CHANGE TO REDUCE PATIENT WAITING TIMES
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Introduction Ambulatory Majors was set up in the Countess of Chester Hospitals Emergency Department to take the work-stream of ‘non minor injury’ patients, who are not suitable for the Urgent Treatment Centre and do not need a bed to wait on. Ambulatory Majors has the largest throughput of patients, but has minimal senior doctor supervision. Patients have long waits to be seen with their consultation time disproportionately shorter. Patients are having cannulation or blood tests which are not required which increases patient length of stay. Their length of stay is the biggest factor causing congestion which leads to the impression of chaos to both patients and staff.

Methods The aim of this project was to decrease the length of time from patients’ arrival to being seen and patients’ arrival to departure. A force field analysis, Driver diagram and a literature search are used to help identify possible solutions to the problem. Buy in was gained from key stakeholders.

Intervention A team-based approach to seeing patients in Ambulatory Majors was adapted which included two doctors and a nurse seeing each patient. Whilst one doctor saw the patient, the other doctor recorded the notes in real time and the nurse preformed any investigations necessary.

Results The average arrival to seen improved from an average of 139.63 minutes to 112.5 minutes during the first month of March when the intervention was introduced but this was not sustained throughout the year.

Conclusion This project explored ways of reducing time to be seen and the length of overall stay in ambulatory majors. Strategies using alternative team working and environmental change were used. Despite some promising initial results, benefits were not sustained which were multifactorial.

Leading innovation and improvement

88 INFORMATION GIVEN POST DIAGNOSIS OF AUTISM: OBTAINING PARENT FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE EXISTING PRACTICE
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Aim To gain feedback from parents of children diagnosed with an Autistic Spectrum Condition regarding information they received following diagnosis, with a view to improve our service.

Method Feedback was initially sought using a questionnaire that was distributed to all parents of children with a new diagnosis of autism by consultants at Worthing Child Development Centre (CDC), during a 6 month period. After a very low response rate, a focus group was arranged by inviting 20 parents, randomly selected from all those diagnosed in a 4 month period. Children with dual diagnose and parents unable to speak English without an interpreter were excluded. There were 3 facilitators and 1 scribe.

Results 4 parents attended the focus group. Parents preferred diagnostic information given to them by the Speech and Language Therapist alongside their consultant. They found it difficult to take in the information and would have liked written information to take home. A follow up visit from a specialist health visitor was very useful and was felt best at 3–4 weeks post diagnosis. Parents wanted clinic reports to contain information specific to their child, rather than general implications of diagnosis. Social media support groups were named as more useful than official websites.

Conclusion This qualitative study suggests positive aspects of post diagnosis information provided by Worthing CDC, however parents want written information provided sooner. Parents also value social media groups that are not regulated, making their recommendation controversial. Most importantly, although it can be difficult to obtain, parent feedback can provide valuable information to ensure services best meet the needs of their users and therefore must be sought routinely.

Babylon GP at Hand is an NHS GP practice which predominantly uses remote video or telephone consultations for provision of healthcare; and has done for the last 6 years. Various clinicians are available including GPs, prescribing pharmacists and advanced

89 CONDUCTING REMOTE ASTHMA REVIEWS TO INCREASE ACCESSIBILITY: BEST PRACTICE
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At Babylon GP at Hand we have been providing asthma reviews via telephone and video initially. A search enables us