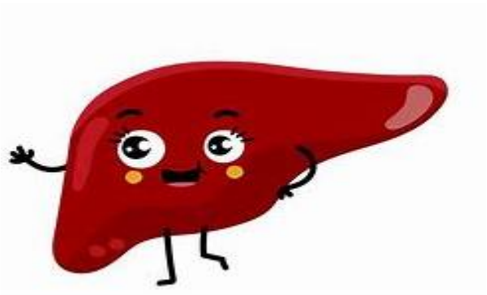
Choosing Wisely: My liver is fine

Reducing unnecessary liver blood tests in the Emergency Department

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Unnecessary liver blood test requests are common and of no benefit. Spurious test results need repeating. These generate distress for children, families, and staff and are costly for our NHS

DIAGNOSTICS

Patient arrives ED and assessed → *Consider differentials* → *Decision to perform blood tests* → *Justification of liver blood tests* → *Liver blood tests NOT clinically indicated*

AIM & MEASUREMENT DEFINITION

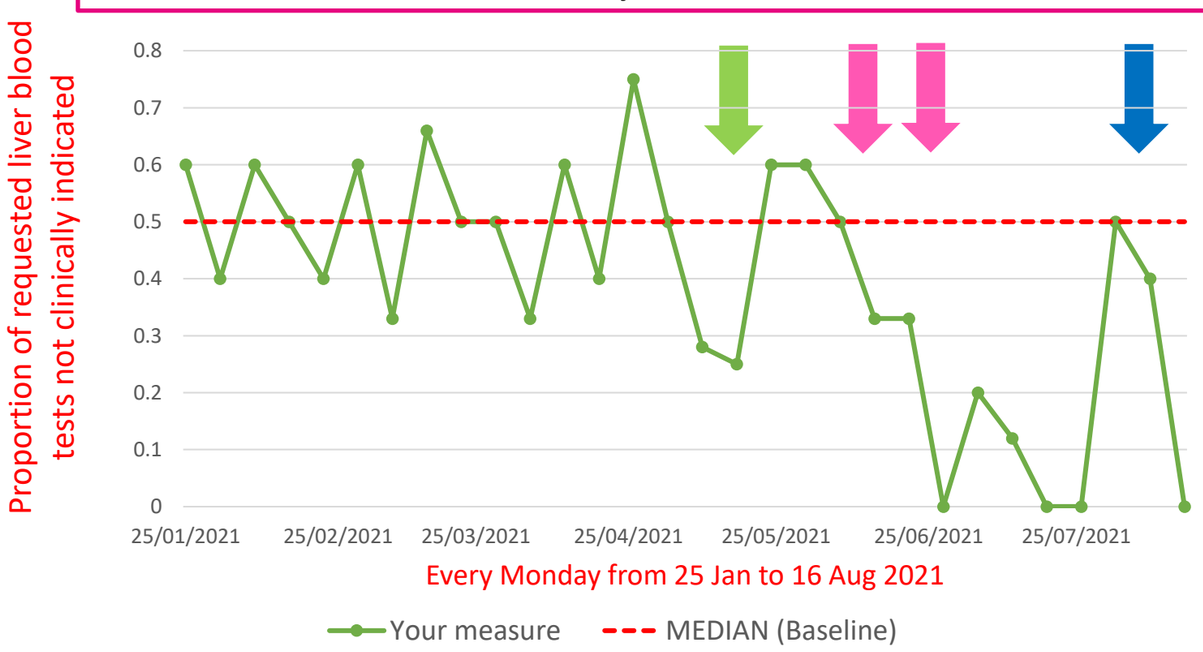
- ❖ To reduce the number of unnecessary liver blood tests in children and young people (CYP) presenting to the emergency department to less than 30% by August 2021
- ❑ Proportion of requested liver blood tests not clinically indicated: non-gastrointestinal conditions
- ❑ Liver blood tests done every Monday on CYP less than 16 years of age were analysed

CHANGE IDEAS

- ○ Bite-sized teaching sessions on utility of liver blood tests
- ○ Reminder poster on education board in the department
- ○ Small stickers on computers as prompts
- ○ Reminders on board rounds: incorporating as part of handover themes
- ○ "Random" clinical vignette surveys for ED clinicians at intervals

PDSA Test #	PLAN	Do	STUDY	ACT
1	Provide teaching session on utility of liver blood tests	Circulate information during teaching session and share slides to all. Seek feedback	Most of liver blood test requests done were instinctively	Reminders on educational WhatsApp group every Monday morning
2	To engage colleagues on the concept of "choosing wisely"	Present the weekly data on liver blood tests every Friday and seek feedbacks	Decline in requested tests especially for common conditions (sepsis, appendicitis)	Continue weekly one slide snapshot of blood requests
3	To evaluate clinicians' practice regarding liver blood requests	3 clinical vignettes were sent as survey on WhatsApp group. 23 clinicians' responses were analysed	1 & 4 clinicians would do liver blood tests in appendicitis & presumed sepsis respectively	Survey report posted on the group with evidence share on lack of benefit of liver blood test in surveyed scenarios

Run chart of the requested liver blood tests **not** clinically indicated



REFLECTIONS & LEARNING

- Anticipating resistance to change is vital
- "Little" things like WhatApp engagements do make significant impacts
- Perseverance and patience are required to counteract moments of "QI despair"
- Challenges in effecting change in a high pressure environment were unravelled
- Positive feedbacks from colleagues as to change in their practice were rejuvenating
- This project tried and tested my leadership skills

Acknowledgements
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