

Lumbar Punctures- getting your kit together

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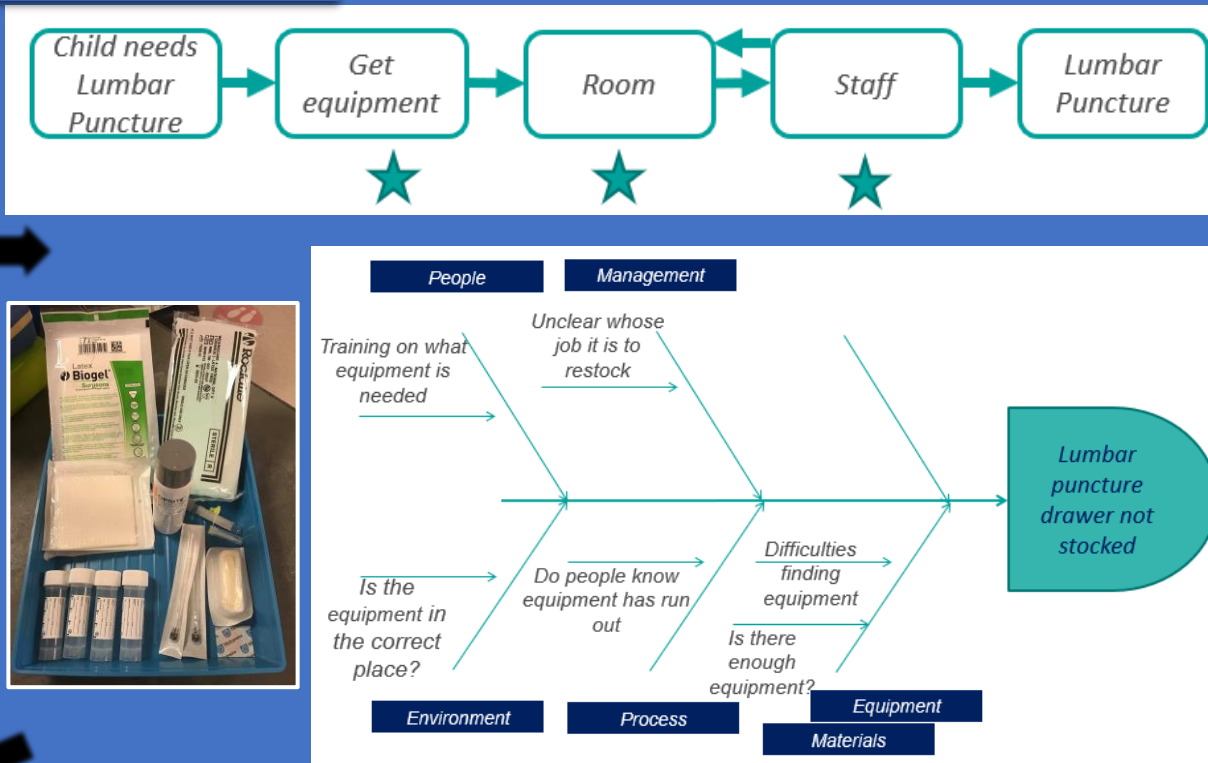
BACKGROUND

In the children's ward lumbar punctures take over 30 minutes to do. Delays finding equipment are frustrating, delay treatment, and also delay doctors from seeing other ill patients.

AIM AND MEASURES

In the children's ward, it will take less than 5 minutes to gather equipment to perform a lumbar puncture from decision to being ready by the end of July 2021.

DIAGNOSTICS



IDEAS

Helpsheet on LP cupboard

Pre-prepared LP pack

Lumbar Puncture Equipment- where is it?



Babies and children requiring lumbar puncture on children's ward for suspected sepsis
Measurements: Time to find equipment in minutes, What equipment was missing.
How: Online questionnaire completed after procedure

Fishbone adapted to have less parts and the equipment/ materials parts were put together.

1

Design a fishbone to describe the problems

Feedback was fishbone a little complicated with too many parts
Suggestion to amalgamate some parts together

2

Present to the QI team and receive feedback

Aim statement changed- In the children's ward, it will take less than 5 minutes to gather equipment to perform a lumbar puncture from decision to being ready by the end of July 2021.

3

Aim statement- In the children's ward, lumbar punctures will take less than 20 minutes from decision to being completed by the end of July 2021

Aim statement not SMART- not realistic and containing too many variables- the procedure could take longer due to patient factors rather than equipment issues.

4

Discussed with colleagues

Reassess with new starters in September

5

Make a poster to highlight both the equipment needed for a lumbar puncture and also where to find it if not immediately available. Display on door of lumbar puncture cupboard.

Most noticed the poster but didn't use it
Most had done LPs before at WMH and knew where to find equipment.

6

Ask doctors who have performed LPs or gathered the equipment if they have noticed the poster and if so, found it useful.

Questionnaire adapted to delete sepsis question, and also to have a free text box for time taken to find the equipment.

7

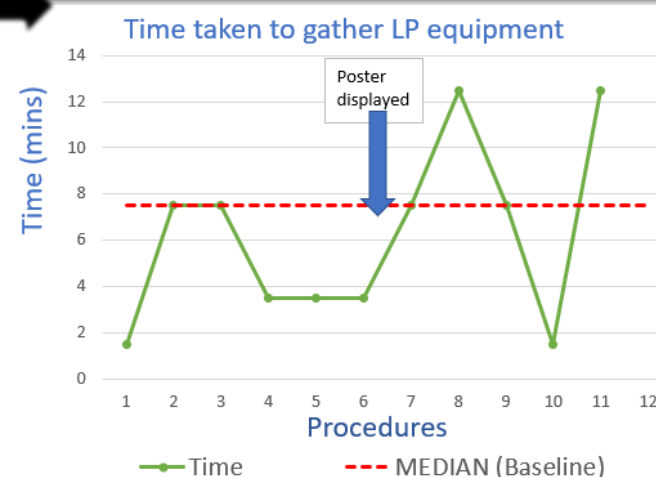
Design a questionnaire to find out how problematic finding the equipment for lumbar puncture is.

Data analysed- very few LPs done. Sepsis question not helpful in relation to data being collected, and the time to find equipment also difficult to analyse

8

Questionnaire sent out on Microsoft forms and link sent by Whatsapp to all doctors who would be helping with or doing lumbar punctures.

CONCLUSION



Not enough data was collected, but since the intervention, it appears that time taken has become more variable. Further data is needed and PDSAs need to be undertaken.