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Improving the efficiency of General Surgery team using the emergency theater by making good use of theater time: Quality improvement project

Delays in Emergency theatres can significantly affect the quality of care and potentially compromises patient safety in NHS trusts, as these theaters are shared between different teams (General Surgery, Breast Surgery, Urology, Gynaecology, etc) and are reserved for emergency cases only. This signifies the importance of good organization and making good use of theater time to ensure adherence to clinical standards and maintain patient safety at all times.

At our trust, a quality improvement audit project was conducted to evaluate and address operational inefficiencies. The aim of the audit was to identify the cause of these delays and their frequency. Findings revealed that the ratio of delays is 62% - a substantial figure which highlighted a room for improvement.

The primary objective of the project was to ensure that the huddle start is always on time, thereby enhancing the workflow and the overall efficiency of the emergency theater. Early outcomes indicate improved start times and better coordination among surgical staff.

This presentation outlines the key causes of delay and offers practical recommendations to improve service quality.

Keywords

Emergency, theater, efficeincy, audit, huddle, time

Biography

Peter Farag, a healthcare professional working at Kettering General Hospital NHS Foundation trust as a trust grade registrar in the department of General Surgery. Quality improvement projects and audits are essential in my job. I am interested in theaters development and I have multiple projects aiming to improve the quality of care and ensure patient safety.

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