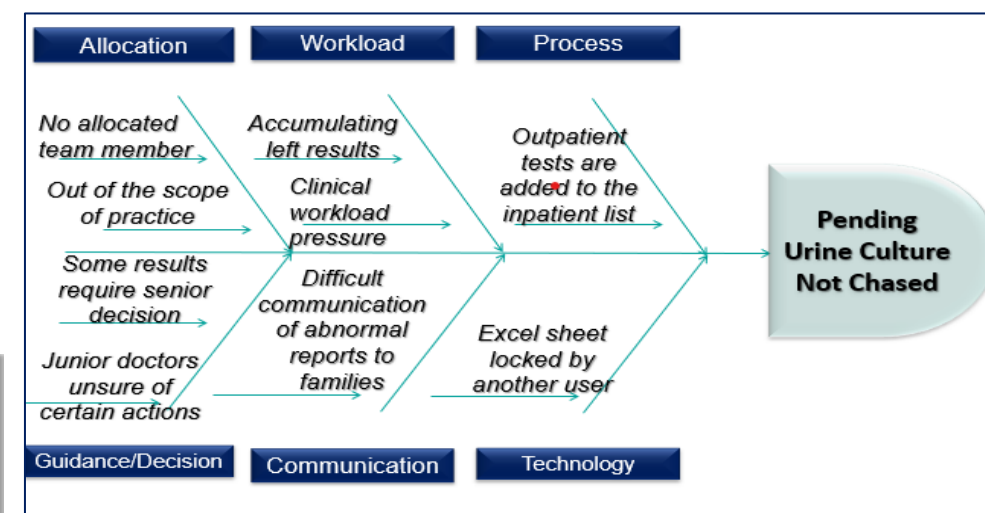
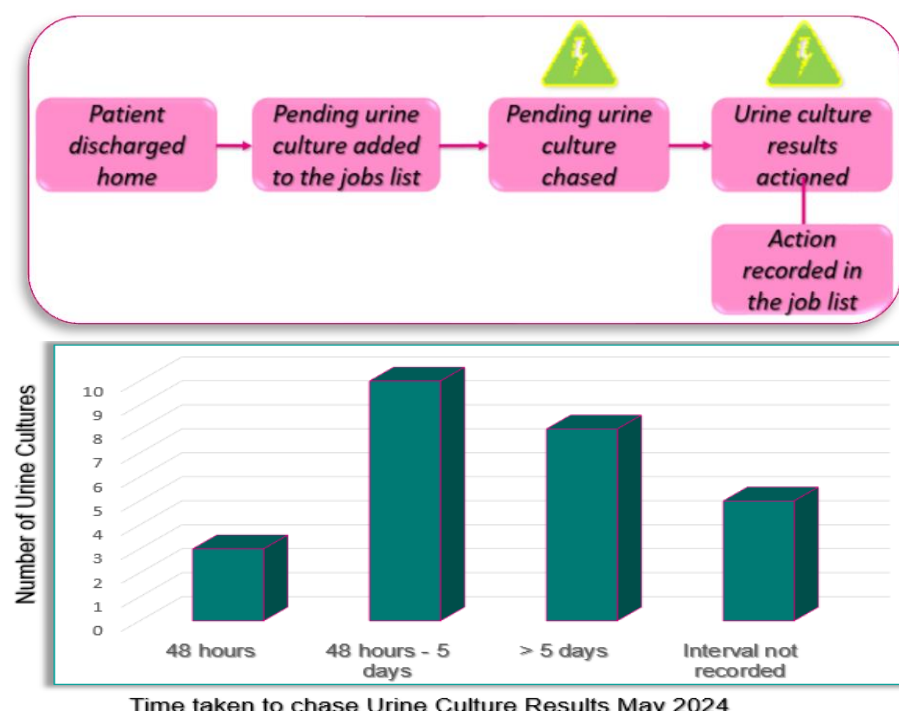


When children go home before urine culture results are available, results follow-up is often missed. Missed urinary tract infections risk kidney damage and escalate healthcare expenses for families and systems.

DIAGNOSTICS



Aim

By September 2024, 8 out of 10 urine culture results for children discharged from the assessment unit before results are available, are followed up within 48 hours of sample collection.

Chosen measure

Number of urine cultures followed up within 48 hours of sample collection.

Inclusions

All urine cultures for children discharged from the assessment unit before results are available.

Exclusions

None. (All discharged children with pending urine culture results are included.)

Change ideas

- Explain** the responsibility and the process of chasing urine culture results to the new doctors during inductions in a short presentation and or poster.
- Grant** immediate access to the jobs list for new doctors to prevent the accumulation of outstanding urine culture results.
- Designate** a junior team member daily to review and chase urine culture results, and discuss progress during the daily team huddle.
- Set** a protected time each day for the member to review and follow up on urine culture results to ensure it is prioritised without interruptions.

PDSA 1

Adapt
Assign another junior doctor when the HDU doctor has a more clinical workload

The service week consultant assigns the HDU doctor to follow up on pending urine culture results during the mid-day huddle at 12:30 PM.

- A different junior member may need to be assigned
- The team felt the process was clear and consistent

- 20/7 - 5/8 (weekdays)
- The HDU doctor was assigned
- As winter approaches, the HDU doctor might become busier.

PDSA 2

Add-on
Send weekly reminders on the department's WhatsApp group

The service week consultant assigns the HDU or another SHO to follow up on pending urine culture results during the mid-day huddle at 12:30 PM

- New doctors frequently overlook the need to follow up on pending urine culture results from both the ward and the assessment unit job lists.

- 10/8 - 20/8 (weekdays)
- One SHO was assigned
- This period coincided with the junior doctors' changeover

PDSA 3

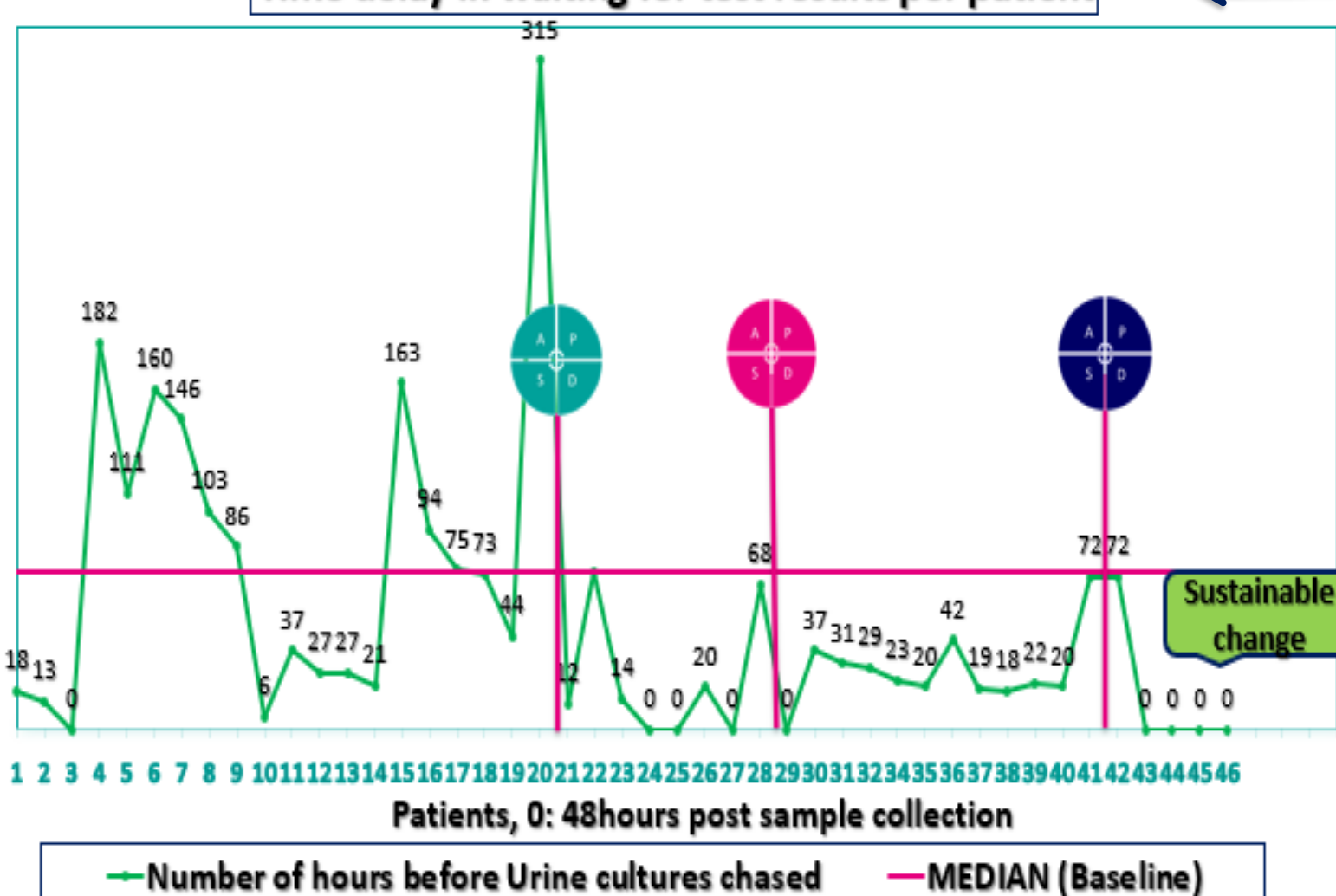
Again
Send weekly reminders on the department's WhatsApp group at the beginning of the week

Send WhatsApp to remind junior doctors to chase both ward and assessment unit job lists

- WhatsApp might be an effective method to remind junior doctors about the task.
- It will be useful to send the message at the beginning of the week

- 23/9 - 27/9 (weekdays)
- WhatsApp message sent to the group.
- Message read on the same day.
- 8 junior doctors acknowledged the information

Time delay in waiting for test results per patient



CONCLUSION, LEARNING & REFLECTIONS

- Our project showed steady progress after introducing key interventions. We met our aim, particularly in the 3rd PDSA cycle achieving 4 out of 5 urine culture follow-ups by 48 hours.
- I learned that weekly reminders worked well while delegating follow-up to the High-dependency unit doctor faced challenges due to workload pressures. Testing changes on a small scale allowed us to adapt quickly, preventing larger issues and refining our approach for better outcomes.
- The Model for Improvement (MFI) gave us a structured, data-driven way to test changes, and the PDSA cycles ensured continuous improvement. I learned that regular review and adaptability are essential for success.
- To ensure sustainability without constant oversight, we embedded changes into daily routines. Key factors for success included clear communication, defined responsibilities, and staff engagement to consistently pursue pending results.



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