

Formal handovers from surgeons to ward paediatricians about surgical admissions allow earlier recognition of the deteriorating child

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A+E

Lack of surgical handovers of admitted surgical patients to paediatricians on the ward is endemic.

This results in delayed recognition of the deteriorating child with worrying consequences such as child death or significant harm.



Paediatric Ward

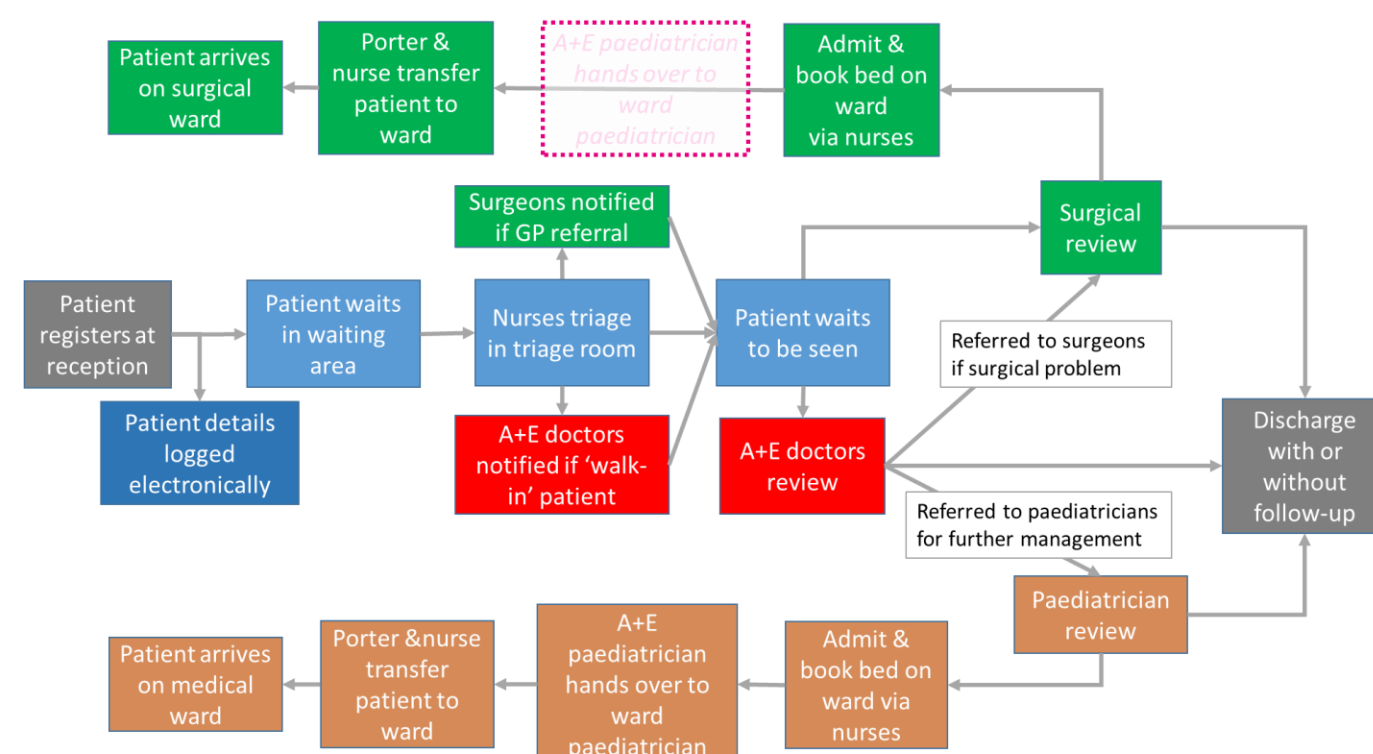
AIM

By January 2019 all surgical patients admitted from A+E to the paediatric ward will be handed over to the ward paediatrician. This will improve patient safety and prevent significant harm and death in the deteriorating child

CHANGE IDEAS:

- Email nurses in A+E asking them to remind surgeons to handover to ward paediatric registrar at time of booking bed (and verbally re-iterating it)
- Email surgical teams reminding them that handover to paediatrics is important.
- Put notices on ALL paediatric A+E computers reminding surgeons to handover to ward paediatric registrar AND include bleep number
- Verbally remind members of the A+E surgical teams to do handovers (re-inforcement)
- Enlist help of paediatric registrar colleagues to remind surgeons whilst they are in A+E to do the handovers to the ward registrars.

DIAGNOSTICS – the missing piece in the process



MEASUREMENT:

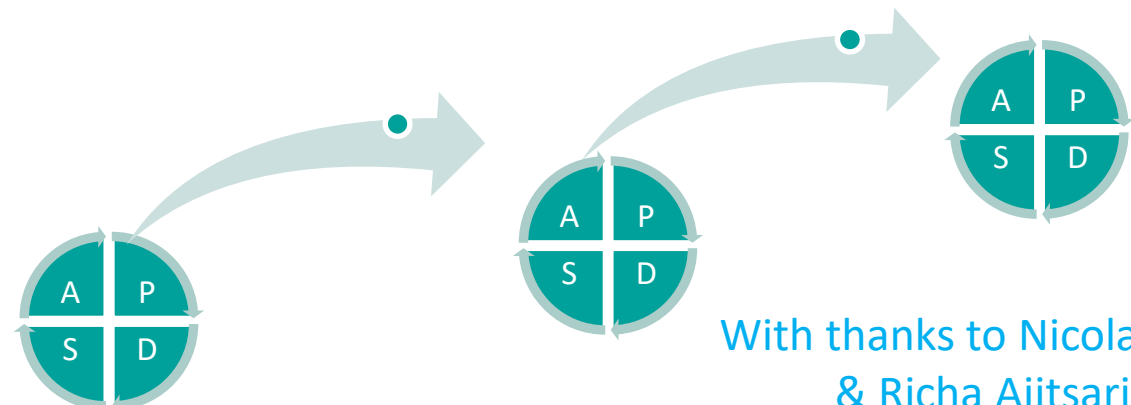
Surgical patients admitted from A+E handed over to the ward
paediatrician

Inclusion: All surgical patients under 16 years old admitted to the paediatric ward from A+E.

Exclusion: Patients requiring surgery in a tertiary hospital

Sampling: Prospective data collected. Paediatric registrars logged in whether the first ten surgical patients admitted from A+E, every fortnight, were formally handed over to them by the surgeons.

Test #	PLAN	DO	STUDY	ACT
1	Email A+E team about need for SBAR handovers of admitted surgical patients to paediatrician	Send emails about SBAR handovers and record number of handovers (randomly select sample size of 10)	Increase in handovers from zero to 3/10.	Increase visibility of handover reminders by siting posters on A+E computers
2	Place surgical to paediatrics SBAR handover reminder posters on all computers in A+E	Posters sited and numbers of surgical handovers recorded	Small improvement in number of surgical handovers. Remained <50% of cases sampled at 4/10.	Increase awareness of initiative with daily verbal reminders in the A+E department
3	Verbally remind A+E department in mornings about handover	Speak to A+E team in morning about handover and record numbers handed over	Half the sample size, 5/10, was handed over.	Future: Introduce departmental micro teaching in A+E and with surgeons about importance of handover.



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& Richa Ajitsaria

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REFLECTIONS

1. Understanding the problem with diagnostics is important in finding solutions
2. Interventions such as reminders generate results but sustainability difficult once reminders removed.
3. Inter-department change takes time- need involvement of stakeholders. - More work to be done.

