SAFF 5 CHD Pathways: Referral to Treatment Time

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Presentation

Background

Patient Pathways

Results

Conclusions
**Background**

- July 2005 one stop chest pain clinic
- August 2005 one stop heart failure diagnostic clinic
- Held in local community hospital
- GPs have direct access using electronic booking system (CARENET)
Accelerate Access to Treatment by:

- Offering early access to diagnostics and cardiology review
  - 2 weeks for one stop angina clinic
  - 4 weeks for one stop heart failure service

- Earlier diagnosis and treatment for patients requiring medical management

- “Speeds up” patient referral pathway to secondary and tertiary care
Referral Pathway and Times Pre One Stop Clinics

Patient attends GP surgery: GP refers patient to Cardiologist by letter (within two days)

Cardiologist reviews referral letter (within 10 days)
Patient placed on waiting list to see cardiologist (2-10 months)

Attends cardiology clinic: Patient placed on waiting list for ETT (6-8 weeks)

Attends ETT: Results reviewed

Attends cardiology clinic for results (6 months)

Managed medically: GP informed (2 weeks)

Non urgent angiogram/other investigations (3 months)

Urgent angiogram (within two weeks)

Patient on waiting list for revascularisation: (treatment within one year approx)

Time to definitive treatment = approx 7-16 months

Time to definitive treatment = 10-19 months

Time to definitive treatment = approx 12-20 months
Rapid Access Chest Pain One Stop Clinics

Patient attends GP surgery
GP refers patient to one stop chest pain clinic
(same day)

Patient attends one stop clinic (within two weeks)

Angina confirmed

No further investigations required

Written management plan to GP
(electronically within one working day)

Community cardiac rehabilitation programme
(attends within two weeks)

Ongoing management in Primary Care

Time to treatment = approx 14 weeks

Time to treatment = approx 13 months

Time to treatment = 4 (6/8) weeks
Referred for specialist investigations and treatment:
Time variable

Referred to heart failure specialist nurse
(1 month or earlier if required)

Written management plan to GP
(Two weeks)

Patient reviewed six monthly or on individual need by GP

Time to definitive treatment = 4-14 months
Heart Failure One Stop Clinic

Patient attends GP surgery: Same day referral to one stop heart failure diagnostic clinic

Attends one stop heart failure clinic (within 4 weeks)

Heart failure confirmed

Further investigation

Medical management

Written management plan to GP (electronically within one working day)

Referred to heart failure specialist nurse (within one month or earlier if required)

Patient reviewed six monthly or on individual need by GP

Referred for specialist investigations and treatment: Time variable

Time to definitive treatment = 8 weeks
### Results

#### Chest Pain Clinic
- 145 patients attended (10% DNA rate)
- 89% (129) received treatment/were discharged within one month
- 10% (15) required further investigation
- 1% (1) required revascularisation

#### Heart Failure Diagnostics
- 99 patients attended (No DNAs)
- 75% (74) received treatment/discharged within 2 months
- 25% (25) required further investigation/monitoring
- No referrals to tertiary care
Conclusion

• One stop clinics have improved access to diagnostics and cardiology review

• Shortened referral to treatment times with the majority of patients receiving treatment in weeks rather than months

• Speed up referral process for patients requiring secondary/tertiary care

• Reduces the number of appointments the patient attends to receive a diagnosis

• Moves patients out of the acute system back to primary care quickly
SAFF 5: CHD Pathways
Referral to Treatment Time

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