A service improvement project to reduce waiting times for MRI Brain, EEG and epilepsy clinic appointments for children referred to first seizure clinic.

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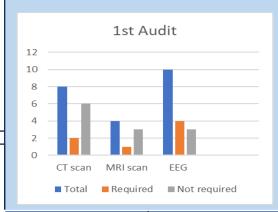


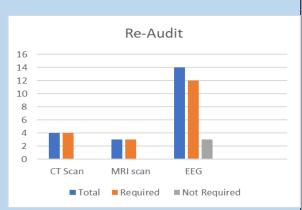
Aim: To use the NICE guidance to reduce unnecessary investigations of EEG, CT, MRI Brain for children referred to first seizure clinic & to further reduce waiting times for these investigations and time from referral to being seen in clinic.

Methods: Data was collected retrospectively from Cerner records of patients attending epilepsy clinic before and after introduction of local epilepsy investigations and referral pathway as per NICE guidance

## Results:

- 1. Reduction in unnecessary CT or MRI Brain by 75%.
- 2. Unnecessary EEG requests reduced from 60% to 14%.
- 3. Patients seen with in 9 weeks of referral increased from 51% to 72%.





	Up to 4week	6-9 weeks	>10 weeks
1 <sup>st</sup> Audit	36%	15%	36%
Re-Audit	22%	50%	

In the current situation where waiting times for appointments and the investigations is high and funding is not expected to improve, it is important to use resources responsibly. By following the NICE guidance, we have significantly reduced the overuse of resources and waiting times for investigations.

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) guideline on epilepsies in children, young people, and adults can be found at NICE 2022 Apr:NG217PDF found at <a href="https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/Ng217">https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/Ng217</a>.



<sup>1.</sup> William D. Gaollard, Catherine Ch, J.Helen Cross et al, Epilepsia2009 Sep;50(9):2147.

Sharma S, Riviello JJ, Harper MB, Baskin MN. (2003) The role of emergent neuroimaging in children with new-onset afebrile seizures. Pediatrics 111: 1–5