Khoo Teck Puat Hospital Improving the "Time-to-diagnosis" for patients presenting with Gross Hematuria

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Adding years of healthy life

Mission Statement

"Within a 6-month period, to increase the proportion of patients who gets flexible cystoscopy within 21-days of referral for gross hematuria to Urology clinic ("time-to-diagnosis") from a baseline of 17.5% to 100%."

Definition:

"Time-to-diagnosis" = duration from referral to Urology clinic for gross hematuria to flexible cystoscopy

Pareto Chart Pareto chart

Team Members

	Name	Designation	Department	Role in this project
1.	Dr Lau Weida	Consultant	Urology	Leader
2.	Dr Dinesh Sirisena	Consultant	Orthopaedics	Co-Leader
3.	Ms Lin Xiao Yan	Assistant Nurse Clinician	Urology clinic	Member
4.	Ms Lim Hui Yee Esther	Senior Executive	Operations Admin	Member
5.	Dr Marcus Chow	Chief Resident	Urology	Member
6.	Ms Nilufer Banu Bte Aslam	Senior Triage Specialist	Customer Contact Centre	Member
7	Dr Loh Seow Siang	Sr Consultant	Emergency Medicine	Facilitator

Evidence for a Problem Worth Solving

•Gross hematuria is the most important presenting symptom for bladder cancer

- •A delay in the diagnosis of bladder cancer increased the risk of death from disease independent or disease stage of tumor grade
- •A delay between the onset of symptoms and patient presentation to the GP was





Implementation

Problem	Intervention	Date of implementation
No show to scope room utilizing scope appts	Stopped rebooking "no-show" for low-yield conditions	3 Nov 2021
	Enhanced communication addressing no show reasons	1 Dec 2021
Prioritizing CT urography over flexible cystoscopy	Perform flexible cystoscopy prior to upper tract imaging	17 No 2021

Results

Run chart: Percentage scope within 21-days



associated with a poorer prognosis and higher stage bladder cancer (5).

Current Performance of a Process

	КТРН	NHS (UK)
"Time-to-diagnosis" (days)	58	21
"Time-to-treatment" (days)	72	43

Flow Chart of Process

Macro view	Micro view	
Referral for gross hematuria	GP/ CHAS / polyclinic / A&E Gross hematuria or microhematuria or UTI	Referral reaches contact centre – processed within 5 working days Appointment 1 – 2 weeks (protocol)
SOC visit	Cons first-case clinic	rine investigation (e.g., culture) Der tract imaging (CT urography) before cystoscopy
Flexible cystoscopy	Attends flexible cystoscopy Bladder cancer	→ TURBT

Cost Savings

	Before intervention	After intervention
No show rate	34.5%	16.9%
Number of slots gained per year	0	312

Problems Encountered			
Domain	Lessons learnt		
Problem recognition	 Compare existing department outcomes with published MOH/International data 		
Problem solving	 Involve all stakeholders Following the CPIP workflow: Process mapping (flowchart) / Ishikawa chart / Pareto 		
PDSA	 An apparent "patient-factor" problem, such as "no-show", may be due to an underlying physician / admin problem Management protocol can be difficult to reverse 		
Outcome	 To analyze process measures, outcomes measures, and economic measures 		
Strategies to Sustain			
Strategy	Intervention	Activity	
Sustaining	MO orientation programme	Incorporate gross hematuria topic into MO orientation and education programme, to be taught early in the posting	
	Clinic re- organization	Fast-track clinic and hematuria clinic for protocolized management of hematuria as per guidelines and as per CPIP interventions	
Spreading	Problem recognition	Regular audit and review of outcomes, and compare with local and international standards	
	Problem solving	Encourage problem solving using the established tools of CPIP	



Cause and Effect Diagram

