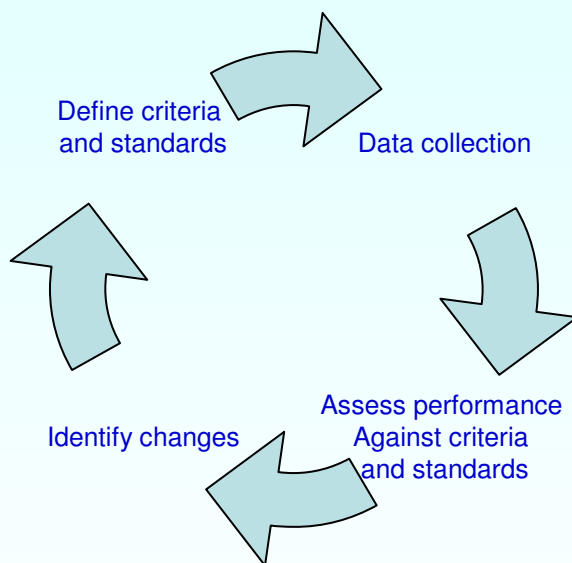


The Impact of Audit on Clinical Practice: The Use of Syringe Drivers at Musgrove Park Hospital

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Background

- In 2007 a benchmark Trust-wide audit was carried out (exception of orthopaedics and paediatrics) in conjunction with the ASWCS Network Audit Group
- Key audit measures concerned:
 - Prescription quality
 - Correct use of equipment
 - Appropriate monitoring
- Areas of concern were identified
- Standards were devised and an action plan implemented
- Audit cycle completed with a re-audit in 2009
- Demonstrable improvement identified- audit is therefore an invaluable tool to promote change and safe, evidence-based practice

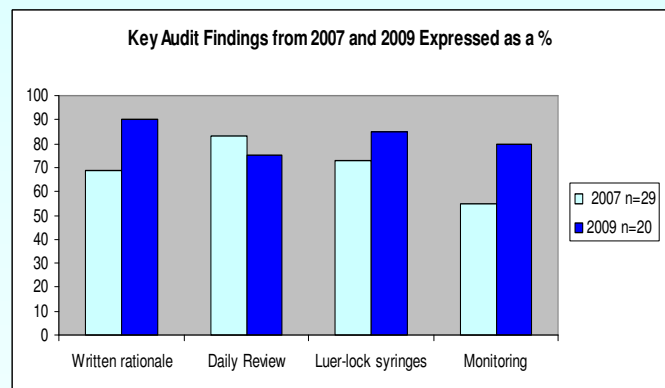


Standards

- **Prescription:**
 - Conforms with Trust policy
 - Written rationale in medical records
 - Evidence of daily review
- 12 monthly pump service history
- **Equipment:**
 - Luer-lock syringes
 - Approved S/C infusion set
 - All equipment in place to include battery and plastic protective covers
- Evidence of 4 hourly monitoring using Trust approved monitoring chart

Results

- 100% compliance with prescribing in line with Trust policy in 2007 and 2009
- Relevant oral medications stopped in 93% (2007) and 90% (2009) of cases
- Daily review fared less well in 2009 compared with 2007 (see graph)
- Pump service history elapsed (10% 2007 and 20% 2009)
- Equipment set up correctly except some clinical areas reliant on luer-slip syringes
- In 2007 no monitoring chart existed. Monitoring therefore hit and miss. Safety issue identified



Action

- Monitoring chart (based on Cheltenham and Gloucester template) designed, piloted, approved by medical records advisory group and rolled-out to all adult in-patient wards
- Trust-wide training programme introduced

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