Quality Improvement and Patient Safety

1336 'I SUPPORT KINDNESS IN PAEDIATRICS 2021'

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Background 'In a world where you can be anything, be kind'

We all could do with more kindness towards ourselves, our colleagues and patients at work. It is the small acts that matter in everyday life than grand gestures. According to Patient Empathy Project 96% of patients suffer from health-care related fears, and one of the top patient fears is having a rude or unhelpful nurse.

Kindness when combined with active listening and competent clinical skills helps improve patient care.

Given that we spend a significant time of our working lives at work, having colleagues who are kind is crucial to improve staff morale and retention.

Objectives We wished to acknowledge staff in Paediatrics who are going over above in demonstrating kindness to colleagues and patients at work. We designed and procured badges that said 'I Support Kindness in Paediatrics' in December 2020.

Methods Staff were chosen from the list of Greatix (anonymous electronic positive reporting tool) submitted in recent months for demonstrating kindness by a colleague in recent months.

Starting from December 2020, each month I chose 10 staff for receiving the badges. This exercise will last 10 months until august 2021.

Results Until now, 30 staff members have been given the badges which they proudly wear to work. The staff members include nurses, doctors, housekeepers, receptionists and many other allied health care professionals working on the paediatric ward.

The list of staff names each month is circulated in the departmental newsletter, displayed on the ward notice board, advertised on social media and mentioned in the weekly CEOs newsletter. It is not surprising that staff who were nominated in Greatix for kindness were regularly named for supporting their colleagues.

Conclusions These badges provide a morale boost to our staff who are kind and reassure patients that kindness is an important attribute in our department. This is now adapted by obstetrics and gynaecology in our Trust as part of the staff well being initiative.

British Paediatric Respiratory Society

1338 A SHORT AUDIT OF THE IMPACT OF PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES ON RESPIRATORY VIRAL PRESENTATIONS TO OUR PAEDIATRIC ASSESSMENT UNIT DURING A WINTER OF COVID-19

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Background Viral respiratory illness is one of the commonest causes of childhood hospitalisation in the UK. This is especially true during winter; where cold, dry conditions and increased indoor mixing create an optimal environment for the spread of viruses such as Influenza and Respiratory

Syncytial Virus (RSV). In 2020, various public health measures have been introduced to control the worldwide outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). Evidence from the Southern Hemisphere has suggested that these Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPIs) may also have impacted the transmission of other seasonal respiratory viruses – most significantly Influenza and RSV – but limited evidence is available for their impact in the UK.

Objectives This short audit project aims to assess the local impact of NPIs against SARS-CoV-2 on the presentation of children to our Paediatric Assessment Unit (PAU) with seasonal viral respiratory tract infections, and to determine whether there has been any effect on the profile of respiratory viral illnesses in the paediatric patient population.

Methods Patient admission data to our tertiary centre's PAU were compared for December 2019 and December 2020. Data on presenting complaint, sex, age, relevant investigations, and results of respiratory virology panels were extracted and used to quantify trends in viral respiratory presentations to the unit for each month.

Results December 2020 saw a greater than 50% decrease in patients presenting to PAU compared to December 2019. Furthermore, the proportion of patients that presented positive for any respiratory virus also decreased, despite the proportion of patients being investigated for them increasing. Most notably, rates of RSV decreased from 133 cases in December 2019 to 0 cases in December 2020. Similarly, Influenza cases dropped from 37 to 1. Meanwhile, rates of non-enveloped viruses seemed unhindered by NPIs – with Adenovirus cases increasing from 17 to 18, and Rhino/Enterovirus cases increasing from 49 to 64.

Conclusions The evidence presented in this project suggests that public health measures introduced locally to stem the spread of SARS-CoV-2 may also have had an influence on the spread of other seasonal respiratory viruses within our paediatric population – leading to a reduction in presentations to PAU and a reduction in cases of RSV and Influenza. These findings, taken alongside those of other studies from around the world, may provide useful to help paediatricians and public health doctors in managing outbreaks of seasonal respiratory viruses in future. By introducing simple and relatively inexpensive measures at key times it could make a big difference towards reducing the strain that these illnesses can place on children's hospitals. Furthermore, they may also suggest a need for caution to be taken as restrictions ease, due to the potential risk of a delayed wave of respiratory viral illness in a more susceptible population, after fewer children have been exposed to such viruses with lockdowns in place.

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1340 LEARNING FROM EXCELLENCE: SHARING SUCCESS, A QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

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Background A Learning From Excellence (LFE) scheme was initiated in the Paediatric Department of a District General Hospital (DGH) to highlight and celebrate good practice. This scheme was implemented at a time when stress levels were