

Guideline development and clinical effectiveness in the A&E department

Aim:

To review a condition in the A&E dept and provide an evidence based guideline or algorithm for the management of that condition for publication on the intranet and Handbook.

Process:

- 1) Select a subject of relevance. Discuss with your mentor for advice.
- 2) Review the department's existing guidelines on this subject.
- 3) Review 1-2 cases where treatment has been sub-optimal to highlight the problem or do a small audit.
- 4) Review the literature (on the intranet) using the following resources:
 - National Service Frameworks
 - National Institute for Clinical Excellence
 - NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination
 - The Cochrane Collaboration
 - Best Evidence
 - Bandolier
 - Medline
 - Emergency Medicine online –see Clinical Decision Support on the EMIBank Trust intranet site. This site also provides other useful sources of information.
- 5) Liase with consultants with an interest in the subject within the A&E department and specialists within the hospital to develop an evidence based guideline (based upon the resources within the hospital).
- 6) Present the information at the Clinical Governance meeting / SPR teaching / SHO Project presentation meeting as :
 - a) The problem
 - b) The evidence base
 - c) The solution – the guideline
 - d) Part of the guideline should be presented as an algorithm for ease of use.
 - e) Suggestions for what aspect should be audited in the future.

Outcome:

Provide the guideline as a standardised structured Word document (Trust template) :

- a) Author
- b) Date written/revised
- c) Objective
- d) Clinical condition – brief overview of classical symptoms/signs of the condition.
- e) Target patient group
- f) Appropriate investigations
- g) Diagnosis
- h) Treatment
- i) KEY MESSAGES
- j) Clinical algorithm
- k) Adapted from (link to relevant national guideline)
- l) References
- m) Set out which groups of people were involved in the process.