Prolonged Delays in Reversal of Temporary Stoma – at what cost?

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Background

• Nationally the length of time patients wait for reversal of stoma varies considerably (National Bowel Cancer Audit 2016)

• No NICE or Royal College of Surgeons guidelines

• Prolonged delays in reversal of temporary stomas
  – Capacity issues
  – Impact on patients
  – Stoma related complications
  – Financial burden on NHS
Aim

• To present the issues of delays in reversal of temporary stoma locally

• To establish the incidence of stoma related complications

• To highlight the significant cost implications for the NHS

• To consider way forward
Methodology

• Retrospective audit of all patients on the stoma reversal waiting list at Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust
  o Number of patients on waiting list
  o Average length of time on waiting list
  o Stoma related complications

• Analysis of 5 patient records
  o Stoma care product usage
  o Cost implications
Freddie

• 29 years old

• Hartmanns procedure for diverticular disease Feb14

• Put on reversal waiting list Oct14

• CCG pilot project review Nov16

• Stoma reversed Feb17
Freddie

- CCG pilot project review
  - Depressed
  - Not playing football
  - Unable to change jobs
  - Reluctant to book a holiday
  - Every day waiting for letter with operation date

- 3 Stoma Care Nurse reviews

- Low product usage
Audit findings

• 76 patients on reversal of stoma waiting list (Jan 17)

• Length of time on waiting list:
  – 4 to 90 months
  – Average length of time 24 months
Patient Experiences

54% of Patients Experiencing Stoma Related Complications (n41)

- Mental health issues: 18
- Leakage problems: 14
- Skin issues: 14
- Parastomal hernia: 12
- Prolapse: 2
- High output stoma: 2
- Obstruction: 0
Cost implications for NHS

• Stoma care product costs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient</th>
<th>Estimated cost per year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>£1,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>£5,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>£802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>£1,979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>£1,784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>£10,839</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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Average cost of stoma care products £2,168 per patient, per year

Average cost without highest spend £1,413 per patient, per year
Cost implications for NHS – Stoma Care Products

Locally, **£100,000- £165,000** per year, spent on stoma care products when the stoma could have been reversed (n76).

Nationally, the number of patients waiting for reversal of stoma is not known therefore unable to quantify cost implications.
Additional Cost Implications for NHS

- Treatment/management of stoma related complications
- Stoma complications impacting on reversal surgery
- Healthcare professional consultations – GP, surgeons, stoma care nurses
Locally - what now?

- Increase in number of reversal operations carried out
- Weekly colorectal meeting – long waiters discussed (who can do surgery/when/where?)
- Extra theatre capacity/weekend lists
- Still need to develop long term strategy
Nationally – what now?

Timely reversal of temporary stomas has the ability to improve patient outcomes whilst saving the NHS a significant amount of money

• Introduce national guidelines for reversal of temporary stoma?

• Any suggestions, please email: jenny.williams19@nhs.net
Reference

National Bowel Cancer Audit 2016  Annual Report National Bowel Cancer Audit  16th Dec 2016