

Achieving NICE transition-related standards of care for young people with epilepsy – a quality improvement project

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Background

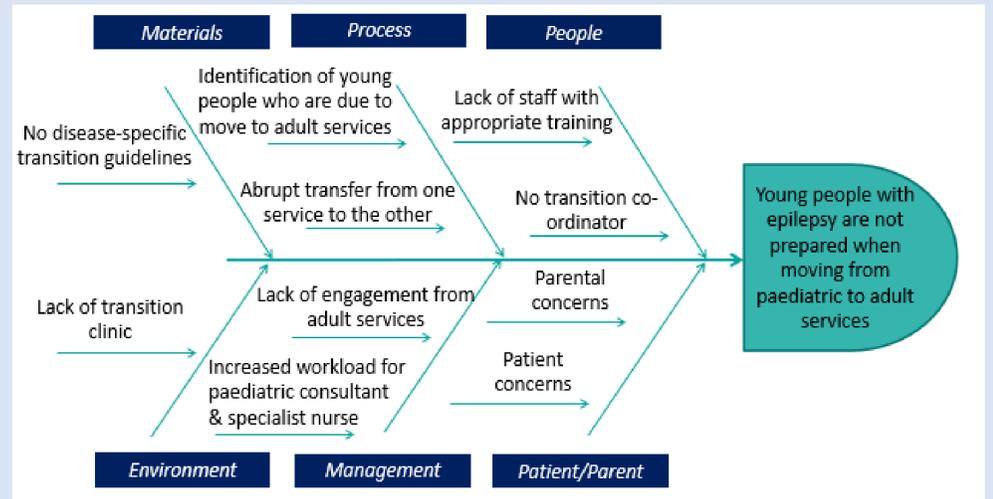
Moving from paediatric to adult services is a worrying and challenging time for young people with long-term conditions such as epilepsy. Evidence suggests that effective transition between services can improve long-term outcomes (1), yet national data highlights that transition is often overlooked with little recognition as an area of importance within healthcare (2). However, there has recently been a drive to refine and improve the transition process through the NHS long term plan.



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Diagnostics – Fishbone Diagram



Aim

This quality improvement project aimed to achieve the NICE quality transition standards (3) of care for epilepsy across a nine-month period in one paediatric department

Measurement

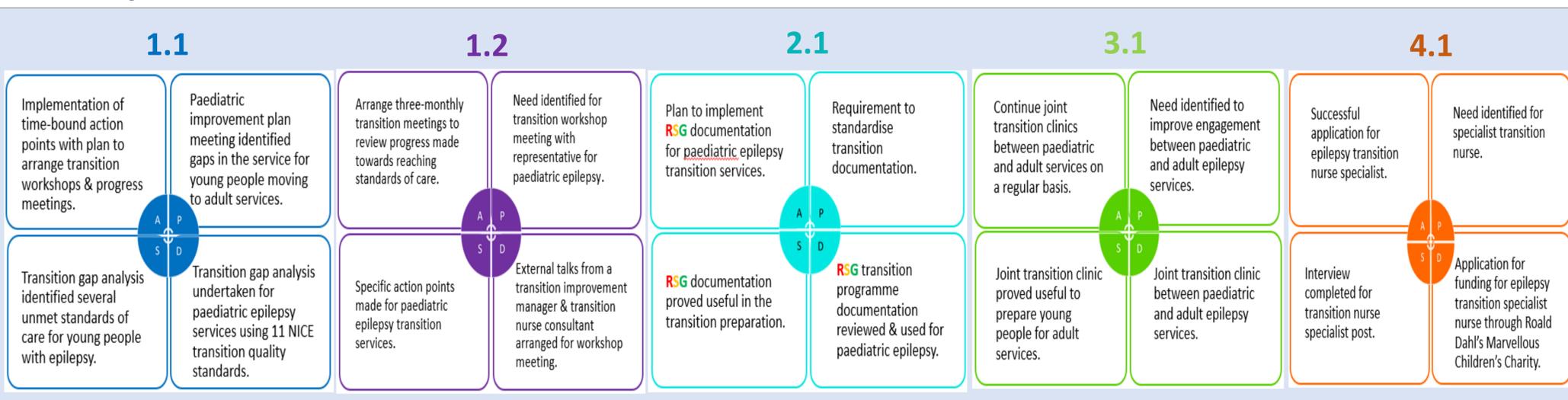
An initial gap analysis was undertaken using 11 NICE quality transition-focused standards of care to demonstrate current performance of services for epilepsy.

Change Ideas

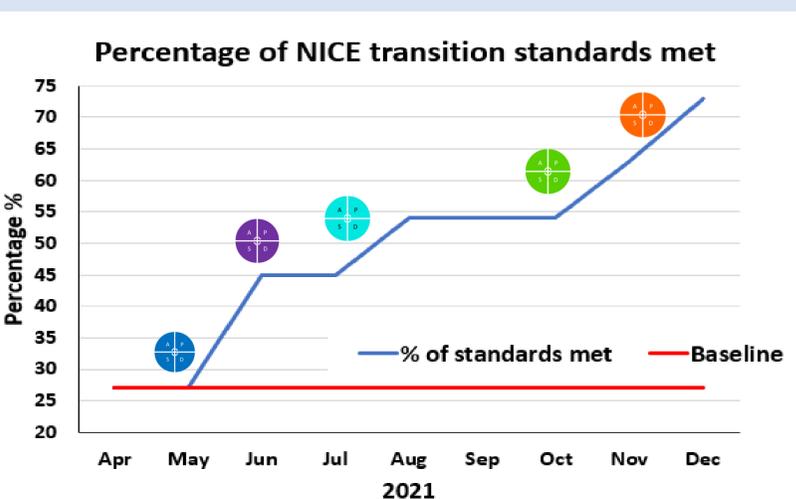
- Regular transition workshops and progress meetings
- Implementation of the **Ready, Steady, Go**, paperwork & time-bound action points
- External talks from a transition improvement manager
- Joint transition clinics between paediatric and adult services
- Application for funding for a new epilepsy transition specialist nurse through Roald Dahl's children's charity



PDSA Cycles



Results – Run Chart



Run chart showing % of NICE transition quality standards met following implementation of change ideas for paediatric epilepsy.

Discussion

- Initial baseline measurement showed that only 27% of transition-related standards of care were met for epilepsy.
- Following the implementation of several change ideas, the measurement for partially meeting and meeting standards increased collectively to 73%.

Reflections & Learning

- This QI project has enabled one paediatric department to better achieve NICE transition standards of care for young people with epilepsy.
- Highlights included: setting-up joint transition clinics and securing a new epilepsy transition nurse specialist through Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's charity.
- Further work is needed to ensure young people & their families are actively involved in the design, delivery, & evaluation of services for transition (standards 1&2).

References

- (1) Implementing Transition: Ready Steady Go, A. Nagra
- (2) From the pond into the sea, children's transition to adult health services, CQC
- (3) Transition from children's to adults' services, NICE Quality Standards