

Category: Quality Improvement Activity

Type: Clinical Audit

Domains:  Domain 1 - Knowledge, Skills and Performance  Domain 2 - Safety and Quality  
 Domain 3 - Communication, Partnership and Teamwork  Domain 4 - Maintaining Trust  
 Teaching, Research, Leadership and Innovation

What is the title of your audit project?



Parkinsons Disease (PD): Care in the community

Which criterion/criteria have you chosen?



See attached word document

What standard(s) have you set?



See attached word document. The standards set were derived from current NICE guidelines for the management of PD which include:

- Suspected PD should be referred quickly untreated to a specialist. They should be seen within 6 weeks of referral.
- Diagnosis should be reviewed regularly (6-12 monthly) and reconsidered if atypical features develop
- PD patients should have access to specialist nursing care by a specialist nurse
- Physiotherapy/OT/speech & language therapy should be made available to PD patients

What preparation and planning did you undertake for your audit?



See attached word document

First data collection



See attached word document. The data collection demonstrated, rather disappointingly, that we fall well short of the standards set. The reality is, following the recent retirement of a local geriatrician with an interest in PD that there are shortcomings with the current service at secondary care level and waiting lists are becoming rather lengthy. This is largely outside of our control but we are in a position to personally review on a regular basis our own patients with a confirmed diagnosis and also to liaise with the local PD nurse. It would not be difficult to arrange local physiotherapy, occupational therapy and Speech & Language therapy were appropriate but in discussing the data with my colleagues it is clear that much of this had not even occurred to them and there was an admission that a focus on QOF related issues means that this group of patients tends to be neglected. It was admitted, too, that 'End of Life' concerns tend to be neglected in this group of patients. Partners were, however, grateful to be better informed on this following my presentation which also contained an update on the current understanding of the condition, its diagnostic criteria etc.

The consensus of the meeting was that following greater awareness of the issues partners would endeavour to perform better on behalf of this neglected patient group. We have agreed to create a template on the clinical system to help as a simple aid memoire when seeing these patients and there was agreement that after a year we should re-audit in order to establish progress and consider any further action that may be required.

My colleagues were complimentary about the contents of the presentation and suggested that they now have greater confidence in dealing with this patient group.

What change(s) are to be implemented?



See above and attached word document. The practice will;

- Create a template on the clinical system to remind partners of standards required in treating this patient group
- Through greater awareness of the management of this patient group endeavour to offer local services that can improve patient care
- As lead on this I will liaise with the PD specialist nurse to cross reference disease registers and levels of care achieved
- We will consider early referral of those patients entering the terminal phase of the disease to the Palliative Care Team
- Repeat data collection in a year and discuss progress with partners shortly thereafter

Second data collection ⓘ

Date set for 12 months hence

What conclusions have you drawn from this completed audit cycle? ⓘ

To be presented in next year's appraisal folder

> Appraisal Attributes

Supporting Documents:

+ Add File

+ Add Printed Material

Document Title	Description	Type	
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