

1.23 An Assessment of ‘Sleep Clinic Efficiency’ Following a QI Program

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Background

The “did not attend” (DNA) rate to OPD appointments in Ireland is high, calculated at 13% in 2016. International best practice aims for DNA rates closer to 5-8%.

A modification of the traditional sleep assessment pathway may reduce the number of appointments necessary and reduce overall DNA rates.

We audited the outcomes of a modified sleep assessment pathway, as part of a QI initiative in St. Luke’s Hospital (SLKK), to assess for improvements in DNA rates and calculate the overall efficiency of this pathway; including the volume of patient contacts needed to transition the patient through this pathway.

The input of individual members of staff at each stage in the pathway was assessed to determine how many patient contacts are required to transition a patient from referral to therapy (or discharge).

Methods

A retrospective assessment of 101 referrals to the SLKK Sleep Clinic was conducted. Data was gathered, including: time from referral to pathway inclusion, time from request for sleep study to sleep study, time from sleep study to physician assessment.

Results

101 cases were reviewed, and data collected.

Conclusion

Modification of the sleep pathway reduces waiting times. However a significant proportion of time is spent in patient contact.

Keywords

sleep disorders, sleep clinic, sleep studies, osa, referrals, audit, quality improvement

Disclosures

***Conflict of Interest:** The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.*