Proforma for Referrals to the Paediatric Surgery Ward from General Practice (GP) Surgeries and Urgent Care Centres for Foundation Year One (FY1) Doctors

U.A. Kalu, A. Abu-Suleiman, G. Edet, C. Quinn, M. Fleet
Hull University Teaching Hospital NHS Trust, Hull, United Kingdom

Introduction: The foundation year one (FY1) doctors hold a bleep and receive referrals from primary care centres especially from the General Practice (GP) surgeries and Urgent Care centres. For many FY1 doctors, this job may be their first experience in the NHS in taking referrals and it could be quite challenging to take a good referral from primary care centres in the NHS. This was the basis to conduct this quality improvement project (QIP) to help the FY1 doctors in taking good primary care referral documentation.

Aim: To develop a primary care centre referral proforma as a guide for the FY1 doctors in taking referrals and to assess the junior doctors and other ward staff satisfaction in using the proforma.

Method: This QIP was registered and approved by the Continuous Quality Improvement Team of Hull University Teaching Hospital NHS Trust. This was a prospective study with designed proforma for FY1 doctors to be used following primary care centres referral to the Paediatric Surgery ward.

Results: There were 38 primary care referrals between 16th October 2022 and 20th December 2022 with 30 referrals from the GP surgeries and 8 referrals from the Urgent Care centres. The overall satisfaction was excellent with the use of the designed proforma by the FY1 doctors and other ward and we had 100% completion in filling in the designed proforma.

Conclusions: A well designed referral proforma could improve the confidence and quality of referral documentation from primary care centres by FY1 doctors.