

4.14 A Review and Audit of the Pulmonary Fibrosis Nurse Led Clinic within the UHL Hospital Group

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Aim: To review the management of patients with pulmonary fibrosis being treated with anti-fibrotic therapy in the nurse led clinic within the University Hospital Limerick Group.

Method: A review of patient case notes in the outpatient department of the management of pulmonary fibrosis patients according to the NICE guidelines 2013.

Background: People are diagnosed with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) only with the consensus of a multidisciplinary team with expertise in the disease (NICE,2013). Due to the severity of the disease and the poor prognosis, it is important to ensure high quality care for our patient's and ensure best practice which in turn will allow for expert person centred quality care.

Findings: All IPF patients in this audit seen in the respiratory department knew their diagnosis (n=42), had a CT scan and were under the care of a respiratory consultant. Only 55% of patients had being discussed at an ILD MDM. Of the patients on anti-fibrotic medication a total of 20% had to change anti-fibrotic therapy at some point. All patient's had evidence of their being referred to pulmonary rehabilitation. 71% had documentation of evidence of PFT's having been performed with 90% of patient's having had a 6MWT. All patients received an oxygen assessment with 70% of the patients requiring oxygen. Education on disease and on disease management which is a key step in the management of IPF had been given to all patients, with 100% of patients receiving written information. All patients that had a diagnosed who required palliative care were referred to palliative care for symptom management. Follow up appointments were in line with the NICE guidelines.