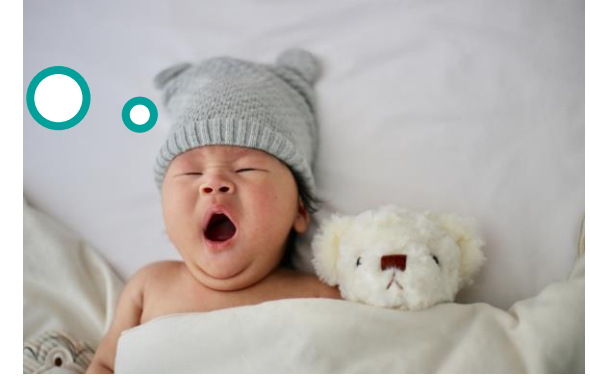




Doctors are not sure of the correct folic acid dose to prescribe to newborns who are jaundiced and direct Coombs' test positive. This could result in severe anaemia and babies may need a blood transfusion.

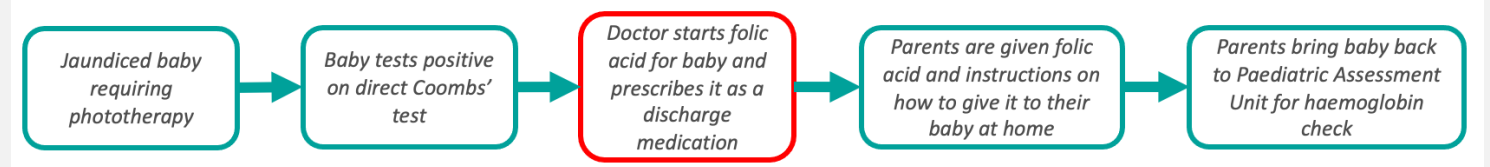
Don't forget my folic acid!



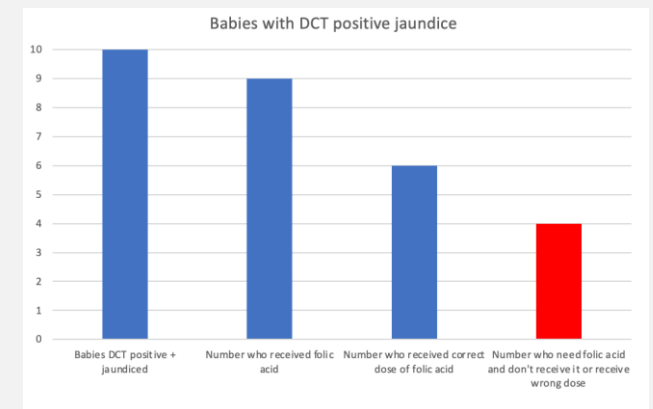
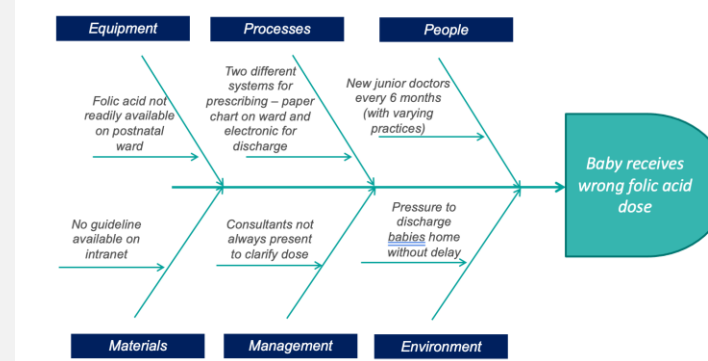
BACKGROUND

- Babies who receive phototherapy for jaundice and test positive on the direct Coombs' test (DCT) should receive a higher dose of folic acid (500 micrograms/kg) to reduce the occurrence and severity of anaemia
- The medical team in our unit identified that folic acid prescriptions were inconsistent with dosing

DIAGNOSTICS



Fishbone diagram



AIM & MEASUREMENT

Aim: By the 31st August 2023 all babies who are jaundiced and DCT positive will receive the correct dose of folic acid on discharge from hospital.

Chosen measure

- Received correct dose of folic acid at discharge
 - 0 = none
 - 1 = folic acid prescribed at discharge
 - 2 = correct dose of folic acid prescribed at discharge

Inclusions

- All babies born at St Helier Hospital between 6/3/23 and 31/8/23

Exclusions

- Babies not DCT positive AND Jaundiced

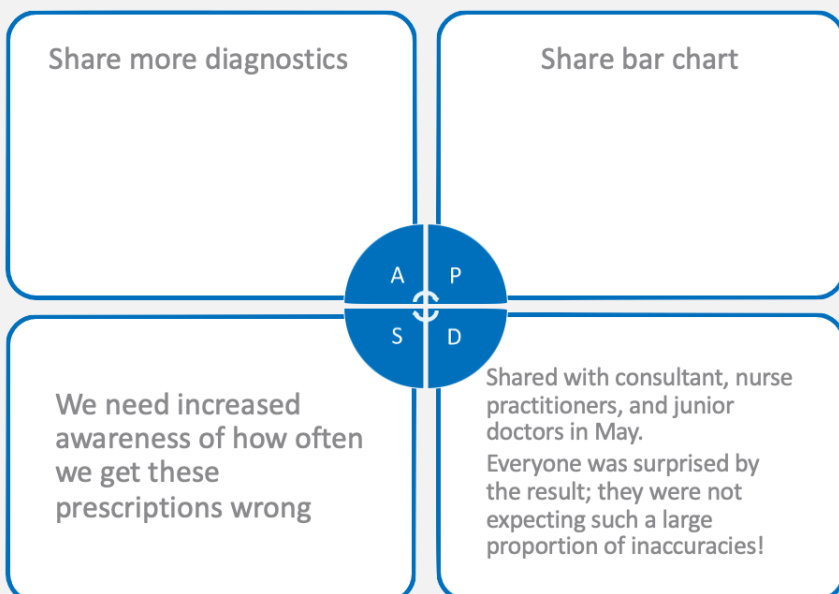
CHANGE IDEAS

- Simple reminder on the front of the PNW folder (will it be recreated when the folder gets replaced?)
- Teaching session during induction period or at the beginning of the rotation
- Speaking to head pharmacist to ensure pharmacists are also aware when screening TTOs
- Changing the guideline and ensuring it is available on the intranet (not just stuck on a wall in the office!)
- A reminder on clinical manager when prescribing folic acid on the computer system
- Educating the midwives so they are also aware when administering the medication

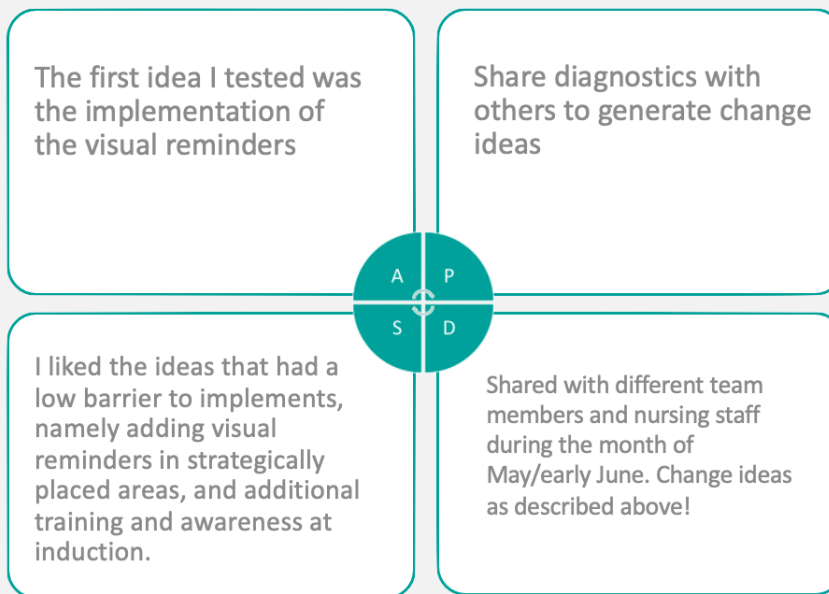


PDSA cycles

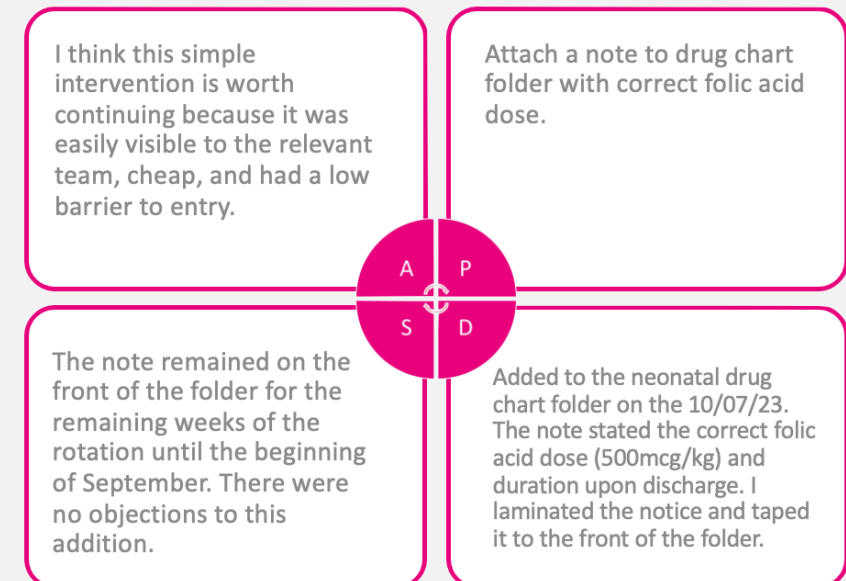
PDSA 1.1 – Engage colleagues



PDSA 1.2

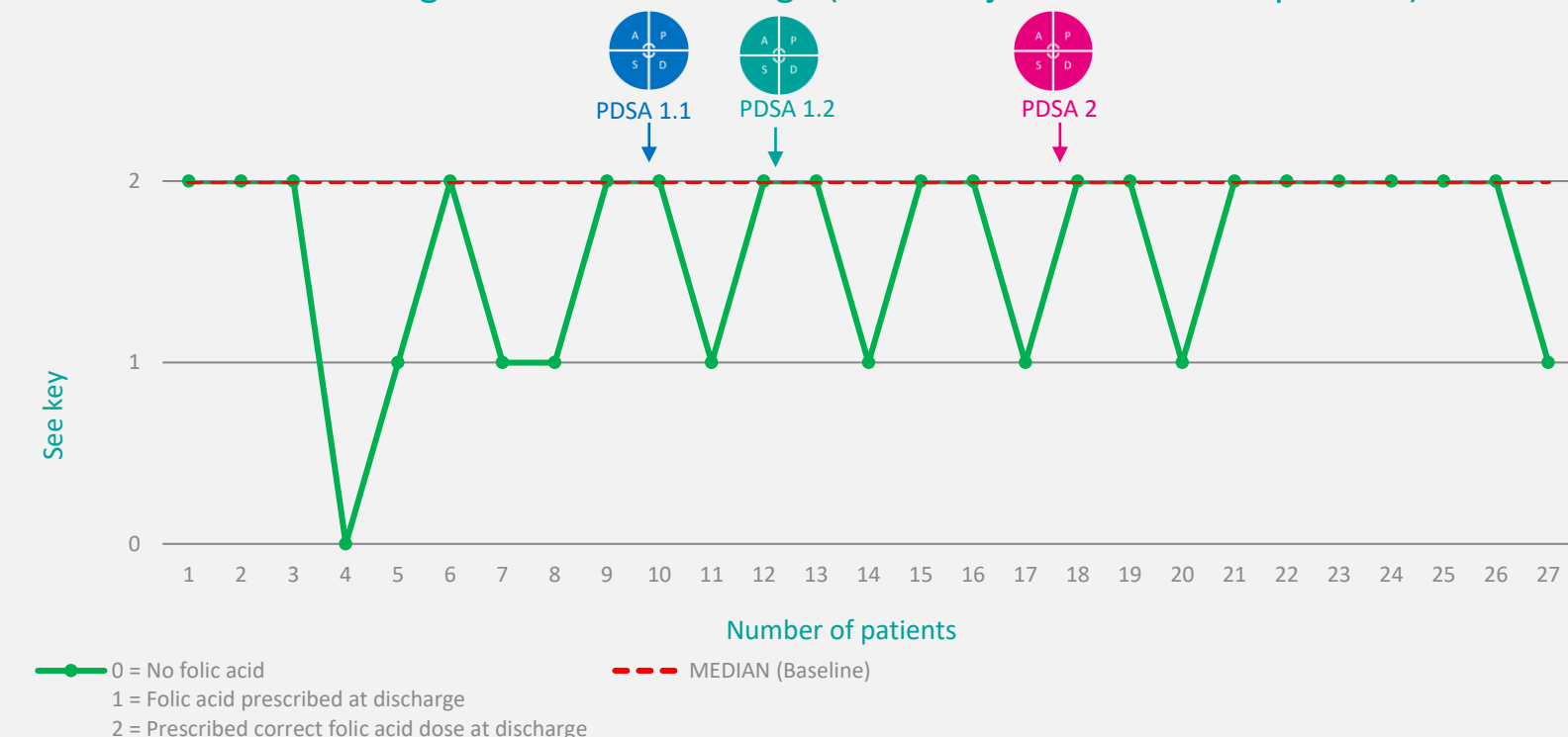


PDSA 2 - Provide dosage information



RUN CHART

Babies receiving folic acid at discharge (who are jaundiced + DCT positive)



REFLECTIONS & LEARNING

- My intervention may have had an effect, given the improvement seen on the run chart, but whether it is long-lasting remains to be seen
- I should try to implement additional change ideas to see their impact
- I think more than one intervention is required to achieve 100% accuracy
- Running the diagnostics was useful to really think about the problem from different angles and viewpoints, which facilitates coming up with multiple change ideas
- Sharing data and having discussions with other team members has made me see the value of a collaborative approach!

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Hajera Sheikh, Clodagh Gallagher,
Aisling Chew

