

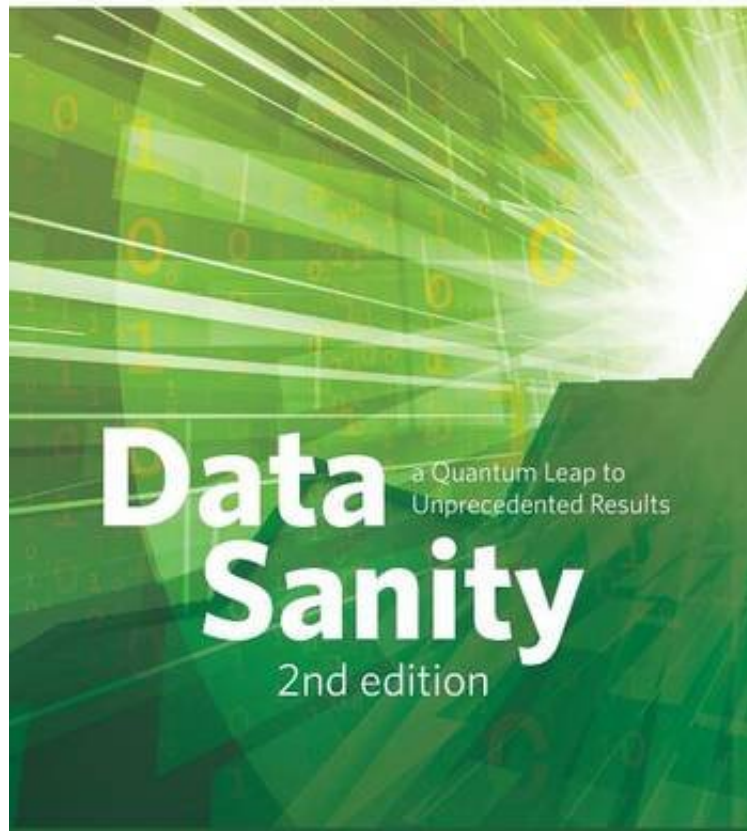
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Data Sanity: A Quantum Leap to Unprecedented Results

Davis Balestracci, MS

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Foreword by Donald M. Berwick, MD, MPP, FRCP



by Davis Balestracci, MS



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Sanity is just as helpful to a manufacturing plant as it is to a hospital, and just as helpful to a CEO of those organizations as it is to a "floor-level" get your hands dirty type employee. You don't need to be a statistician to understand it, but a lot of so-called statistics experts could learn a lot from the simple truths found inside. The author weaves together wisdom and examples from his own long career with that of stalwarts in the field such as Juran, Deming, Wheeler, Shewhart, Joiner, and others to lay out simple to understand and use methods and philosophies that work, period. I've been in the quality assurance business for nearly 30 years, as an entry-level grunt and as a manager. I know B.S. when I see it, and I know good stuff when I see it. I promise you, if you read this book, and apply the lessons therein, you will be happier, have happier co-workers, and have a more productive and successful organization, no matter what your field or occupation. And, if you are in the medical field, you may just end up saving lives as a result. This book is expensive, I'll grant you that. But it is worth every penny if you really want to improve your situation, or that of your company or organization. If you read it and don't heed any of the lessons, it's like walking past a pile of free money and not stopping to pick it up. If you want to get a flavor of the book, check out the author's website at [...] I signed up for his free newsletter, which is full of valuable insight, and I think he will also send you a chapter free. Check it out; you will be glad you did. And by the way; if you have a question about something in the book and you e-mail the author, he will answer you personally, and do so quickly. Pretty rare in this day and age.

Forget everything you've learned in any statistics courses you've ever attended. This ground-breaking book will introduce a mind set, not a tool set to effectively utilize data to improve your practice. This totally revised and streamlined edition presents an everyday organizational language to understand the many guises of variation and a framework to react appropriately. A deeper understanding of variation is far more important than statistical techniques when solving quality improvement problems in a healthcare practice. While defined projects are still necessary for organizational improvement, but they must be seen in the context of cultural transformation. Data Sanity will catalyze this process and the use of everyday data to create the time to make effective, more strategic projects. You will learn elegantly simple and counterintuitive techniques that can create group consensus in seconds. As a result, you can lead deeper, more productive conversations about data and quality issues, which can be the surprising catalyst for true organizational excellence. New in this edition: A total streamlining and reorganization of content to aid readability and understanding

About the Author Davis Balestracci, M.S. statistics, is well known for delivering his message of data sanity through an internationally acclaimed passionate, provocative, challenging, yet humorous and down-to-earth public speaking style. More than one math phobe has thanked him for a statistical approach that neither bores nor tortures them, claiming: Wow...I FINALLY get it! People also appreciate his acute awareness of the daily realities of improvement practitioners. Despite the analytical nature of a degree in statistics, he describes himself as a right-brained statistician he is a pipe organist and has also done graduate work in orchestral and choral conducting. Since 2005, Mr. Balestracci has been a regular contributor to Quality Digest on applying statistical methods to everyday work, facilitating cultural resistance, and educating organizational culture. His book *Data Sanity: A Quantum Leap to Unprecedented Results* (with a Foreword by Dr. Donald Berwick), now in its second edition, is a unique synthesis of W. Edwards Deming's teachings into an improvement-based leadership philosophy designed to transform organizations.