# The Barriers and Critical Success Factors that Affect the Implementation of Lean Supply Chain Management in Medical Devices Companies

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## Abstract

The objective of this study is to conduct a systematic literature review (SLR) to identify the barriers and critical success factors that influence in the implementation of Lean Supply Chain Management (LSCM) practices in the industry. Through the analysis systematic literature review, it is hoped to identify the main gaps related to LSCM implementation in literature and industry and also discusses the relevance of research in this topic for indicating the future research direction. A SLR method was used, developed and determined. It is about 48 research articles were analyzed. The content of the present literature was reviewed, critically analyzed and synthesized from the perspective of barrier and critical success factors that influence the implementation of LSCM. Based on the extensive systematic review of the literature, we discovered the consistency data between Barriers and Critical Success Factors. This study strengthens the body of knowledge on the issue and consolidates the key LSCM activities, extending previous studies on LSCM barriers and critical success factors associated with its implementation. The clear identification of these topics can allow researchers and practitioners to predict occasional problems and to set the right standards for the implementation of the LSCM.

## Keywords

Lean; Supply Chain Management; Lean supply chain management; Barriers; Critical Success Factor; Systematic literature review

## **1. Introduction**

A supply chain is a dynamic structure that consists of technology, people, organization, information, activities and resources. The supply chain does not only apply to manufacturing firms only; it also applies to service firms, which are increasingly focusing on supply chain management to ensure that their customers receive prompt service (Alomari 2021). Activities in the supply chain turn natural commodities, raw materials and components into semi-finished and finished goods that are then delivered to end customer and distributors (Zhou & Ji 2015).

The growing emphasis on sustainability in supply chain management (SCM) has contributed to the growth of a distinct area of interest for over the last three decades: sustainable supply chain management SSCM (Pagell and Shevchenko, 2014). International business strategy has shifted in recent years. The entire distribution of raw materials to consumers is known as an integrated whole in lean supply chain. Therefore, interfaces between phases i.e. between companies-suppliers and customers) are seen as artificial, created not as normal stages of transition in the development of value, but as a result of the economic arrangement of properties controlled by many variable. The variables are convenient configurations of technology, labor skills and geographical location of raw materials (Lamming 1996). The supply chain management requires operational and supply chain alignment, scheduling and cooperation of functions such as planning of distribution, market analysis, ordering, production planning, warehousing, material handling, inventory, packing, order processing and shipping. In today's business worlds, all of these functions are used as building blocks in the supply chain management (Agus 2012).

The Toyota Production System (TPS) is the benchmark utilized all through the world as the establishment for "lean" thinking. At Toyota, the TPS practices and standards expand well past the manufacturing plant dividers to incorporate the all-inclusive production network and require some urgent decisions to guarantee supply chain effectiveness (Lander and Liker 2007).

The objective of this study is to perform a systematic literature review to identify the barrier and critical success factor in implementation of lean supply chain management and contextual factor that influence it. Through this literature review, it is expected to identify the main gap related to lean supply chain implementation and discuss the relevance of the research in this topic, so can lead to future research directions.

## 1.1 Objectives

The objective of this study is to conduct a systematic literature review to identify the barriers and critical success factor that influence in implementation of Lean Supply Chain Management (LSCM) practices in industry.

## 2. Literature Review

There are two types of literature review ; traditional literature review and systematic review (Jesson et al. 2011). The literature review is a written product is a literature review; the style may varies depending on the review 's intent. The review will be the part of dissertation and study project and it's also can be stand-alone review (Jesson et al. 2011). The systematic review's approach and presentation of are methodical and repeatable. They entail a thorough search for all relevant published and unpublished work on a topic, a systematic integration of search issue (Siddaway et al. 2018). Reason for implement lean is to reduce cost, fullfill management decision and to develop the organization (Albjorn 2011). The stage of lean implementation in a factory influences which factors are perceived as more effective than others to a small extent (Netland 2015).

## 3. Methods

Jesson et al. 2011 define a systematic review as a review with a clear stated purpose, a question, a defined search approach, stating inclusion and exclusion criteria, producing a qualitative appraisal of articles. Systematic literature review (SLR) is a method that systematically explores current research literature to "produce a structured overview of the field" (Pickering & Byrne 2013). Systematic reviews address the issue about how primary study is carried out, how various techniques and methods suit the task, the impact of what needs to be clarified and to how primary research will fill the gaps (Gough et al. 2012). Systematic reviews search, evaluate and collate all relevant empirical evidence in order to provide a complete interpretation result of research. Although conventional SRs are typically used in social sciences and clinical research, they have found application in many subject areas for example in basic science research, engineering, environmental science, advertising, education, international development, public policy and ecology (O'Hagan et al. 2018, Gilbody 2005, Pullin & Stewart 2006 & Petticrew 2001). The importance of the guideline of systematic review of a literature base is to avoid bias and reliable assessment was carried out (Tranfield 2003).

The search for articles is can be search in targeted webite (Godin et al. 2015). The search of article mainly conducted using the online journal databases:

- Sciencedirect
- PubMed
- Wiley Online Library
- Emerald

The keyword for search the online journal has been selected from Berger et al. 2018, Alkhoraif et al. 2018, Martinez-Jurado & Moyano-Fuentes 2014, Parmar & Shah 2016, Tebaldi et al. 2018, Hugo & Cabrita 2015 and Tortorella 2017. The search dimension is restricted to the keywords:

- Lean
- Lean management
- Lean supply chain
- Lean supply chain management
- Supply Chain
- Critical success factor
- Critical success factor in lean
- Critical success factor in lean management
- Systematic literature review
- Barrier

This study adopts the classification system proposed by Durach et al. 2017 and such system involves the following six steps:

- Step 1: Defining the research question;
- Step 2: Determining the required characteristics of primary studies;
- Step 3: Locating a representative sample of potentially relevant literature;
- Step 4: Selecting the relevant literature;
- Step 5: Synthesizing the literature;
- Step 6: Reporting the outcome;

The screening and the selection process was figured out by Tawfik et al. 2019 which the process is called Prisma flow diagram. The figure has shown the screening of 7449 papers to 48 papers. Centobelli et al. (2017) applied three selection criteria to direct the focus of the research papers closer to the desired topic. Firstly, the abstracts describe about the critical success factor and/or barrier in lean supply chain management. Secondly, the content is related to the topic. Finally, it is necessary to search for related references cited in the literature but not in Scopus.



Figure 1. PRISMA flow diagram of studies' screening and selection (Tawfik et al. 2019).

## 4. Data Collection

There are 48 of selected articles were selected for the systematic literature review. The papers were analyzed for the Research Field, the Barriers and Critical Success Factors in lean supply chain implementation.

## 5. Results and Discussion

## **5.1 Graphical Results**

## 5.1.1 The research field by sector

The Figure 2 was present the research field by sector from the 48 selected papers. According to the findings of this review article, the manufacturing sector had the highest rank with 52%. The second rank was fall to healthcare sector with rank 15% then followed by pharmaceutical and automotive with rank 4% respectively. Furthermore, it was discovered that the manufacturing sector ranked highest among all other sectors, with results reported in the majority of published papers (Mardani 2019).



Figure 2. The research field by sector from the 48 selected papers.

## 5.1.2 The barriers that affects the implementation of lean supply chain

This section contains all the factors that may affect the organization to successfully implement lean supply chain management practices are assess. It is important to realize that many distinctive factors mentioned above here substantial impact on any organization attempting to implement lean supply chain management. However, understanding how these elements play a role in lean implementation in the context of lean supply chain management. Table 1 presents an overview of the barrier that affect the implementation of lean supply chain management.

Table 1. The barriers in lean supply chain management implementation.

No ·		Barrier	Abideen and Mohamad (2019)	Aronsson et al. (2011)	Borges et al. (2019)	Campos and Varquez-Brust (2016)	Das (2017)	Gligor et al. (2015)	Guimarães et al. (2013)	Frazzon et al. (2017)	Jasti and Kurra (2017)	Singh et al. (2016)	Manzouri et al. (2013)	Marodin et al. (2017)	Martínez-Jurado and Moyano-	Arif-Uz-Zaman and Ahsan (2014)	Perez et al. (2010)	Sharma et al. (2015)	Baliga et al. (2020)	Piercy and Rich (2015)	Dixit et al. (2019)	Moyano-Fuentes et al. (2020)	Almutairi et al. (2019)	Qrunfleh and Tarafdar (2013)	Kolawole et al. (2021)	Zhao et al. (2021)	Mohaghegh et al. (2021)
1		Commitment from the	٠		•						•		•				•	•							•		
2	barrier	management. Employee lack of training and skills.											•					•			•				•		
3	hnical	view or		•		•																		•			
4	l and tec	Lack of flexibility.		•					•																		
5	lageria	information transfer.											•										•		•	•	
6	Man	Lack of planning.							•							٠											
7		Low attitude.																			•						
8	ers	Cost for			•								•													•	
9	nic barri	Implementation. Lack of financial.						•													•						
10	Econor	Lack of organizational incentive.				•	•																				
11		Employee resistance to change in lean implementation.											•					•		•							
12		Low awareness of lean in lean											•	•													•
	SIS	Organizational																									
13	ial barri	culture of the company.											•														
14	Soci	relationship negatively moderates the effect.													•												
15		Lack of communication.																					•				

## 5.1.3 The critical success factor that affects the implementation of lean supply chain

Table 2 is an overview of the critical success factor that affect the implementation of lean supply chain management.

Table 2. The Critical Success Factor in lean supply chain management implementation.

No.	Critical Success Factor	Sharma et al. (2015)	Agus and Hajinoor (2012)	Al-Shboul et al. (2017)	Çankaya (2020)	Carvalho et al. (2011)	Das (2017)	Arlbjørn et al. (2011)	Gligor et al. (2015)	Govindan et al. (2014)	Frazzon et al. (2017)	Marodin et al. (2017)	Perez et al. (2010)	Qrunfleh and Tarafdar (2013)	Piercy and Rich (2015)	Moyano-Fuentes et al. (2020)	Almutairi et al. (2019)	Saxby et al. (2020)	Stavrulaki and Davis (2010)	Hofer et al. (2021)
1	Relationship with supplier			•								•		•		•		•	•	•
2	Top management gives commitment and support in lean implementation.					•	•	•					•		•					
3	Effort in lean implementation						•	•									•			
4	Training and education for the employee for lean implementation.	•											•							
5	Management leadership in lean implementation.									•	•									
6	Financial capability of company in lean implementation.			•					•											
7	Performance measurement in lean implementation.					•														
8	Lean awareness		•																	
9	Continuous improvement		•																	
10	Adequate support from middle level managers						•													
11	Supply chain strategies				•															
12	Contribution of managers				•															
13	Strategic plan in lean implementation														•					
14	Flexibility with partners			•																
15	Customer relationship			•																

After reviewing the Critical Success Factor (CSF) to implementing lean supply chain management in the organization and the Barrier for its success, we observe that there is a consistency among them, which confirms the validity of what we have achieved in our research. The consistency data of 5 main data was compiled in Table 3. The consistency data gives the organization a clear view of what to do and what to avoid during adopt lean methodology (Ayoub et al. 2019).

 Table 3. The consistency among Barriers and Critical Success Factor for implementation lean supply chain management in organization.

Critical Success Fact	or	Barrier								
Commitment a	nd	Commitment from the								
support from t	op	management								
management										
Lean awareness	Low awareness									
Strategic plan	Lack of planning									
Training and educati	Employee lack of									
for the employee	training and skills									
Financial capability	Lack of financial									
company										

## 6. Conclusion

In this study, we highlighted the main organizational and managerial features of the organization and the need to adopt a lean methodology in the management of these organization, as well as the main obstacles to the application of this methodology and the critical success factors of its implementation.

The objective of this study is to conduct a systematic literature review to identify the barriers and critical success factor that influence in implementation of Lean Supply Chain Management (LSCM) practices in industry.

Through this systematic literature review, it is expected to identify the main gaps related to LSCM implementation in industry and discuss the relevance of research in this topic for indicating the future research direction.

The results reveals that "relationship with supplier" was the top critical success factor. Then following by "commitment and support by top management", " effort in lean implementation", "training and education" and "management leadership" as the key of critical success factor in lean implementation in any organization.

Furthermore, the results showed that "lack of management commitment and leadership", "lack of training and skills", "lack of system view or strategy" "lack of flexibility" and "reluctant to exchange information" are the most critical barriers hence these should be considered as the foundation of any lean implementation project in any organization. The study also suggested that employees should have a basic understanding of lean and its benefits from the start in order for them to participate actively. Furthermore, commitment from the top management was found to be a dominating factor in organization. Greater management needed together with increasing costs and high complexity to improve efficiency (Borges et al. 2019).

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