Who is that patient?
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Problem
When surgeons don’t inform the paediatric ward team that a child is being admitted, they don’t know if rapid review or treatment is required. Sick children can go unnoticed, untreated and are harmed.

No Handover Means:
- We don’t know the patient is on the ward
- We can’t identify non-surgical problems
- We won’t know to review for deterioration
- We don’t know our bed availability
- We can’t ensure holistic issues such as safeguarding are addressed
- We aren’t able to answer parents’ questions and they get frustrated

Aim
By September 2019 all patients under the care of surgical teams, being admitted to the paediatric wards, will be handed over to the registrar covering the relevant ward.

Measurement
Number of surgical patients admitted to a paediatric ward who are handed over to the ward registrar
Exclusion: Patients initially referred to paediatrics
Patients admitted under the paediatric team
Sampling: Prospective counting of all surgical patients admitted to the wards over 14 days.

Questions asked of paediatric registrars:
1) Were there any surgical/orthopaedic/urology/gynaecology patients admitted during your shift?
2) How many were handed over by the admitting surgical team?
3) How many were handed over through another means?

Conclusions and Reflections
- Improving surgical handovers is a more difficult task than predicted.
- Several simple interventions were trialed but have had limited effect
- The work has revealed several issues which may require addressing to address the main problem e.g. one surgical registrar didn’t realise these patients were under joint care. One didn’t complete the clerking so didn’t reach the sticker placed at the end.
- A big problem was running out of stickered clerking booklets in A+E
- A new approach will be required for the next PDSA cycle

Result interpretation
Baseline data showed only 16.5% of surgical patients were brought to the attention of the paediatric team prior to arriving on the ward. Mean score 0.3
PDSA 1: 45.5%. Mean score 0.8
PDSA 2: 30% Mean Score
PDSA 3a: 28.3% Mean score 0.43
PDSA 3b: 38% Mean score 0.77

Run Chart

PDSA Cycles
- 0. Not handed over
- 1. Handed over indirectly
- 2. Handed over by admitting team

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