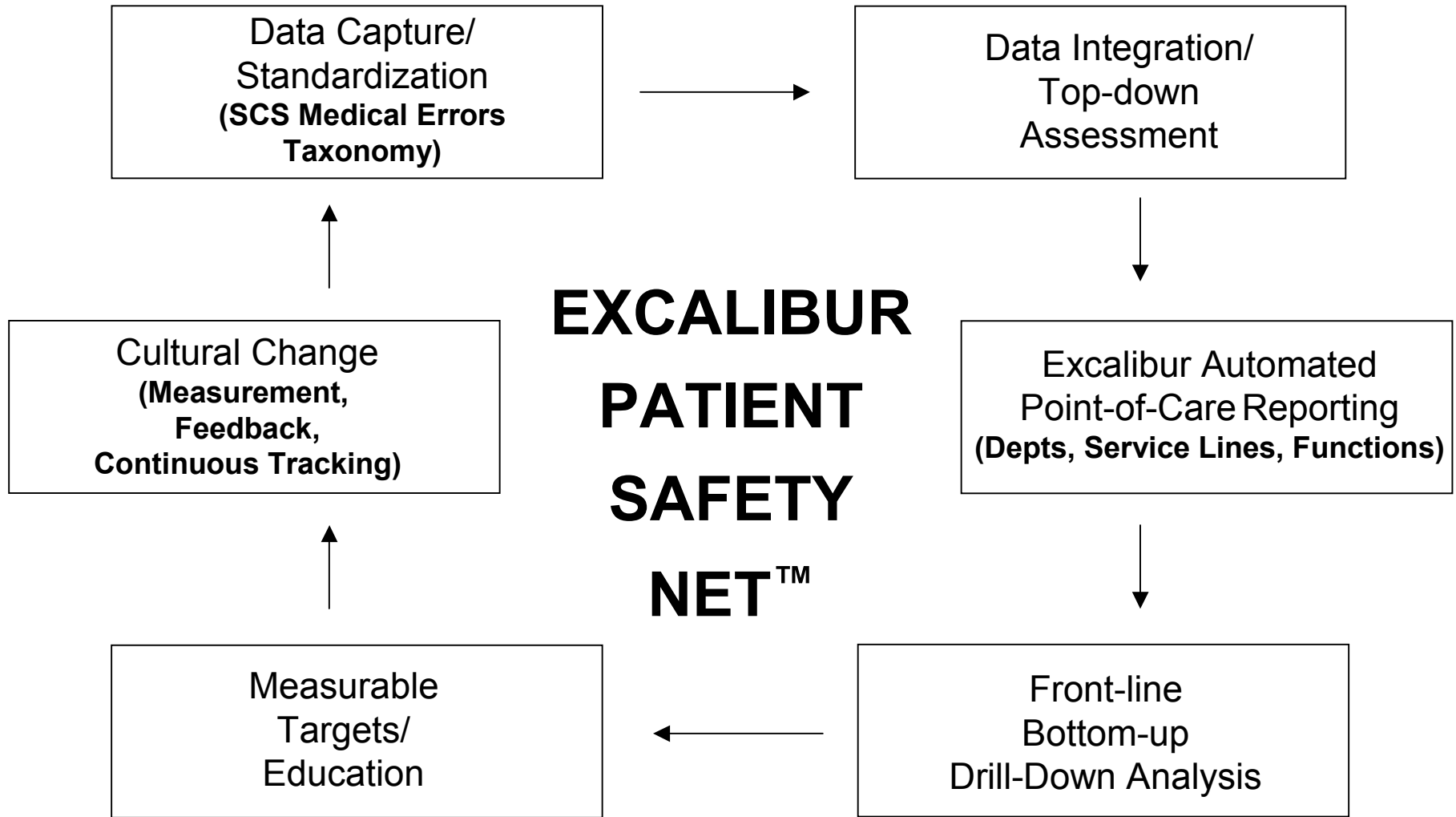
*(SCS)*

# *Excalibur Point-of-Care Reporting*

- ◆ Through Excalibur Automated Point-of-Care Reporting, Events and their related data are reported on a Department, Function, Business Unit, or Service Line basis
- ◆ Point-of-Care represents **Breakthrough Thinking** establishing a permanent, hospital-wide system of accountability for the proactive management of patient safety
- ◆ Point-of-Care reports also empower employees, physicians, and key managers to measure and reduce medical errors in an atmosphere of trust
- ◆ This unique approach to reducing medical errors enables data-driven cultural change on a continuing basis

# ***Safety-Centered Care™***

## ***An Integrated, Comprehensive Solution***



# Excalibur Point-of-Care Report

## Operating Room

### SAFETY-CENTERED CARE™ Point-of-Care Safety Report OPERATING ROOM

EVENT	January – September				September			
	1999 Actual	1998 Actual	Increase + / Decrease <>	Safety Target	1999 Actual	1998 Actual	Increase + / Decrease <>	Safety Target
Technical Error	86	97	<11>		9	3	+6	
Surgical Wound Infection	51	49	+2		6	2	+4	
Incorrect Counts, Sharps	44	4	+40		4	4	0	
Unplanned Return to OR	36	27	+9		6	3	+3	
Complications of Invasive Procedures	36	39	<3>		5	4	+1	
Surgical, Other	33	36	<3>		4	4	0	
Incomplete Consent	14	6	+8		3	2	+1	
High-Risk Device Complication	12	13	<1>		4	3	<1>	

# Excalibur Point-of-Care Report

## 5 South

SAFETY-CENTERED CARE™ Point-of-Care Safety Report FIVE SOUTH								
EVENT	January – September				September			
	1999 Actual	1998 Actual	Increase + / Decrease <>	Safety Target	1999 Actual	1998 Actual	Increase +/ Decrease <>	Safety Target
Medication Omission Error	55	47	+8		6	3	+3	
Fall – No Injury	38	36	+2		6	2	+4	
Procedure Delay, No H & P	29	31	<2>		4	3	+1	
Unauthorized Drug Error	14	9	+5		2	0	+2	
Fall – Minor Injury	12	13	<1>		3	1	+2	
Clerical Error, Lab Ordered / Not Done	11	8	+3		2	2	0	
IV Infiltration	11	7	+4		2	2	0	
Improper Dose Med Error	11	12	<1>		3	2	+1	

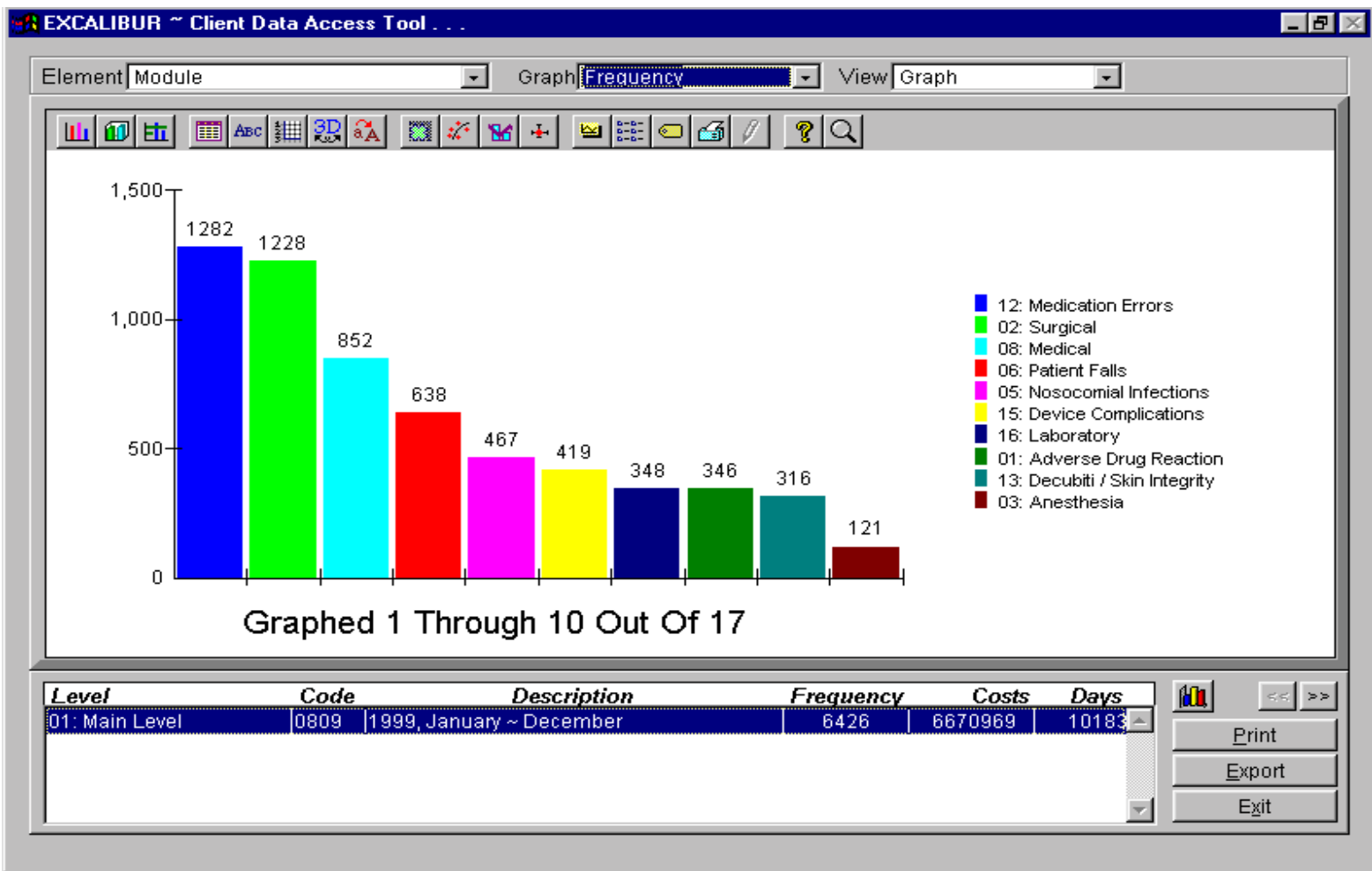
# ***Case Study: Nosocomial Infection Reduction***

## ***- Action Team Processes & Findings -***

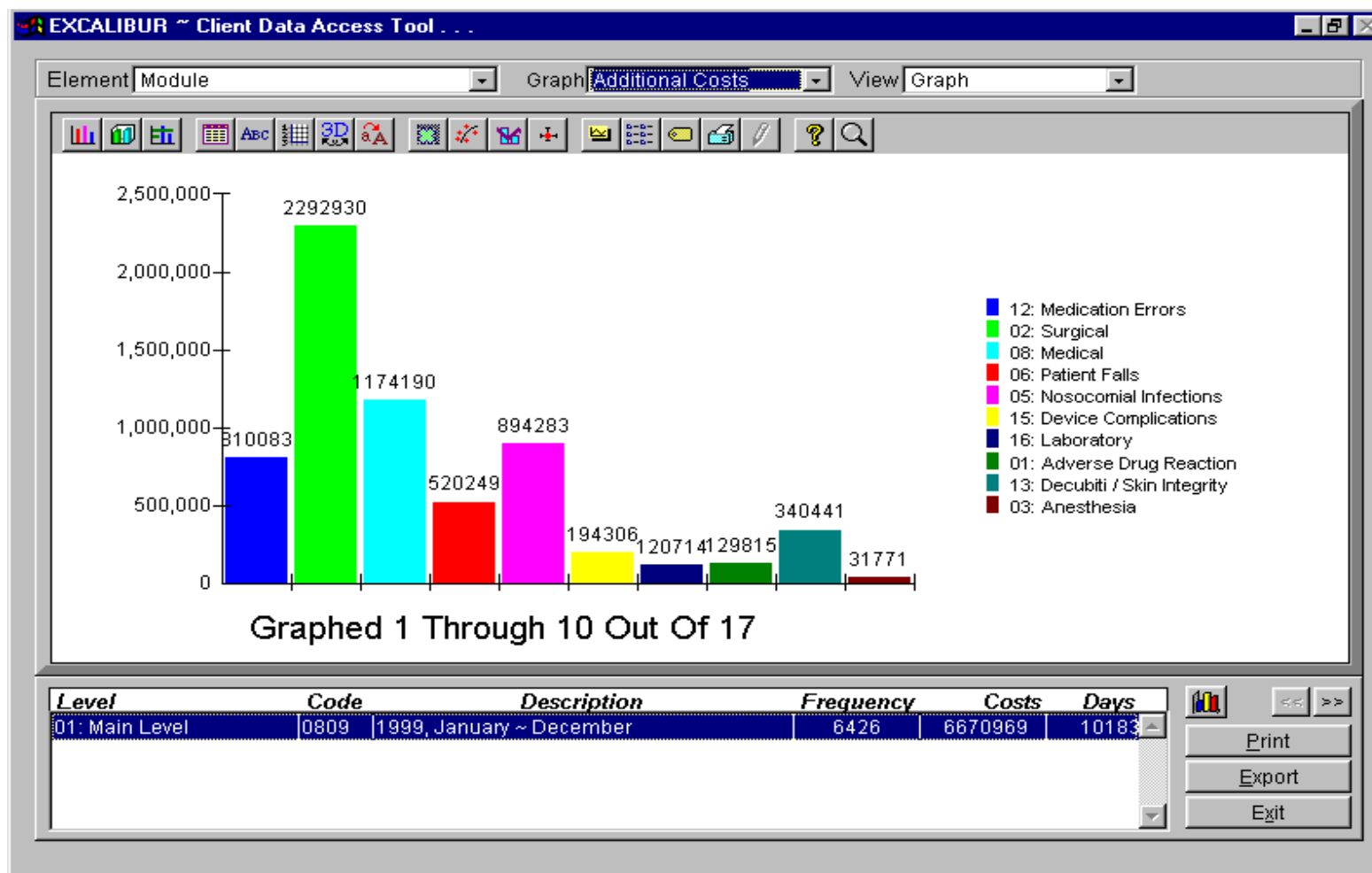
- ◆ **A Hospital Team Utilized Excalibur Patient Safety Net™ to Make Rapid Improvements**
- ◆ **Reviewed the Current Infection Control Practices**
  - Focused Surveillance (Point Prevalence)
  - Retrospective Review
  - No Reporting Mechanisms for Potential Infections
- ◆ **Reviewed 12-Month Retrospective Database Produced by the Hospital's Medical Error Inventory**
- ◆ **Analyzed Data Patterns, in Only Minutes, Using Excalibur™ -- as Illustrated by the Following Example for Primary Bloodstream Infections**



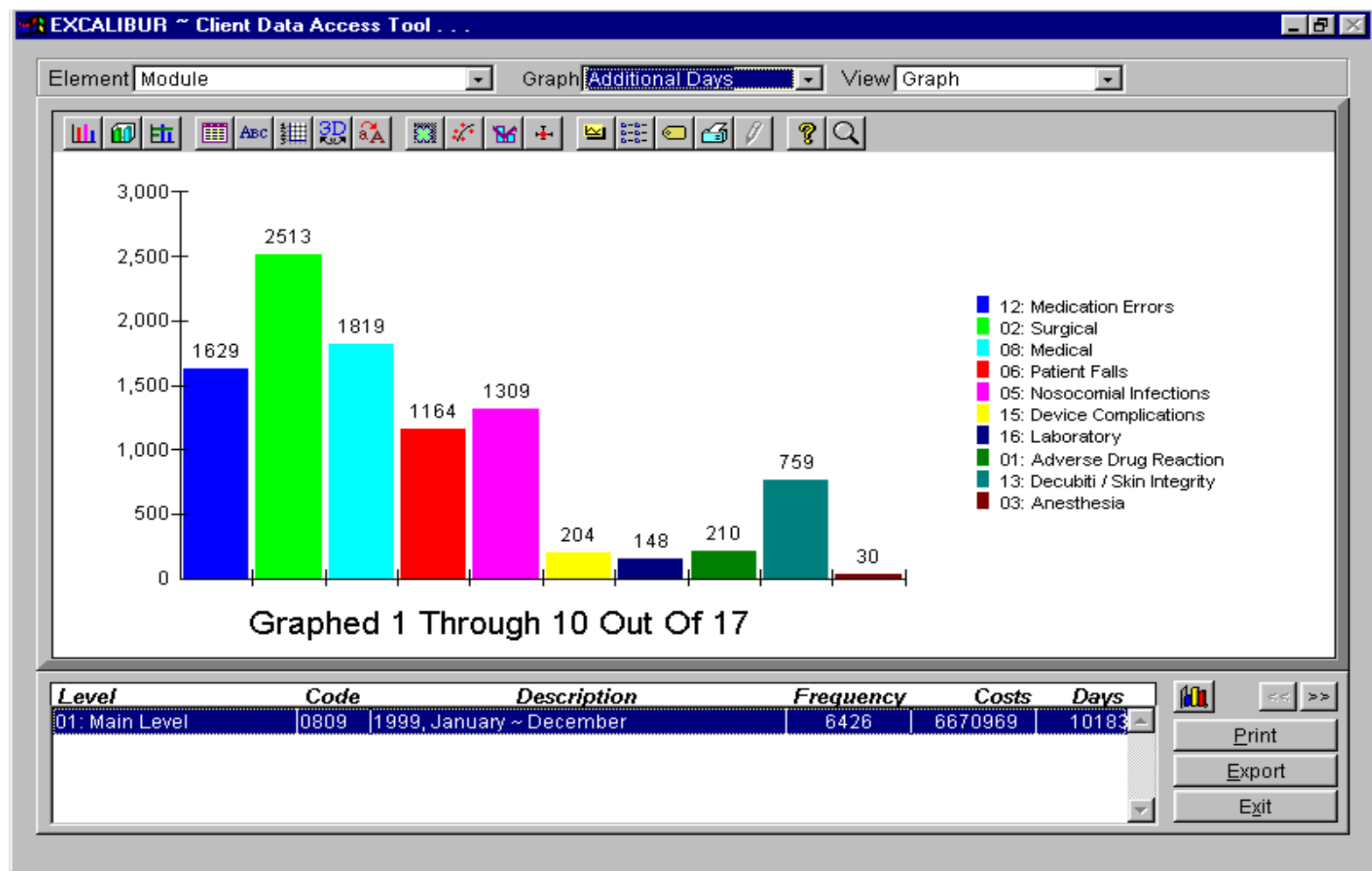
## Frequency by Module



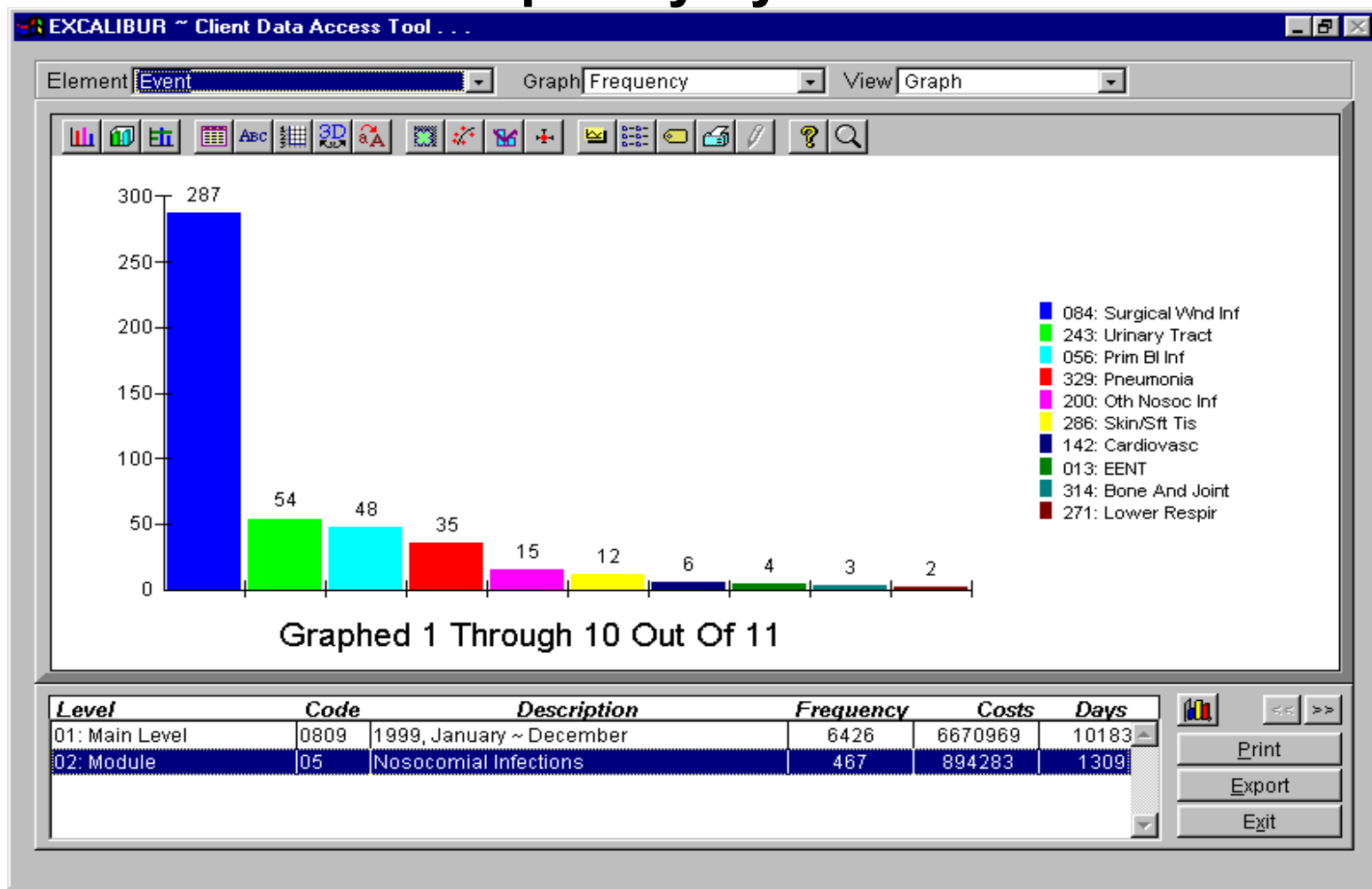
## Additional Costs by Module



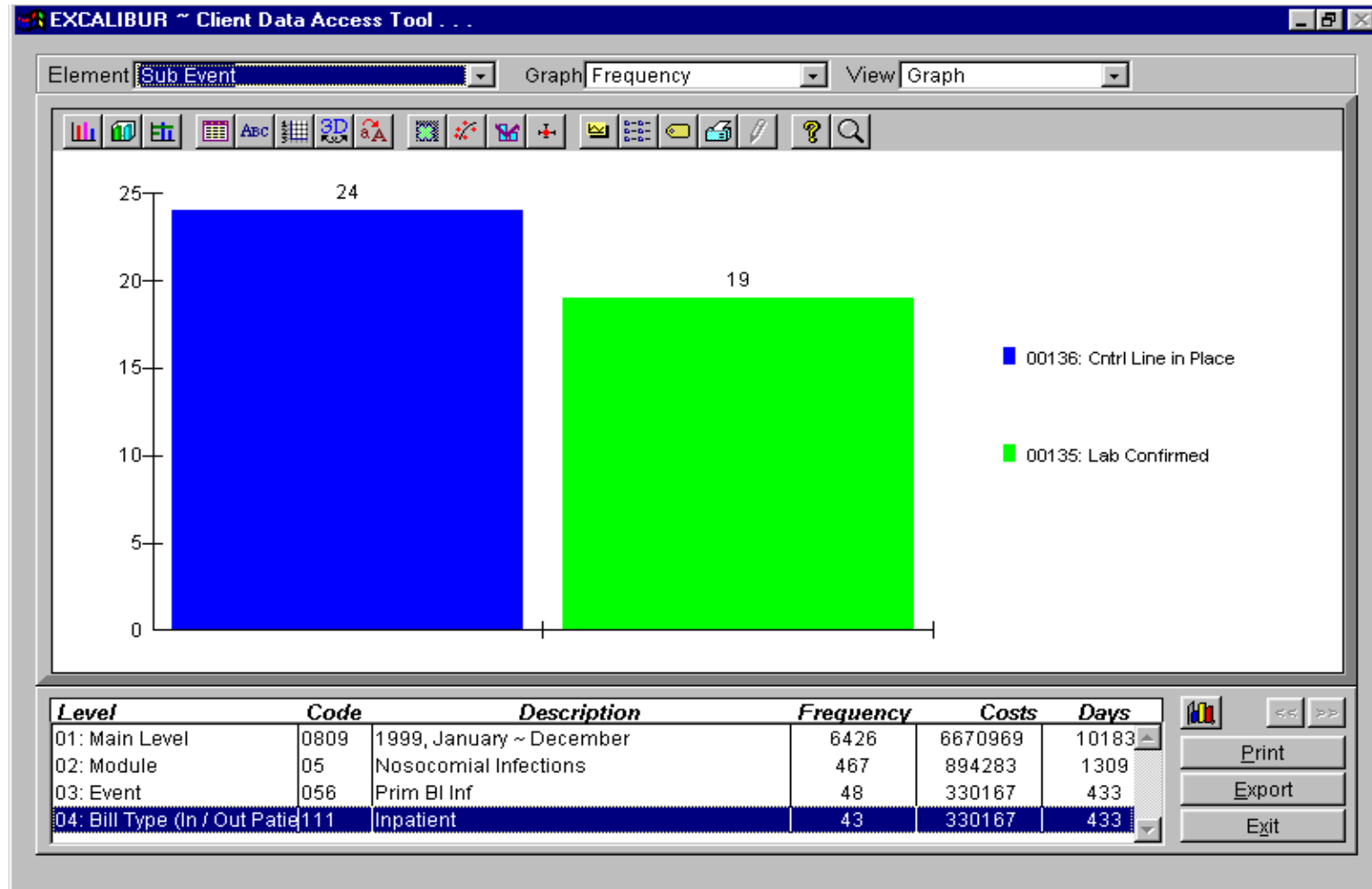
## Additional Days by Module



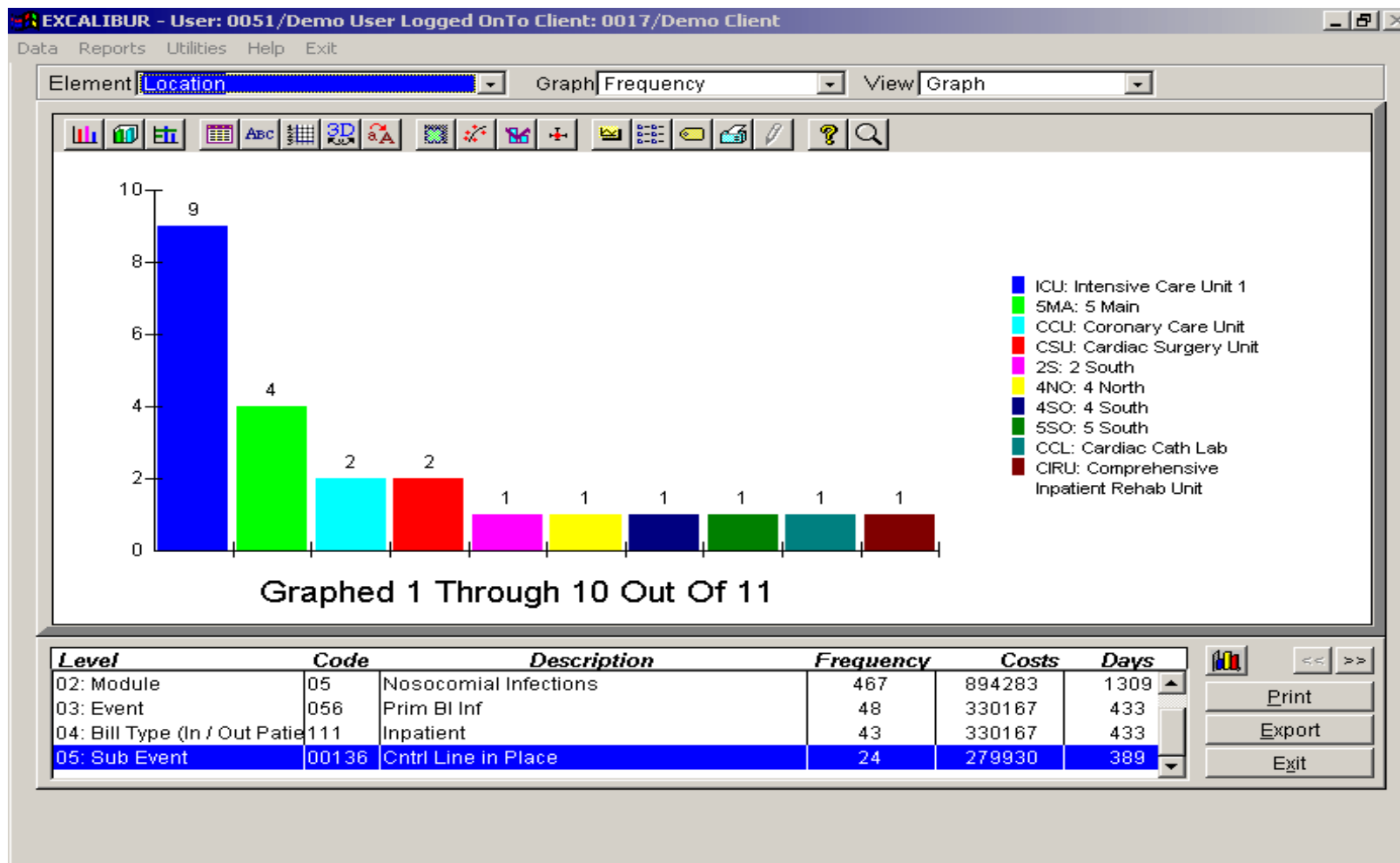
### Frequency by Event



## Frequency by Sub Event



## Frequency by Location



Is charging for care  
caused by a medical error fraudulent?