

Changing Lives in Life-Changing Events: Creation of Stoma Link Nurse Role in Critical Care

A Quality Improvement Project

Mary Grace Anne P. Batalla, BSN, MA (Nursing), RN
Guy's and St. Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust

Background

- Critical illness and having a stoma are both life-changing events. ^{1,3-4,7,9-10}
- Stoma care and role of the stoma care nurse specialist (SCNS) are not well- defined in the context of critically ill patients. ¹²
- This quality improvement project (QIP) explored the creation of a stoma link nurse (SLN) role within critical care.
- The QIP follows the Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) model.



Results

What is the average length of stay of ostomates in ICUs and HDUs?

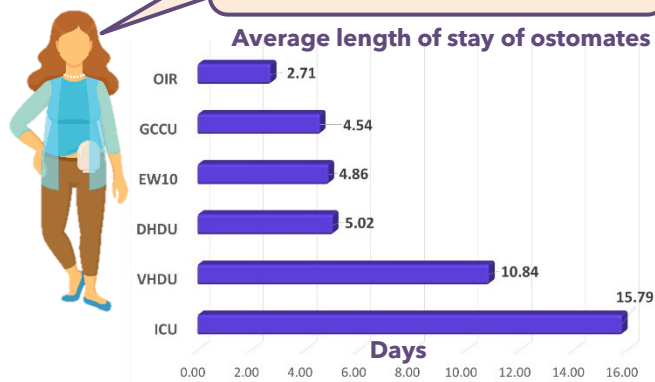


Figure 1. Length of stay (LoS) of ostomates in ICUs and HDUs

- LoS of patients with a faecal ostomy or urostomy admitted between 1st January 2022 and 10th March 2023
- Source: Critical Care Audit, Guy's and St. Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust

Aim

The Plan Stage aimed to:

- (1) Examine the evidence base describing the care for critically ill ostomates.
- (2) Gather baseline data on the perceived need of critical care nurses for an SLN role.

What types of stoma did patients have in ICUs and HDUs?

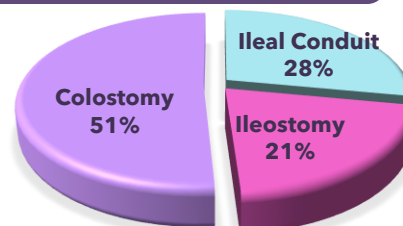
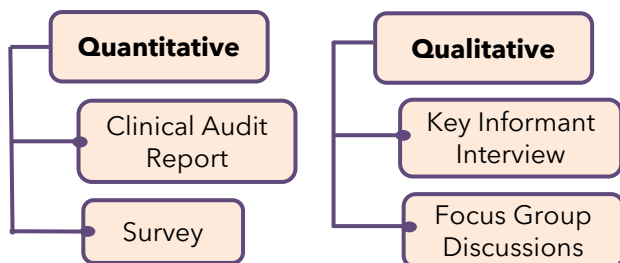


Figure 2. Types of stoma in ICUs and HDUs

- Total of 314 patients with a faecal ostomy or urostomy admitted between 1st January 2022 and 10th March 2023 in ICUs and HDUs
- Source: Critical Care Audit, Guy's and St. Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust

Methods

- Systematic review using the PRISMA framework
- Concurrent parallel mixed methods



Do you feel there are adequate teaching or learning opportunities in your unit to take care of ostomates?



Figure 3. Perceived adequacy of teaching or learning opportunities

* A total of 70 nurses participated in the survey from 18th January 2023 to 17th February 2023

Conclusions /Implications for Practice

- Survey results and qualitative responses supported the perceived need to create a SLN role within critical care.
- Results will guide the Do stage that constitutes trialling the SLN role and measuring changes in outcomes.

Scan for
more details

