

Audit of compliance on the completion of admission investigations for patients admitted to a MHSOP ward at Highbury Hospital

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Introduction

- Admission bloods and electrocardiograms (ECGs) play a vital role in managing Mental Health Services for Older People (MHSOP) patients.
- E.g. prompt identification of pre-existing medical conditions (prolonged QTc intervals) affecting the choice of psychotropics, and of acute medical conditions (infection) requiring immediate treatments.
- These investigations should be offered to the patients within 24 hours of admission.

Aims

- To explore if the admission bloods/ECGs on patients in a Mental Health Services for Older People (MHSOP) ward at Highbury Hospital are being carried out in line with the trust policy.

Methods

- A retrospective study was carried out involving 50 patients admitted to MHSOP ward at Highbury Hospital, between the period of August 2020 - November 2020.
- The data were collected using the electronic patient records (Rio and Viper).

Results

- Fifty patients were reviewed

	ECG*	Bloods*
Offered investigation	47 (94)	46 (92)
Offered within 24 hours of admission	39 (83)	44 (96)

* Number of patients (%)

- Five patients were from a medical hospital and had investigations performed before their transfer.

	ECG*	Bloods*
Offered investigation	2 (40)	1 (20)

* Number of patients (%)

Discussion

- Bloods/ECGs may not be repeated within 24 hours of admission if these have recently been done, unless they are dated: >48 hours, OR; <48 hours but with abnormal findings/changes, OR; <48 hours but with changes in the patient's physical/mental status.
 - Inconsistency was noted in the assessments of patients transferred from medical hospital, where they had already been done:
- We recommended addendums to the current policy.