

# Improvement in Persistency: A win-win for All

*Presentation on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2014 by  
HDFC Life Team*



Thank You ! It is our pleasure to be associated with QCI – DL Shah Award since 2012

Award our project : Recycle Customer Payout

*2012-13*

Q<sup>st</sup> for Project Management : National Winner

*2013-14*

Published our paper on Quality Best Practices, award winning case studies of FY13

An opportunity to present our paper in 9<sup>th</sup> National Quality Conclave, April 2014

Shortlisted our project : Improvement in Persistency: A win-win for ALL

*2014-15*



# Insurance Value Chain, persistency vicious circle and WIIFM for ALL

## Value Chain of Life Insurance Business

Product Mgmt

Marketing

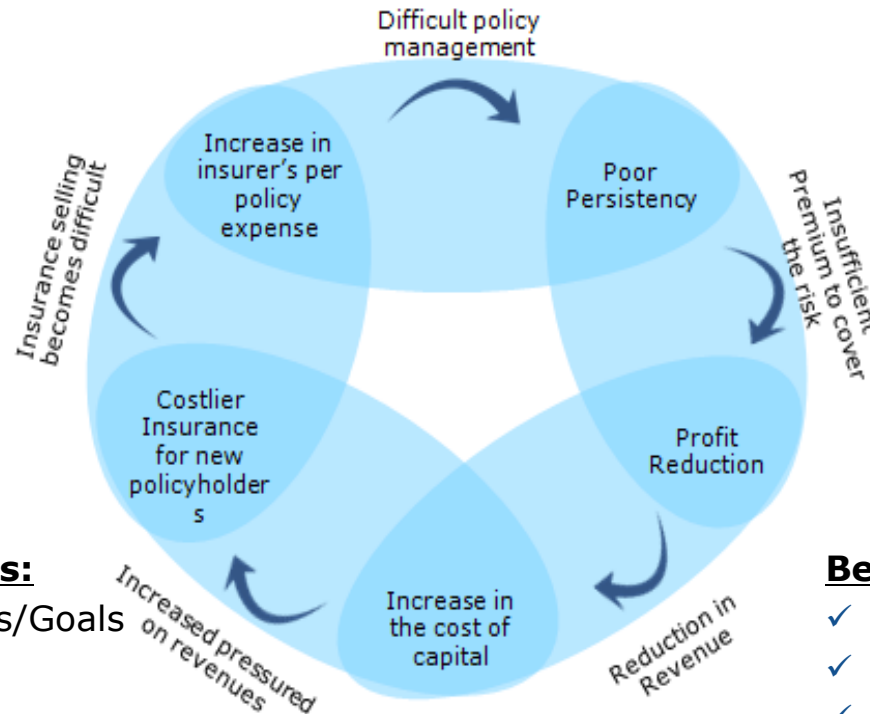
Sales & Distribution

Underwriting & Risk Mgmt

Policy Servicing & Renewals

Investment & Financial Accounting

Claims Mgmt



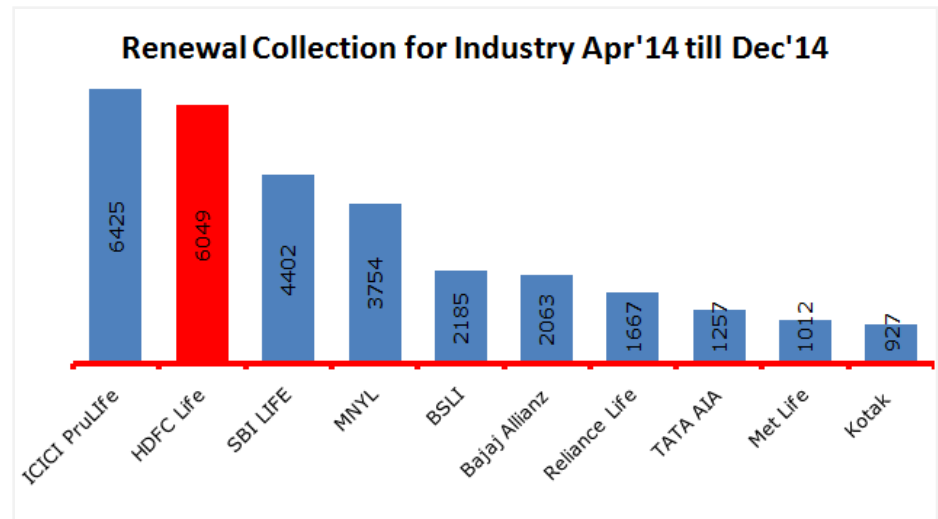
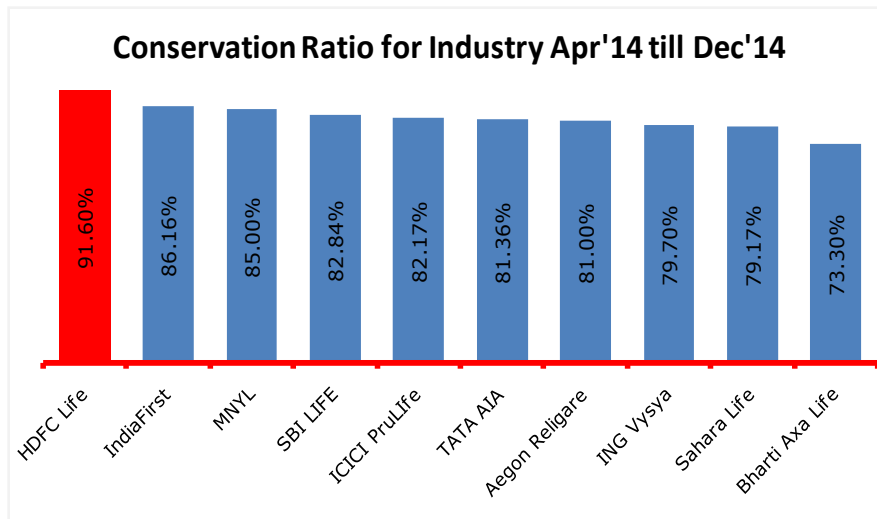
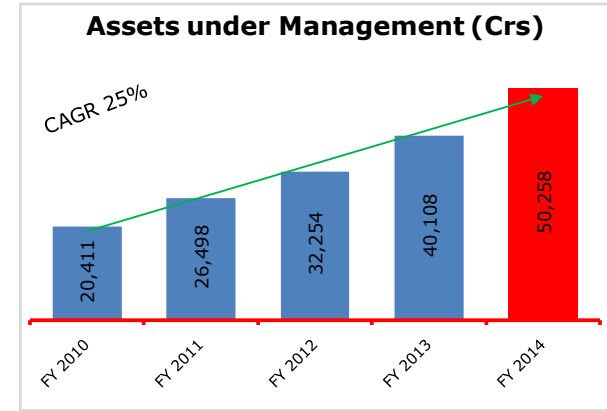
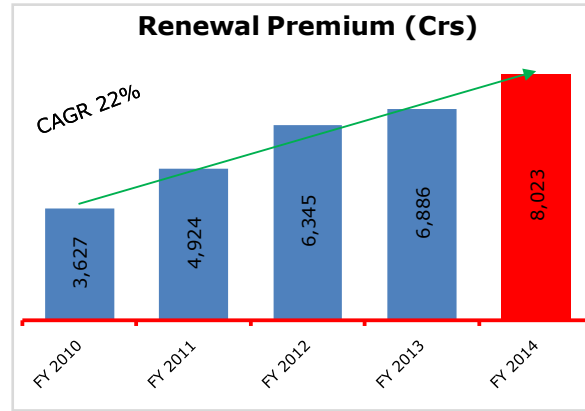
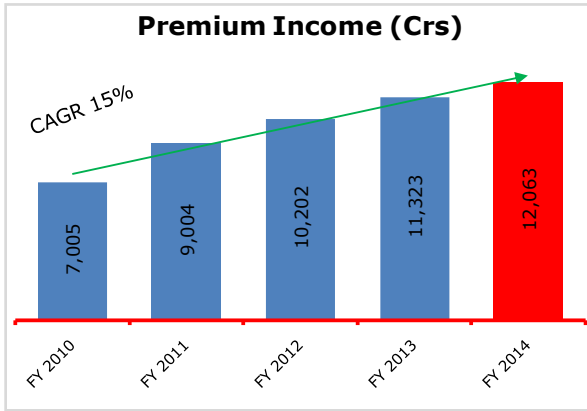
### **Benefits to Customers:**

- ✓ Fulfillment of Dreams/Goals
- ✓ Financial Loss
- ✓ Maturity Benefits,
- ✓ Bonus
- ✓ Charges on Lapsation/Surrenders
- ✓ Risk Cover
- ✓ Low premiums compared to buying a new policy

### **Benefits to Distributors:**

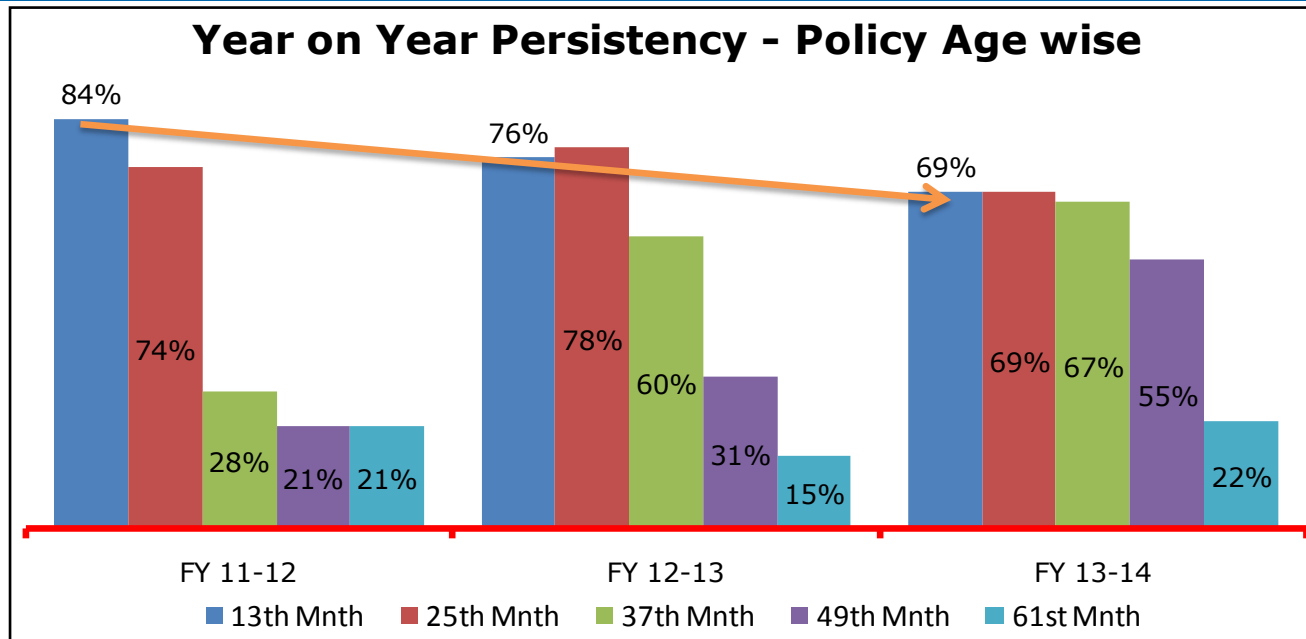
- ✓ Extended Renewal Income
- ✓ Cross Selling/Up Selling
- ✓ High distributor credentials
- ✓ Customer Satisfaction

A high %Persistency means satisfied customer, distributor, profitable growth ..... also a measure of effective sales practices



**Among the top 10 insurers, HDFC Life is 2<sup>nd</sup> on renewal premium and 1<sup>st</sup> on Conservation Ratio**

# While we are better, but there is a declining trend on 13 month Persistency



## Concern & Opportunity

- ❖ 13<sup>th</sup> month persistency declined from **84%** (FY12) to **69%** (FY14)

### Business Inferences

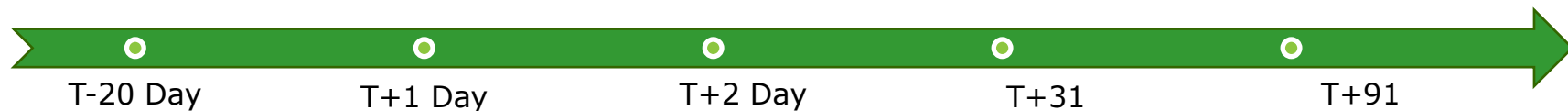
- IRDA capping on ULIP charges in Sep 2010
- Distributor shift - sell conventional policies
- Conventional and ULIPS sold as short term investment products
- Policy on Discontinuance Fund – exploited



### Interventions

- ✓ Pre-conversion Verification Call to customers
- ✓ Persistency made part of sales KRA
- ✓ Early Warning Indicators (EWI)
- ✓ Guidelines on business churning prevention
- ✓ Initiative on Surrender Aversion

# Maximizing Persistency – Identification of Project Opportunities



Pre Pre-Reminder Activity Till T-1 day  
Collection is not tracked

Manual Calling at Call Center Till T Day

Pre-Reminder Calling Till Grace Period

Initial Lapsed paid up stage

Branch Calling Till 90 days

Deep Lapse Calling >90 days

Non calling activity of sending various communication is done at this stage.

- Letters (T-20)
- IVR (T-19)
- SMS/Email (T-14)
- IVR (T-10)
- SMS/IVR (T-3)
- SMS (T-1)

Manual Calling is done by Call Centers

- Max 4 Attempts are made for cases <45000 premium
- Max 6 Attempts are made for cases >45000 premium

These are Lapsed/ Paid up till term cases

- Max 5 attempts are made till the grace period of 15/30 days expire

These are Lapsed/ Paid up till term cases

- Max 5 attempts are made for 30 more days after policy is lapsed

All cases post expiry of grace period are shared with Branch Revival Teams for calling

- Calling attempts are made to get maximum collections

Deep Lapse bucket is handled by both Call Center and Branch Revival team.

- 3 to 4 attempts are made to get maximum collections

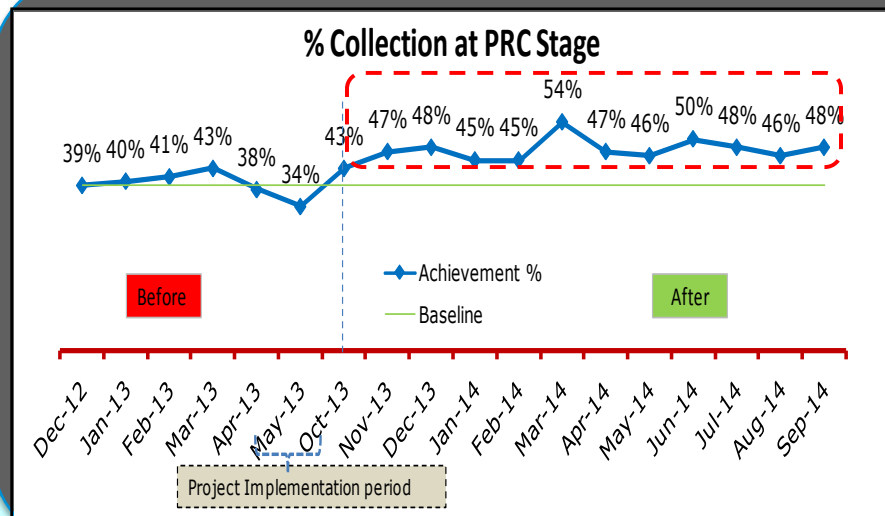
Collection Performance 39%

Collection Performance 1.62%

Two areas of opportunity was identified basis current performance

\*T day is the due date of the policy.

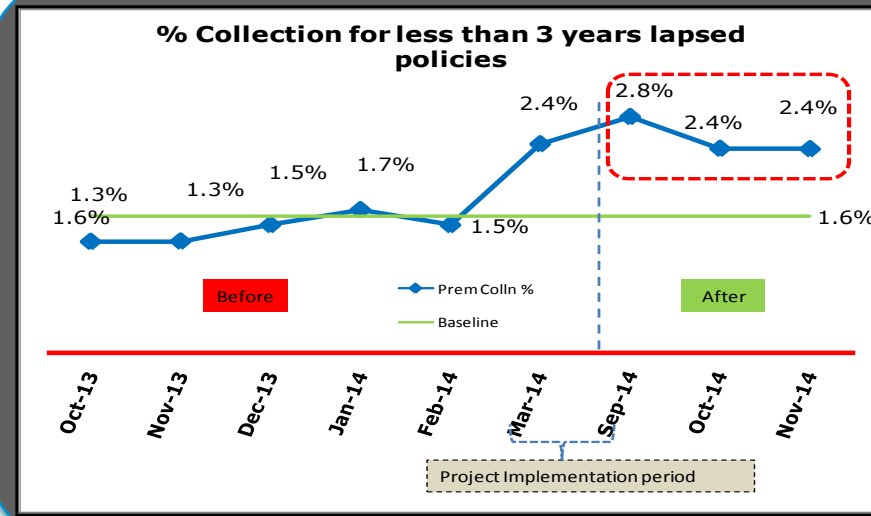
# Results : Significant Improvement in Performance Metrics



Collection of Non Version 7 products at PRC stage **from 39% to 43% by Oct-13**

## Financial Benefits Realized :

- Average monthly increase of **13 crores**
- An Annualized benefits of **156 crores**



Collection for > 90 days and < 3 years lapsed policies from **1.6% to 2.4% by Oct-14**

## Financial Benefits Realized :

- Average monthly increase of **42.7 crores**
- An Annualized benefits of **512 crores**

**Metrics are in control and progressively improving.....**

# Innovation : Small Changes Big Results

- Operational Efficiencies

- Plug data leakages (DNC, NRI, New Product, data errors)
- Calling on last contacted number
- Remove collected from calling base
- Revamped dispositions
- Introduced SMS with Hyperlink to create payment convenience 'Now'

- Contactability

- Tie up with HDFC Bank, Experian, FOS in 5 cities, CSC, M-swipe, AP & Maha Online
- Use of email ID, continuous update
- SMS on 2<sup>nd</sup> number
- Cleaning email address
- Special calling on NRI (Middle East)

- Align SLAs and performance drive

- PTP Conversion as focus, PTP SMS
- Scrip change – use of power words : behaviour economics (linguistic, grace)
- SMS on Branch address – reduce AHT, customer confidence
- Online and IVR payment encouraged on call for spot closure
- Branch ops leveraged for non-contactable base
- Inbound call identification and call back
- Different time windows for calling – customer convenience
- Special drive on probable discontinuance cases

- Customer Education

- Markets, Industry, Company
- Product level – Policy Level

- Change Key processes

- SI Failure – deferred de-tagging, weekly calling & representation
- Mandate change during grace period
- SMS on SI failures
- Pre-due date calling for 13<sup>th</sup> month failures
- Special revival – 50% waiver in interest
- Analytics -Bucketization of deep lapse base : focus on products with higher profitability
- **Change in Underwriting guidelines for Lapse cases – First in Industry!**



# Team Charter

## Project # 1 : PRC Opportunities

<b>Project</b>	IMHO14 - Improving collection of Pre Reminder calling activity
<b>Function</b>	Persistency
<b>Sponsor</b>	Umesh Gupta
<b>Leader</b>	Rahul Pawar
<b>Members</b>	Vishal Mandhare, Asawari, Petchiappan C
<b>Support</b>	Vendor Team, Jitendra Sutar (BSE)
<b>BSE Facilitator</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Sattar Shaikh
<b>Stakeholder Agreement</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>Time Frame</b>	Start: 8 <sup>th</sup> Jul'13                      End Date:31 <sup>st</sup> Oct'13

### Value Chain Alignment:

- New Product Development
- New Business
- Policy Servicing
- Renewal / Revival
- Claims & Payout
- Support / Enabling Process

### Project Alignment:

- Customer Satisfaction
- Revenue Enhancement
- Cost Leadership
- Process Efficiency
- Defect Reduction
- Fraud/Risk Mitigation
- Employee Satisfaction

### Project Type:

- SI     impACT

### Project Stage:

- Reason for Improvement
- Current Situation
- Analysis
- Countermeasure
- Results
- Standardisation
- Future Plan

**Current Status**



### Project Source:

- ZBC/RBC
- SDA / SQM
- Functional Pull
- MBR/SEC
- PPM/ ART / ALP

**Scope**

**In:** Collection of Non Version 7 products at PRC Stage

**Out:** All other products and all other stages of collection

● On Track    
 ● Delayed    
 ● Off Track    
 ● Closed

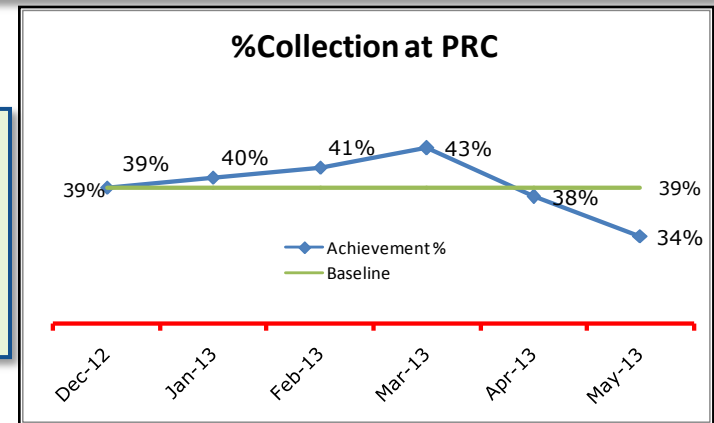
# Reason for Improvement

## Background:

Persistency teams starts calling activity called Pre Reminder Calling(PRC) on policies which falls in the grace period. Post due date customer has 15 or 30 days grace period for paying the premium, failing which the policy gets into lapse status. This is a manual calling activity which is done by outsourced vendor. 5 attempts are made to call and collect until the grace period expires. Customer can make payment using one of the following avenues like Check pick up service, Payment in Branch, Online Payment facility, Payment through IVR, SI, ECS, Drop Boxes at HDFC Bank, Payment at Axis and Yes Bank.

## Problem Statement:

The average collection for the period of Dec-12 and May-13 for Non Version 7 is 39%. This results in remained policies to get into Lapse status.



## Goal Statement:

The goal is to improve collection from 39% to 43% for NV7 products by Oct-2013

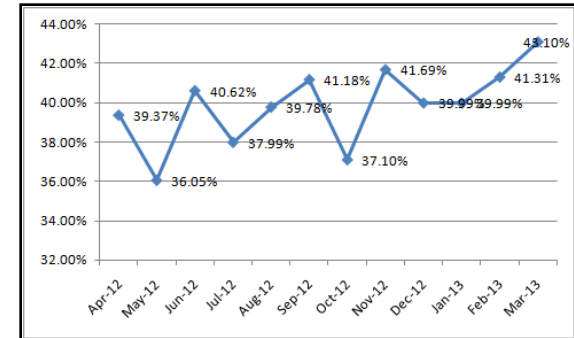
## Project Benefits:

- Increase premium collection
- Increase Persistency

# Current Situation

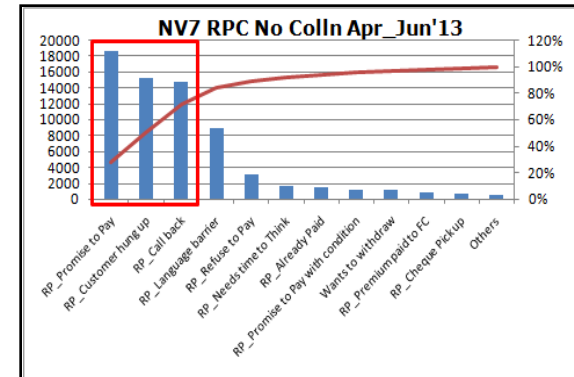
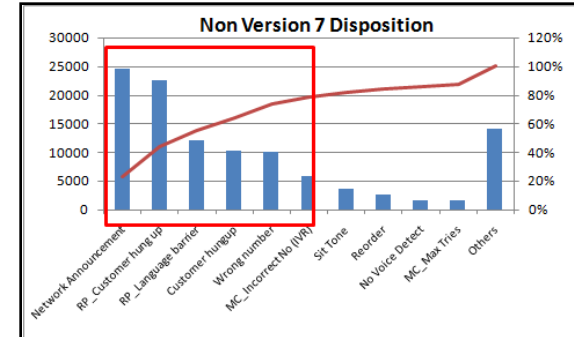
## Definition of Non Version 7 Policies

- Policies which were sold from inception till Aug-2010 are Non Version 7 policies. The mandatory paid up term for these policies either 3 years or 5 years. Customer can discontinue payment post the mandatory paid up term.



## Takeaways

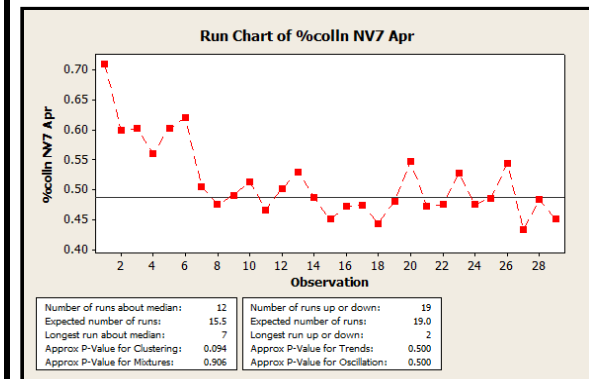
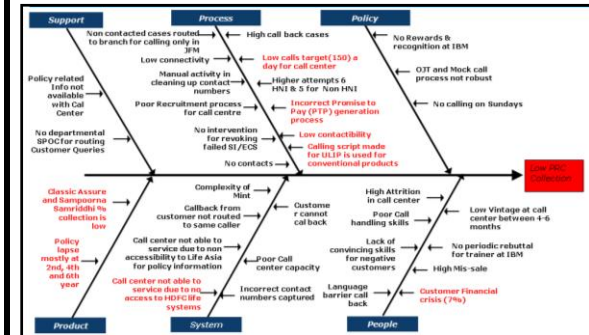
- The collection is low in the beginning of the year and is highest during the last 6 months of the year.
- On an average only 57% customers are contactable over the phone
- PRC collection is seasonal, the collection increases quarter to quarter. It is minimum in Apr and maximum in March
- Connectivity is less however pre calling effort like SMS/Emails/IVR are used to contact/inform the customers.
- 80% of the total cases where call could not be connected Network Announcement
  1. Hung up
  2. Language Barrier
  3. Wrong Number



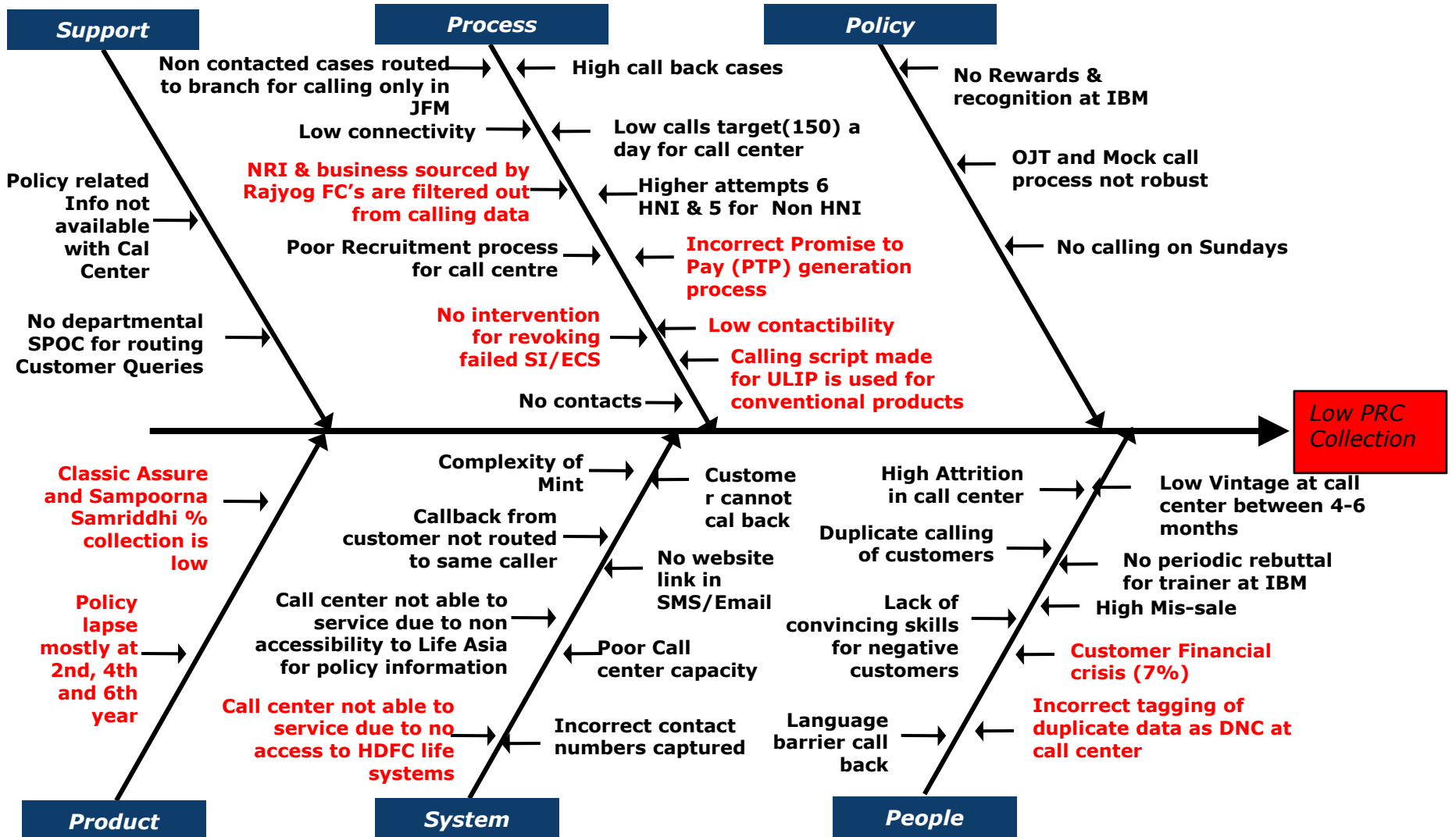
## Key Takeaways

30+ potential causes were identified a few are listed below

- NRI & business sourced by Rajyog FC's are filtered out from calling data
- No intervention for revoking failed SI customers
- No intervention for revoking failed ECS customers
- Duplicate calling of customers at the call centers, hence Call center end up wasting productive time in calling customer who has already paid
- Incorrect tagging of duplicate data as DNC at call center, hence affecting persistency of monthly & quarterly mode customers
- Call center has to read out the address to the customer over the phone leading to long AHT
- Rigid formats for email and SMS on renewals



# Cause & Effect – Brainstorming Existing & Potential Causes



# Analysis – Key Summary

## Actionable Causes:

- Policy lapse mostly at 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year
- Low customer contactability
- Incorrect tagging of duplicate data as DNC at call center
- 7% customer complaints of Financial crisis
- Less colln on Paid-up(greater than 3 years)
- No intervention for revoking failed SI/ECS
- Call center not able to service due to no access to HDFC life systems
- Calling script made for ULIP products is used for conventional products

## Quick Kill Opportunities:

- PTP as a metric to be replaced with conversion. Agent performance to be tracked basis conversion
- Develop a different script for conventional policies

High

Impact

Low

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Classic Assure and Sampoorna Samridhhi % collection is low.</li> <li>➤ Calling script made for ULIP is used for conventional products</li> <li>➤ Incorrect tagging of duplicate data as DNC at call center</li> <li>➤ NRI &amp; business sourced by Rajyog FC's are filtered out from calling data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Policy lapse mostly at 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year</li> <li>➤ Low contactability</li> <li>➤ Low calls target(150) a day for call center</li> <li>➤ Financial crisis of the customer 7%</li> <li>➤ Less colln on Paidup(greater than 3 years)</li> <li>➤ No intervention for revoking failed SI/ECS</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Call center not able to service due to unavailability of My Account</li> <li>➤ Incorrect Promise to Pay (PTP) generation process</li> <li>➤ High call back cases</li> <li>➤ No contact cases not routed to branch persistency team other than JFM</li> </ul>	
Yes	No

B  
C  
A  
D

Team's Control

# Countermeasure

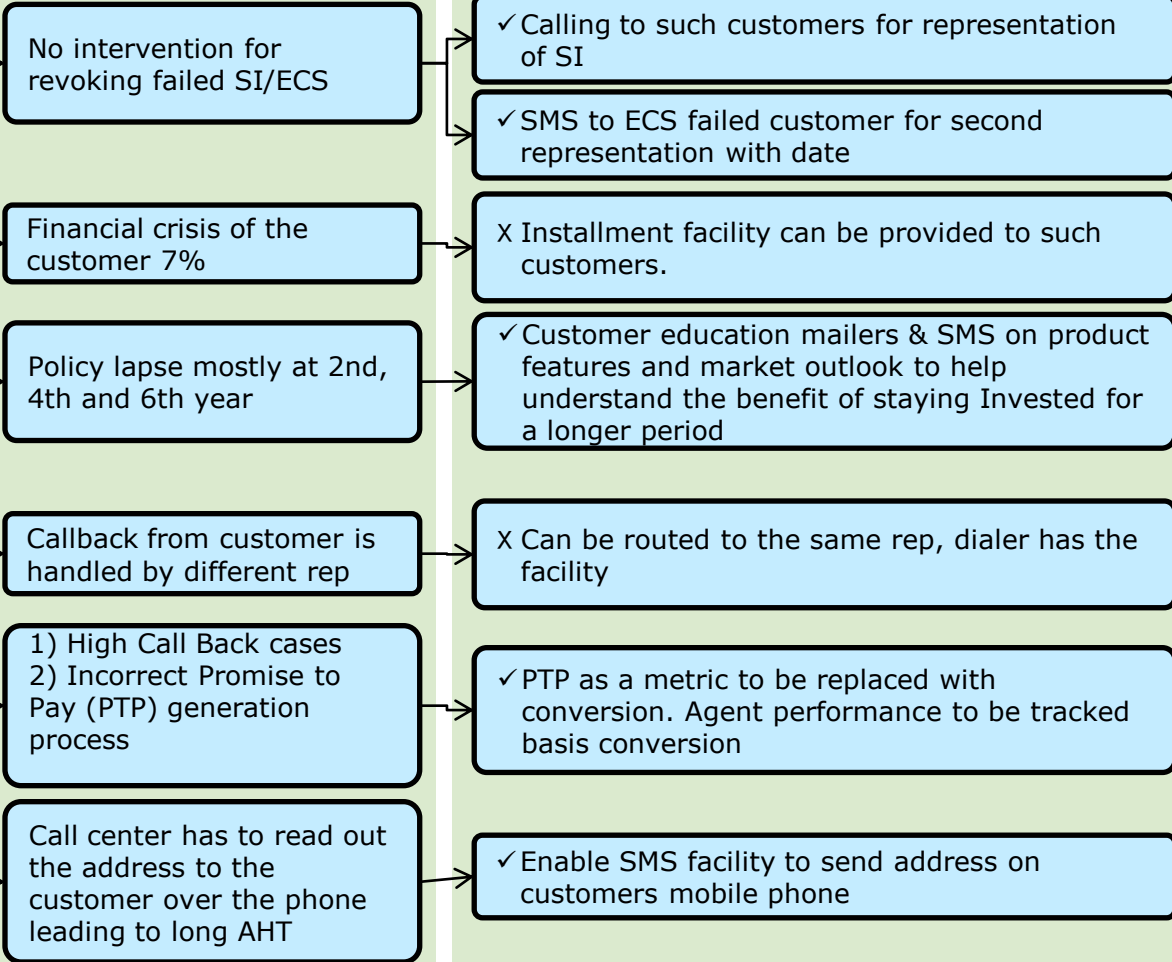
Problem / Effect

/ Actionable Causes

Countermeasures

Prioritization

Low Collection in at PRC



Effort (A) (9-3-1)	Impact (B) (1-3-9)	Priority A * B	Select (Y/N)
9	9	81	Y
9	3	27	Y
1	9	9	N
9	9	81	Y
3	3	9	N
9	9	81	Y
3	9	27	Y

# Countermeasure

**Problem / Effect**

**/ Actionable Causes**

**Countermeasures**

**Prioritization**

Low Collection in at PRC

1) Classic Assure and Sampoorna Samriddhi % collection is low. &  
2) Calling script made for ULIP products is used for conventional products

Low Contactibility

Call center not able to service due to no access to HDFC life systems

No calling to NRI and Rajyog FC's customer

No website link in SMS/Email

✓ Design & use different script for Conventional policies

✓ Training to Call Center on Conventional policy benefits

✓ Leverage Experian facility and obtain correct contact number

✓ My Account access to be provided to Call Center

✓ Start calling to NRI and Email to Rajyog FC customers

✓ Webiste link on Email and SMS sent to customers

Effort (A) (9-3-1)	Impact (B) (1-3-9)	Priority A * B	Select (Y/N)
9	9	81	Y
3	9	27	Y
3	9	27	Y
9	3	27	Y
3	3	9	Y
9	3	27	Y

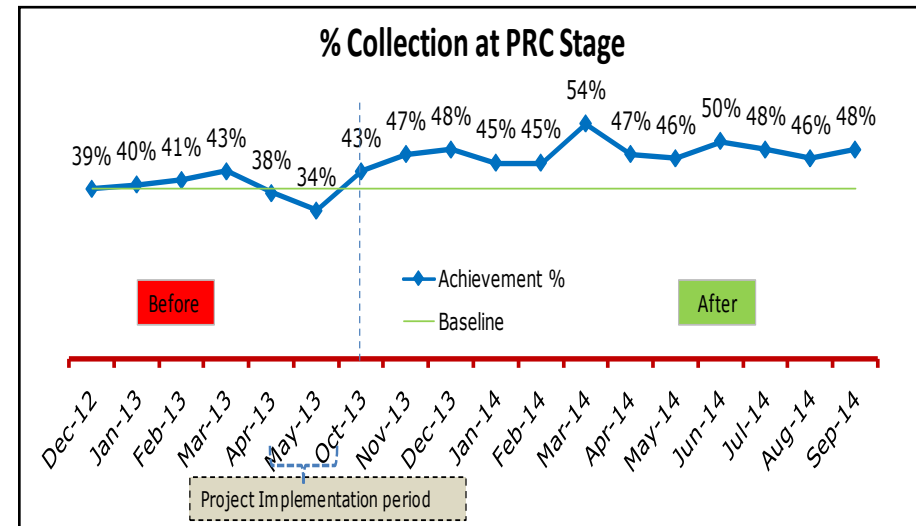


# Results

## Tangible Benefits

BEFORE			
Month	Base Prem	Collected Prem	%Collection
Dec-12	131	51	39%
Jan-13	127	51	40%
Feb-13	130	53	41%
Mar-13	138	59	43%
Apr-13	133	49	38%
May-13	210	71	34%
<b>BASELINE</b>	145	56	<b>39%</b>
AFTER			
Oct-13	156	67	43%
Nov-13	144	70	49%
Dec-13	205	99	48%
<b>RESULTS - Monthly Average</b>	168	78.66666667	<b>47%</b>

EPI Increase		
Particulars	Value	UOM
Baseline Collection for NV7	39%	%
Achieved Collection for NV7	47%	%
Net Impact on Collection	8%	%
Average Monthly Bucket	168	Rs. Cr
Increase in Collection monthly	13	Rs. Cr
Annual Increase	156	Rs. Cr



- Collection for Non Version 7 at PRC increased from **39% to 47% by Dec-13**
- Average monthly increase of **13 crores**
- An Annualized benefits of **156 crores**

# Standardize

## Communication

- Communication was sent to Call center for using of new script for conventional Policy

## Training & SLA

- Call center was trained on use of secondary contact number
- Call center was trained on use of Script for Conventional policies
- Service Level Agreement was revised to change performance metric from Promise to Pay to Conversion

## Review/ Governance

- Periodic MIS is released as and when special campaigning SMS/Email is sent to the customer

## Process Documentation

- Changes made to existing process
- Changes rolled out

## Future Plan

- New project initiated in April'15 : Improve collection of Version 7 Products

# Team Charter

## Project # 2 : Deep Lapse Opportunities

<b>Project</b>	ALP 83 - To improve collection from Deep Lapsed Bucket	
<b>Function</b>	Persistency	
<b>Sponsor</b>	Umesh Gupta	
<b>Leader</b>	Metilda Stanley	
<b>Members</b>	Rahul Pawar(Persistency), Arunarka (Agency), Rajesh Shetty( Agency Field), Atul Sharma (Branch Ops), Manoj Punwani, Vikram Vaswani (Banca) & Rakesh Singh( Direct Loyalty), Binita Upadhyay(Persistency)	
<b>Support</b>	Abhinav Thakur, Varsha Sankholkar (BI)	
<b>BSE Facilitator</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Sattar Shaikh	
<b>Stakeholder Agreement</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
<b>Time Frame</b>	Start: 6 <sup>th</sup> Jun'14	End Date: 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct'14

### Value Chain Alignment:

- New Product Development
- New Business
- Policy Servicing
- Renewal / Revival
- Claims & Payout

### Project Alignment:

- Customer Satisfaction
- Revenue Enhancement
- Cost Leadership
- Process Efficiency
- Defect Reduction
- Fraud/Risk Mitigation
- Employee Satisfaction

### Project Type:

- SI     impACT

### Project Stage:

- Reason for Improvement
- Current Situation
- Analysis
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- Standardisation
- Future Plan

**Current Status**



### Project Source:

- ZBC/RBC
- SDA / SQM
- Functional Pull
- MBR/SEC
- PPM/ ART / ALP

**Scope**

**In:** Deep Lapsed less than 3 years age

**Out:** All other Lapse/Collection Buckets & Branch Bucket

● On Track   
 ● Delayed   
 ● Off Track   
 ● Closed

# Reason For Improvement

## Background:

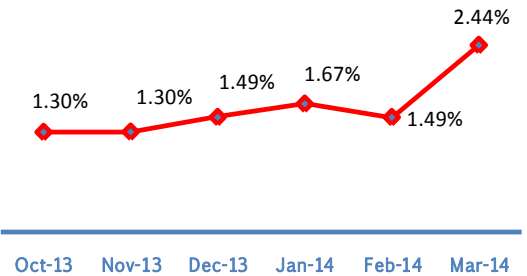
- Whenever a policy premium is not paid by the customer and the grace period expires the policy gets into a lapse status. Lapsed policy which are more than 90 days old from the due date fall under the Deep Lapsed Bucket. There are various efforts centrally as well as from branch to revive them.
- Deep Lapsed bucket is added with ~20000 NOPs every month. Currently deep lapsed bucket is of ~6000 crore rupees.

## Problem Statement:

For the period Oct-13 to Mar-14

- The month on month average collection from deep lapsed/ paid up bucket for less than 3 years lapsed policies is at 1.62%(86.23 Crs).
- Not clear whether this is the best collection coming from the deep lapsed bucket.

% Collection for Deep Lapse Bucket



## Goal Statement:

- To improve average collection from deep lapsed bucket for less than 3 years lapsed policies from current 1.62% to 2.44%(by additional 34 Crs) by Oct-14

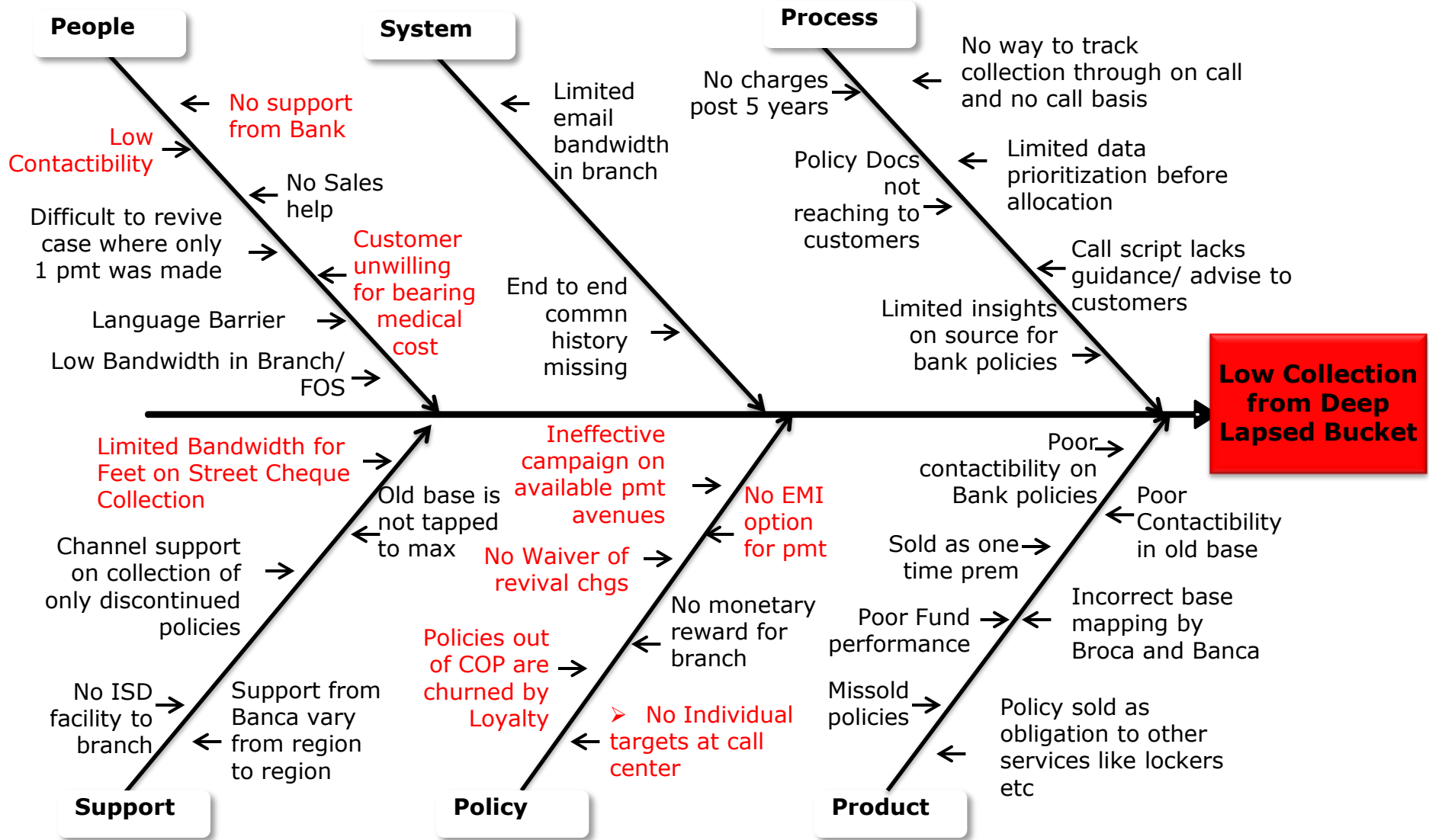
## Tangible Benefits:

- Increased Collection
- Reduced Lapsed policies





# Cause & Effect – Brainstorming Existing & Potential Causes



# Analysis – A Summary

## Actionable Causes:

- Limited Bandwidth for Feet on Street Cheque Collection
- Low Contactibility
- Policies out of COP are churned by Loyalty channel
- Ineffective campaign on available pmt avenues
- No support from Bank for collection
- No Installment Facility
- No Preferred Billing option for ECS customers
- Limited Avenues for electronic payments

## Quick Kill Opportunities:

- Medical applicable for more than 6 months, cost borne by the customer
- No Waiver of revival charges
- No Individual targets at call center

High



Impact



Low

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No electronic method of PHS fulfillment</li> <li>➤ Limited Bandwidth for Feet on Street Cheque Collection</li> <li>➤ No support from Bank</li> <li>➤ Policies out of COP are churned by Loyalty channel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No facility of Bank customers at HDFC Bank for end to end revival transaction</li> <li>➤ No Support from FCs</li> <li>➤ No Installment Facility</li> <li>➤ Medical cost is borne by the customer</li> <li>➤ Low Contactibility</li> <li>➤ Nearly 23% of what we revive is lost again to lapsation in the same year</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Missing co ordination between vendor call centers and branch SPOCs</li> <li>➤ No Preferred Billing option for ECS customers</li> <li>➤ Ineffective campaign on available pmt avenues</li> </ul>

B C  
A D

Yes

No

Team's Control

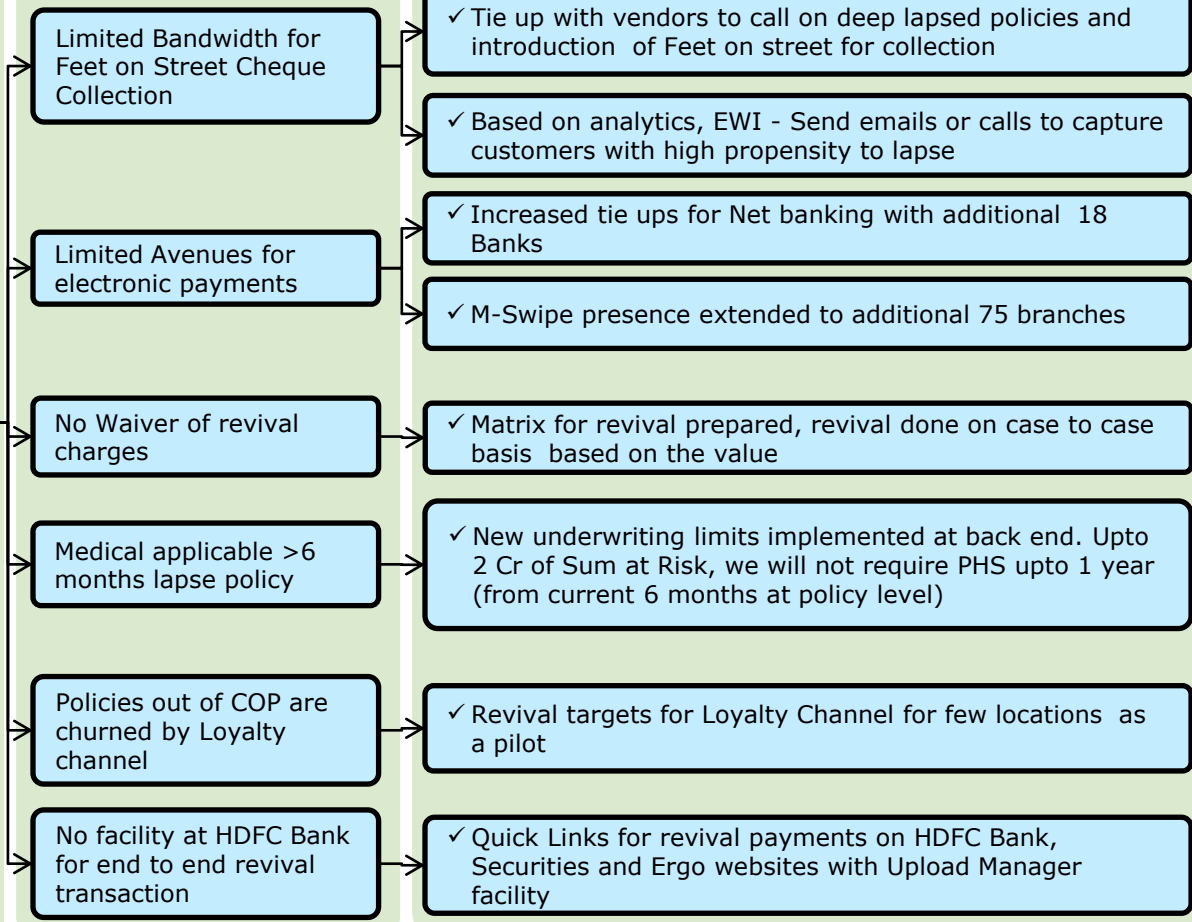


**Problem / Effect**

**Actionable Causes**

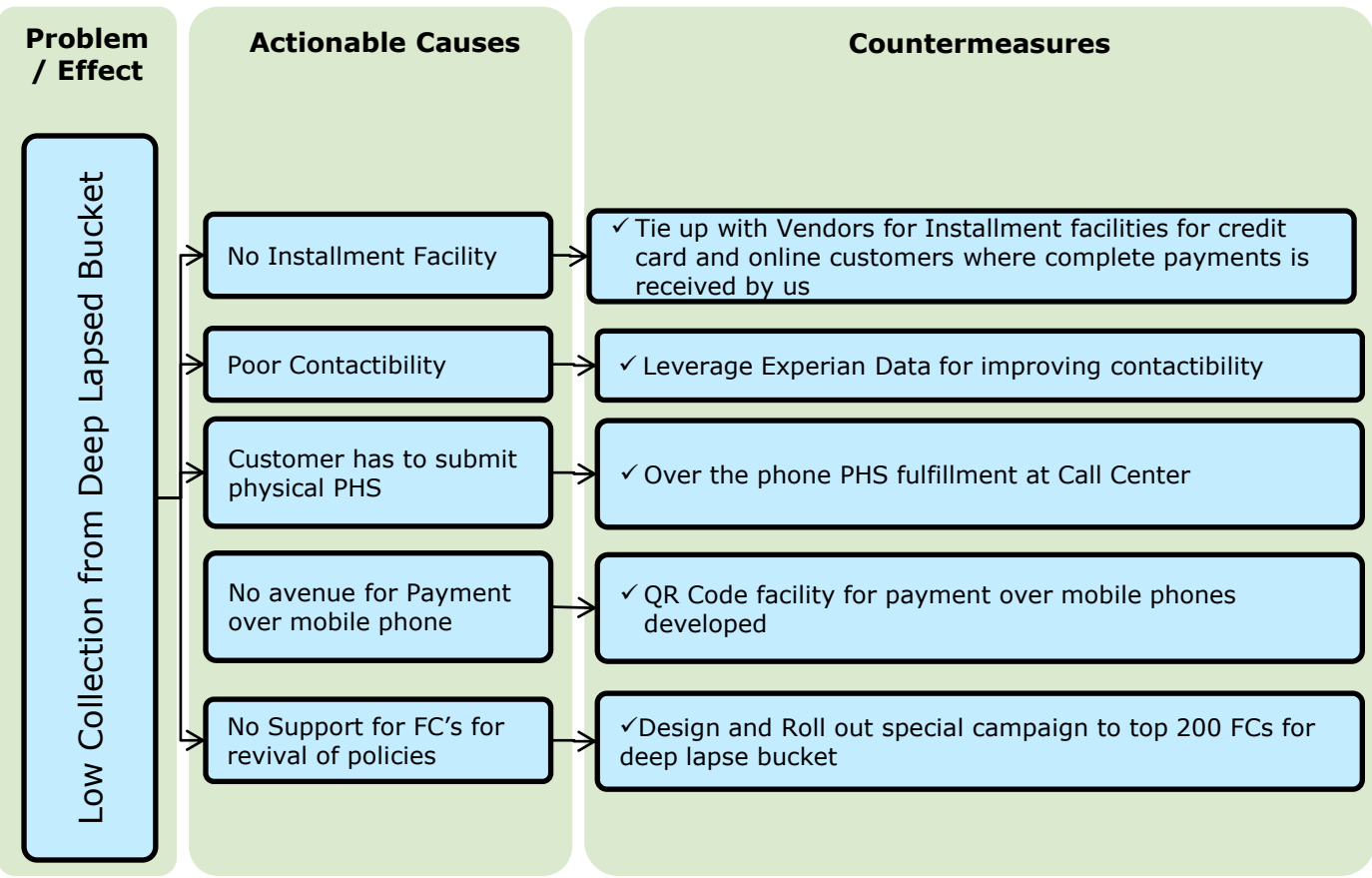
**Countermeasures**

**Low Collection from Deep Lapsed Bucket**



**Prioritization**

Effort (A) (9-3-1)	Impact (B) (1-3-9)	Priority A * B	Select (Y/N)
3	9	27	Y
9	3	27	Y
3	9	27	Y
9	9	81	Y
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Prioritization			
Effort (A) (9-3-1)	Impact (B) (1-3-9)	Priority A * B	Select (Y/N)
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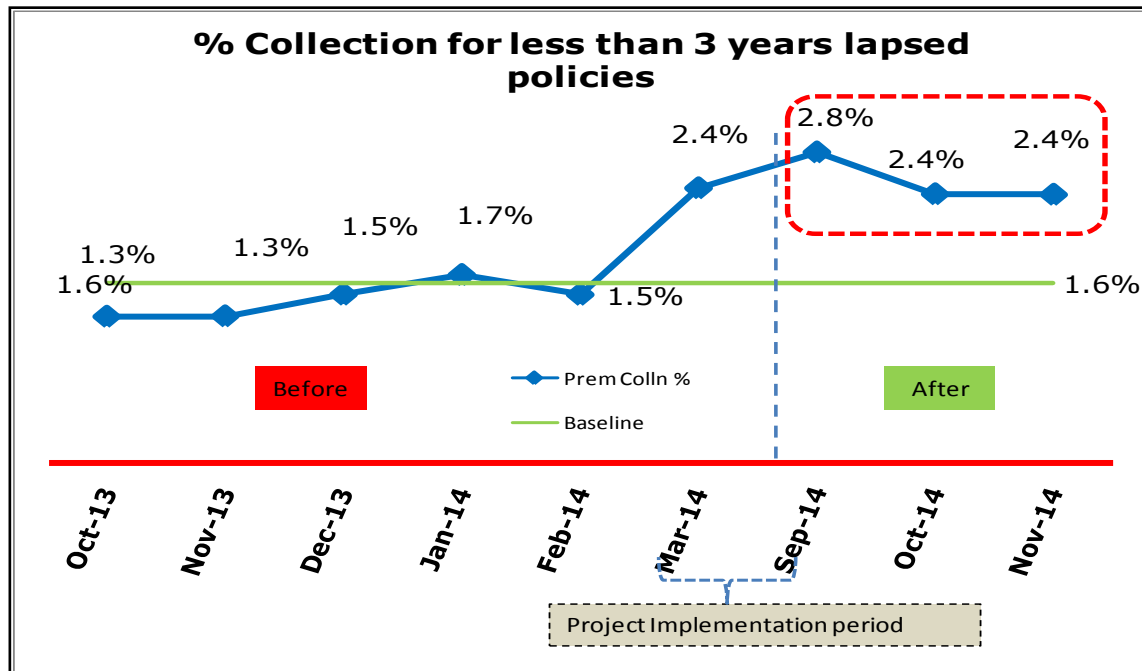
# Results

## Tangible Benefits

### RESULTS

Month	Prem Colln %	Total (Cr)	Collected (Cr)
Oct-13	1.3%	3787.1	49.1406025
Nov-13	1.3%	4039.9	52.5633681
Dec-13	1.5%	4230.6	63.1997382
Jan-14	1.7%	4374.7	73.0390214
Feb-14	1.5%	4530	67.6261692
Mar-14	2.4%	4834.2	118.03862
Average	1.6%	4299.4	70.6012533

Sep-14	2.8%	4685.5	129.38
Oct-14	2.4%	4488.1	107.2
Nov-14	2.4%	5143.3	122.62
Average	2.5%	4772.3	=> (A)
Difference	0.90%	=> (B)	
INCREASE (Cr)	42.72	(A X B)	Per month



- Collection for less than 3 years lapsed policies increased **from 1.6% to 2.4% by Nov-14**
- Average monthly increase of **42.7 crores**
- An Annualized benefits of **512 crores**

# Standardize

## Communication

- Education mailers sent to customers via email stressing on importance of staying invested for a longer period
- Education mailers product specifics with reiteration of benefits sent to customers via email
- Communication to Call Center for over the phone PHS fulfillment

## Training & SOW

- Agreement signed off with vendors for cheque pick up for 10 additional locations
- Agreement signed off with Bill Desk for installment facility to online & credit card customers

## KPI & Approval Matrix

- Approval Matrix designed for waiver of revival charges basis risk factors

## Future Plan

- New project initiated in Jan'15 for improving performance of sales on 13th month persistency

THANK YOU