

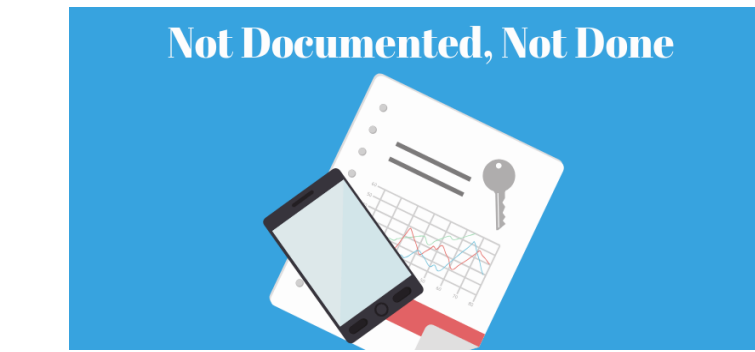
Introduction of a Ward Round Proforma on a General Children's Ward with the aim to standardise documentation

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Background & Objectives

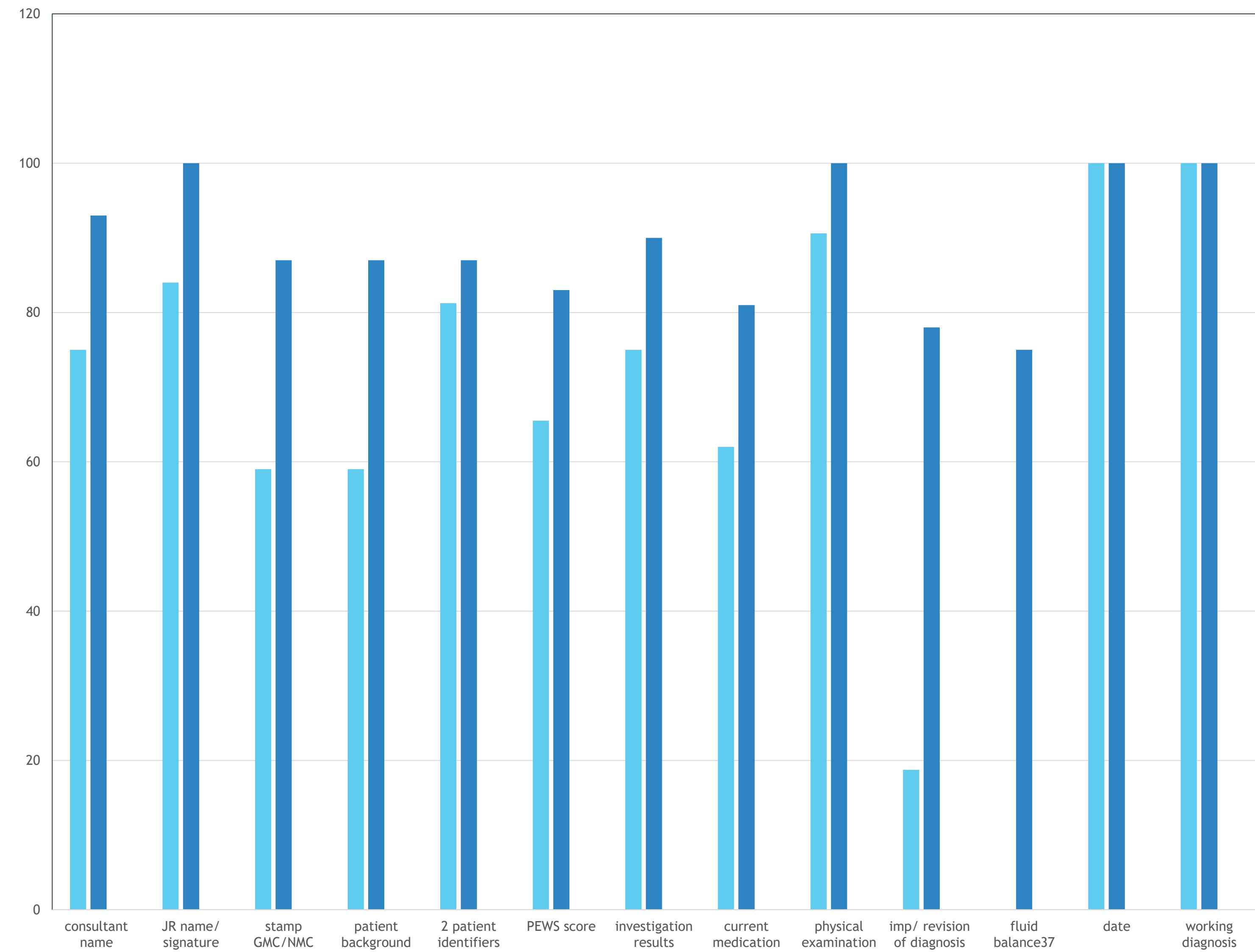
Ward rounds are key components of inpatient care, allowing for coordination, planning and communication, which is vital for effective and efficient care. Despite this, considerable improvements are required to make them safe and effective as there still appears to be a lack of standardisation in current practice. It is well known that poor documentation can lead to breakdowns in continuity of care, communication amongst teams with subsequent impact upon quality of care and safety. The use of proformas and checklists have shown to improve patient outcomes, patient flow and the quality of documentation. A local audit demonstrated that ward round documentation was poor and thus leading to the proposal of implementing a proforma to improve and standardise documentation practice.



Methods

We have introduced a standardised proforma for inpatient medical ward round review in a general paediatric unit in the West Midlands as part of a quality improvement project to improve clinical documentation. The proforma was introduced in August 2023 in order to improve standardised practice across medical and non-medical practitioners. The proforma was internally peer-reviewed before approval by departmental governance and the Trust health documentation groups. A pre-audit was carried out to analyse the current clinical practice in regards to documentation and 32 inpatient clinical notes were reviewed. A post-audit on 32 inpatient clinical notes was then done to analyse if the introduction of the proforma enhance clinical documentation. The proforma was trialled for one month before collecting the post-audit data.

Results



A pre- and post-audit proforma included twenty-two questions (see attached tables). The introduction of the ward round proforma allowed a marked improvement on the documentation on eleven domains: Consultant name (75% vs 93%), Junior clinician name/ signature (84% vs 100%), Stamp with GMC/ NMC details of junior clinician (59% vs 87%), background of patient (59% vs 87%), two patient identifiers on page (81.25% vs 87%), PEWS score (65.6% vs 83%), investigations results (75% vs 90%), Current medications (62% vs 81%), physical examination (90.6% vs 100%), Impression after consultation/ revision of diagnosis (18.75% vs 78%) and fluid balance (37% vs 75%). Documentation of date and working diagnosis remain 100%.

Conclusions

The overarching aim of the proforma was to improve ward round documentation. The use of a standardised proforma demonstrated significant improvements in documentation and in turn communication. It has therefore been fully adopted as part of daily practice in a children's ward in the West Midlands. A process of ongoing evaluation since introduction has led to further improvements to the draft pictured

References

1. A standardized ward round proforma improves documentation in a specialist stroke unit. Armstrong, E., & Carpenter, K. (2022).
2. Ward rounds fit for the future, good practice for multidisciplinary inpatient review. Dean, J. (2019).
3. The Ward Round. Peate, I. (2021).
4. Teaching a 'good' ward round. Powell, N., Bruce, C., & Redfern, O. (2015).
5. Modern ward rounds good practice for multidisciplinary inpatient review. Royal college of physicians (2021).
6. Ward round accreditation: an innovative quality improvement project to develop and improve the existing medical ward round at Warrington Hospital. Waters, L. et al (2019).

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Ward Round – General Paediatrics

Suriname: _____ Unit No: _____
Forename: _____ NHS No: _____
Address: _____ DOB: _____
Postcode: _____ (or affix patient label)

Ward: _____ Senior Clinicians: _____ Designation: _____
Date and Time: _____ Junior Clinicians: _____ Designation: _____

Observations: Primary working diagnosis and current issues:
Pew's score = _____
Fluid balance: _____
Input = _____
Output = _____
Balance = _____
Urine output = _____
Medications: _____
Examination and discussion: _____

☐ Drug allergy status checked ☐ Results have been filed on ICE

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Current proforma

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Ward Round – GENERAL PAEDIATRICS

Ward: _____ Date and Time: _____
Senior Clinician(s): _____ Designation: _____
Junior Clinician(s): _____ Designation: _____
Weight: _____

Primary working diagnosis and current issues: _____

Background: _____ Medications: _____
Allergies N / Y: _____

Time of last observation: _____ Relevant investigations: _____ Fluid balance and nutrition: _____
SVIA/NC/FM/AIRVO/CPAP: _____
Air / % O2: _____
Temp: _____
If afebrile last spike: _____
HR: _____
RR: _____
Sats: _____
BP: _____
Pain score: _____
PEWS: _____
Current diet/fluids: _____
Input: _____
Output: _____
Balance: _____
Urine output: _____
ml/kg/h

☐ Have these been filed on ICE ☐

Latest draft