



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



TITLE

Exploration of Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists competence and training needs for acute transfemoral and transtibial amputees in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Drogheda

SUBMITTED BY

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ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION

Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital (OLOLH), Drogheda is part of a hub and spoke model for vascular amputees(VA). VA from OLOLH catchment area are transferred from Beaumont once surgically stable post-operatively for rehabilitation and continued care. NCP for emergency Surgery and the BACPAR Guidelines recommend specialist interdisciplinary Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy(OT) postoperatively yields better outcomes for patients.

An exploration of Physiotherapists and OTs' competency and knowledge of recommendations in the management of post-operative VA identified an urgent learning need. A project to increase knowledge and competencies among therapists in the management of VA was developed to ensure standardisation of practice.

METHODOLOGY

The Model for Improvement (MFI) was selected which includes completing regular PDSA cycles.

AIM

To improve Physiotherapists' and OTs' competency levels in managing acute postoperative transtibial and transfemoral amputees to ensure patients are receiving evidence-based practice(EBP) in line with BACPAR Guidelines by May 2022.

CHANGE IMPLEMENTED

- Project led by Surgical OT and Physiotherapist whom attended a module on Amputee and Prosthetic Rehab and completed review of EBP.
- Survey Questionnaire disseminated to identify learning needs
- Development of EBP interdisciplinary database for use for post-operative amputees
- Educational component

MEASUREMENT

- Primary outcome measures include; survey of Physiotherapists' and OTs' competency levels, amputee care audit.
- Balance measures; no. of patients accepted for NRH Rehab, Associated Cost savings

RESULTS

This project continues to be underway. The database is currently being reviewed by all stakeholders prior to rollout across the departments with the goal of it being used for both VA and traumatic amputees. Education programmes are under development and will be disseminated to both departments once the database is complete. Follow-up data will be collected and further PDSA cycles will be completed to ensure aims are completed by May 2022.

VALUE

Improved staff competency and the development of a streamlined evidence-based interdisciplinary database ensures standardisation of care across all wards for amputees, including efficient referral to other services e.g. psychology. BACPAR guidelines recommend that standardised care improves patient outcomes and quality of life, thus will improve patients hospital journeys.

SUSTAINMENT

Sustainment of this project is ensured secondary to;

- Static Surgical MDT
- Streamlined Database paperwork
- Future plan to develop educational booklet for vascular patients and further project adaption based on future PDSA cycles.
- Continued interdisciplinary learning/education and skill sharing

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Interdisciplinary Team project between Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy, with future potential to develop education for other interdisciplinaries.