

Improving confidence and clinical decision-making skills in trainees at PAU referrals, through Targeted Training

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Introduction: Pediatric Assessment Unit (PAU) is a dedicated facility providing assessment, observation and treatment of an illness, without the need for immediate inpatient admissions for the acutely presenting infant, child or young person¹. Evidence shows that the hospitals with a PAU had higher discharge rates and lower numbers of referrals from ED². However, working in a busy PAU can be challenging for the Pediatric trainees. We identified the existing challenges among the Pediatric trainees of working in PAU and implemented solutions, improving confidence and clinical decision-making skills.



PDSA-1: Creating awareness

At induction

During Handovers

Case based discussions

Discussion with Consultant

Identified the need for PAU referral form



PDSA-4: PAU Simulations with the referral pathways



PEDIATRIC TELEPHONE REFERRAL & ADVISE FORM	
Referred by: ED / BHH / GP / Virtual Ward Date: / / Time:	Referral taken by: Name: / / Date: / / Time:
ARE THERE ANY SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS? YES [] NO []	
REASON FOR REFERRAL:	
OBSERVATIONS:	
PLAN:	

Trainee needs Identified:
The need for scenario-based simulation

Scenario based simulation

Clinical decision making

Use of available resources
(Referral template/ New triaging pathways)

Audience: Tier 2, Tier1, GP trainees, Consultants, Nurses

PDSA-2 : PAU Referral Proforma & Training on the use of the proforma



Feedback from simulation

Great useful and informative session for new starters in paediatrics Gave good case studies and examples to use

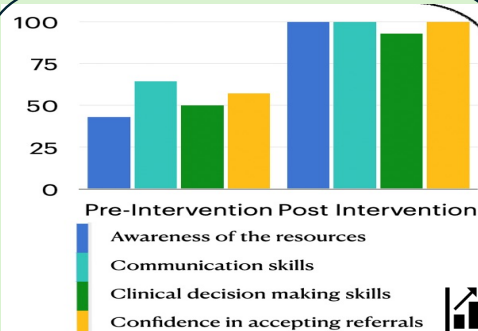
Thank you for organising such a well received session, I am sorry I could not stay for all of it but enjoyed and appreciated the time I was with you. Keep it up!

Really nice specially the session with scenarios, there should be a session for new trainees as they join new session, it gives information about local policies of acceptance and pathway as it varies trust to trust.

Excellent work, please continue this project with the next trainees. Will help filter inappropriate referrals and direct resources to those that need them

Excellent session- need more of these type of practical sessions to bridge the gaps in current training system. Well thought and conducted by Puttha and Dr Unny.

PDSA 3: Simulations



Results of the Trainee Survey

Conclusion: Identification of trainee needs and providing targeted interventions improved the confidence and clinical decision making skills among pediatric trainee at managing CAU referrals.

¹ Standards for Short-Stay Paediatric Assessment Units (SSPAU), RCPCH, March 2017.

<https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/standards-short-stay-paediatric-assessment-units-sspaus>

² A snapshot of general paediatric services and workforce in the UK

<https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/snapshot-general-paediatric-services-workforce-uk>