

7.14 Earlier diagnosis of COPD in Dublin North Central Respiratory Integrated Care

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Background: Under-diagnosis and misdiagnosis of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) leads to patients receiving no treatment or incorrect treatment. Spirometry is vital to establish a diagnosis of COPD [1]. Respiratory Integrated Care (RIC) nurse-led clinics enable earlier access to spirometry and diagnosis facilitated by consultant-led Respiratory Integrated Multidisciplinary Meetings (MDM).

Methods: Patient referrals received to the nurse-led RIC clinics between May 2021 and May 2023 were reviewed. Patients who had a presenting clinical diagnosis of either COPD or ‘query’ COPD but no previous spirometry performed were included in this study. All patients had subsequent spirometry performed and were then discussed at our weekly Integrated Respiratory MDM.

Results: 294 patient referrals were received overall. Of these, 99 (33.7%) patients were identified with a clinical diagnosis of COPD or ‘query’ COPD but no previous spirometry performed. Of these 99 patients, 64 (64.6%) were subsequently confirmed with a diagnosis of COPD (GOLD Grade 1: 22 (34.4%); Grade 2: 32 (50%); Grade 3: 9 (14%))

Conclusion: RIC Dublin North Central enables improved access to diagnostics and specialist input, which provides correct diagnosis and treatment. This provides an opportunity for secondary prevention and early intervention to minimise the impact of the disease process. [2].

Disclosures:

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

References

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