



Improving the percentage of patients discharged before Midday on a Care of the Older Person (COOP) Ward

Dr Rob McDonald, Sarah Wilkinson, Rachel Cronshaw

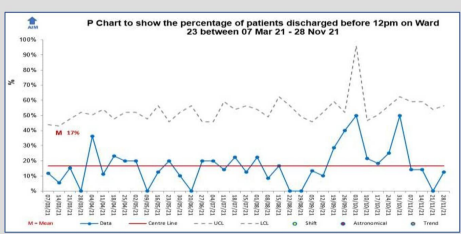
Introduction

- Bed availability has been a challenge within the NHS for the last few decades, ¹ exacerbated by the recent pandemic and associated staffing issues ²
- Bed availability had been a particular challenge within Blackpool Victoria Hospital
- Efficient patient flow is a key element of increasing capacity
- Morning discharges from wards improve patient flow

Aim

To increase the proportion of patients being discharged before 12pm from 17% to 40% on Ward 23 by June 2022.

Initial Assessment



WARD ROUND PROFORMA

Ward: _____ Named Consultant: _____
Assessing Doctor: _____ Grade: _____

Abbreviations must not be used unless description is written in full after the first use on each entry

Each entry must be:
• written in black indelible ink
• signed, name printed and designation
• dated and timed (24hour clock)

NEWS - National Early Warning Score
VTE - Venous Thromboembolism
DNAR - Do Not Attempt Resuscitation

Diagnoses/Current Problems

Escalation Plan (including DNAR)

NEWS

Oxygen Saturation: _____
Respiratory Rate: _____
Heart Rate: _____
Blood Pressure: _____
Temperature: _____

Fluid & Nutritional Status Review

Blood Sugar: _____

Oral Intake Review:

Fluid Input/Output:
Fluid Balance: _____

Bowel Chart:

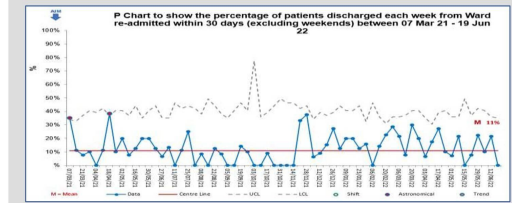
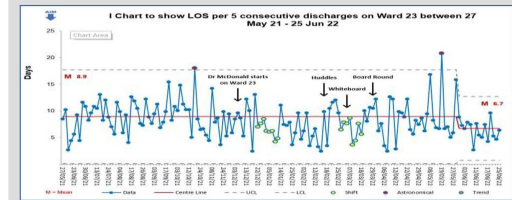
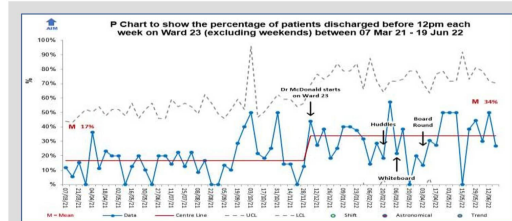
Assessment Checklist

VTE Assessment? Yes No
Oxygen Prescription? Yes No
Dementia Screen? Yes No

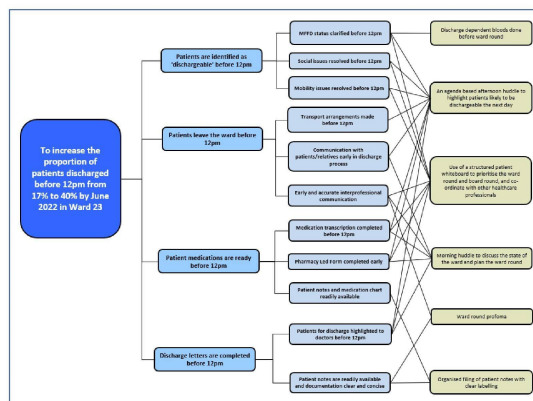
Does the patient (or if applicable, parent/guardian/carer) understand who their health record information may be shared with to support their care? Yes / No

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____
Designation: _____ Date and Time (use 24-hour Clock): _____

Data



Driver Diagram



Change Ideas

- Agenda-based 0900 and 1600 huddles between medical and nursing teams to share information on patients
- Board round before 12pm, but after all non-MFFD patients seen
- Structured patient whiteboard to aid communication between ward staff
- Ward round prioritization³:
Unwell>MFFD>New>Ongoing>MFFD
- Standard ward round proforma

Results

- Sustained improvement in pre-12pm discharges seen to 34% – despite poor ward staffing
- Average ward LOS has also improved – 8.9 to 6.7 days
- 30-day re-admission rate remains stable

Lessons learned

- Standardised approaches to ward processes can improve LOS and pre-12pm discharge rates
- This can be achieved even in challenging staffing conditions

Next Steps

- Scaling up this work could benefit other wards therefore, similar work has begun on other wards
- The team will continue to develop and test the ward round proforma and standardise other documentation

References

- 1- Alder et al. "Managing capacity and demand across the patient journey." *Clinical medicine*, 10(1), p.13.
- 2 – Sen-Crowe, et al. "A closer look into global hospital beds capacity and resource shortages during the COVID-19 pandemic." *Journal of Surgical Research* 260 (2021): 56-63.
- 3- RCP & RCN "Modern ward rounds Good practice for multidisciplinary inpatient review" <https://www.rcn.org.uk/-/media/Royal-College-Of-Nursing/Documents/Publications/2021/January/009-566.pdf> (accessed 08/07/2022)