



3rd Annual Quality & Patient Safety Conference Improving the Healthcare Journey for Patients & Staff



TITLE

Postmenopausal Bleeding in Ambulatory Gynaecology

SUBMITTED BY

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ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION

Postmenopausal bleeding (PMB) is a red flag symptom. It can be associated with Endometrial Cancer – the most common Gynaecological Malignancy worldwide. The Ambulatory Gynaecology clinic in the Rotunda has been in operation for 6 years with the ability to offer ultrasound, hysteroscopy and treatment procedures in the same appointment. This has revolutionised the pathway for women presenting with postmenopausal bleeding. The Price report from the Saolta Group highlighted the need for a clear pathway of care for women with PMB. Our project aimed to assess the timeframe of consultation considering the National Women's Health and Infants Health (NWHIP) directorate 2021 on PMB management.

METHODOLOGY

The plan-do-study-act model of improvement was used in this study.

AIM

Analyse compliance with the NWHIP guideline for the management of PMB in the AG clinic between June and August 2021. Identify areas for improvement which can help achieve this target.

CHANGE IMPLEMENTED

Trans-vaginal sonography plays an important role in assessment in the PMB context. Our study concluded this tool is not being effectively implemented. A Direct Result of our project was the installation of a new ultrasound machine connected with an image archiving system.

MEASUREMENT

The long-term impact of our project was measured by the speed of delivery of our recommendations. A new ultrasound with archive-imaging has been installed within 2 weeks of final report.

RESULTS

1. 70%(42) women were seen in the Ambulatory Gynaecology (AG) clinic within 4 weeks of referral.
2. 90% (54) women had histology available for diagnosis within 12 weeks as set out in the NWHIP PMB management guidance.
3. 70% of women (42) received a benign histological diagnosis.
4. 2 women (4%) were diagnosed with Endometrial Cancer.
5. The Ambulatory Gynaecology Clinic in the Rotunda was largely compliant with the NWHIP guideline.
6. The use of Trans-vaginal Ultrasonography was identified as an area for improvement.

VALUE

Transvaginal sonography plays a vital role in assessing women with PMB. The installation of the new ultrasound machine with image-archiving capability will benefit both practitioners who can improve their standard of care with an increased level of assessment and patients by decreasing the number of invasive procedures carried out unnecessarily.

SUSTAINMENT

Our project has highlighted and delivered on the need for enhanced use of ultrasonography in the Ambulatory Gynaecology Setting. The new ultrasound machine with image-archiving capabilities will deliver sustained long-term increased availability of ultrasound assessment for women presenting with PMB.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The implementation of this improvement will also be beneficial to pre-menopausal patients presenting with various other gynaecological complaints ex menorrhagia.