

Introducing an electronic plastic surgery clerking proforma

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Background:

- Poor documentation notes raised by multidisciplinary team
- Impacting on patient care and management especially on a multi-speciality ward with cross-cover

Why electronic clerking?

- Treatment planning, care provision and patient safety
- Follow-up, audit and research
- Clinical coding
- Paperless notes

Methods:

Cycle 1:

31 patients notes analysed over a 3 week period

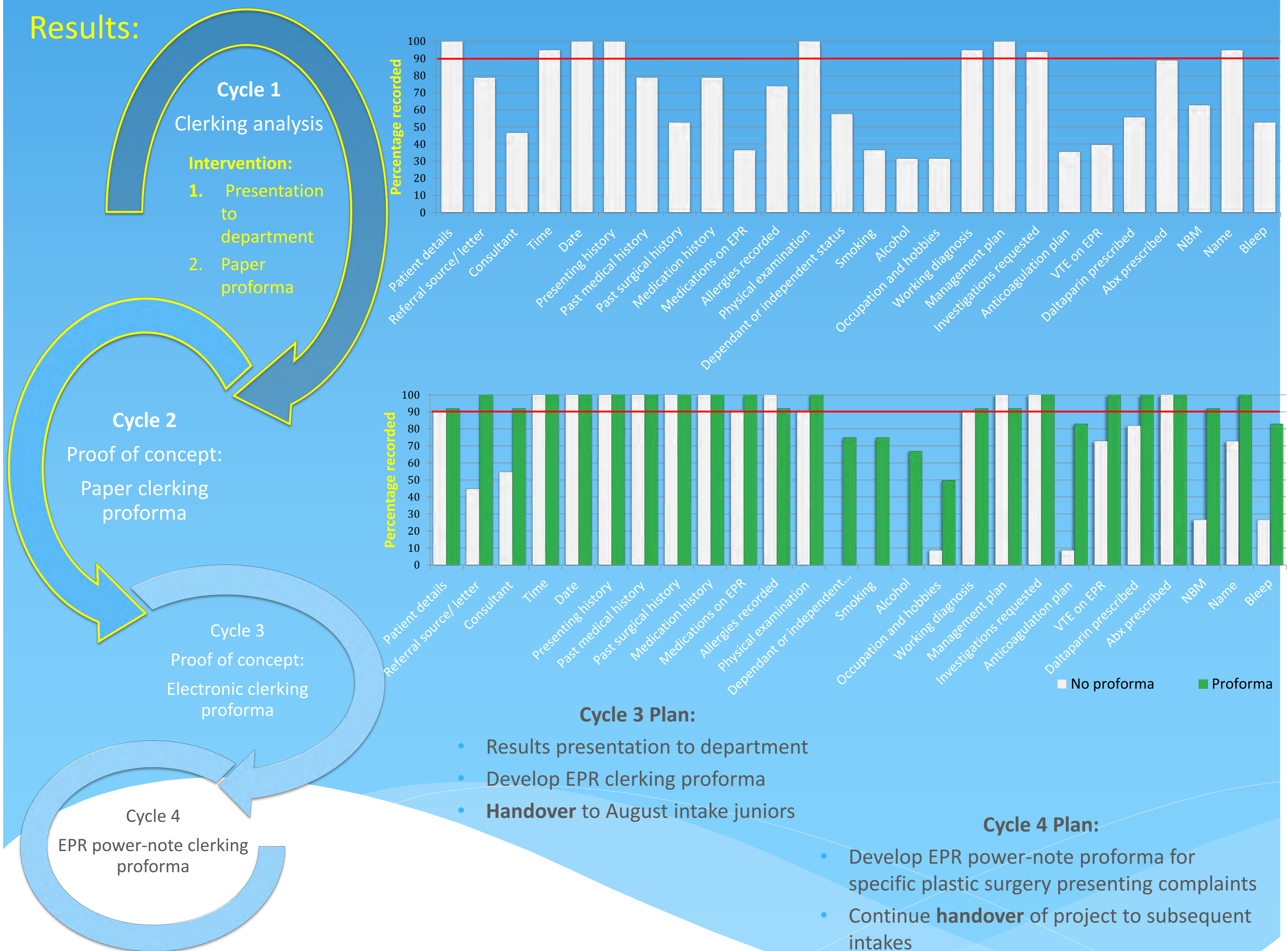
- Admission clerkings assessed for quality (RCSE, GMC, Published audits, MDT opinion)
- Inclusion criteria: All adult admissions
- Exclusion criteria: Paediatric admissions

Cycle 2:

23 patient notes analysed over 2 week period

- Admission clerkings assessed as per cycle 1
- Inclusion criteria: All adult emergency admissions
- Exclusion criteria: Paediatric cases + elective admissions

Results:



Summary:

- Poor quality of clerking documentation within the department
- Clerking proforma improves documentation
- Appropriate to introduce electronic clerking strategy

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References:

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- The Royal College of Surgeons of England. Guidelines for clinicians on medical records and notes. London, RCSE, 1990 and revised in 1994
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- The STAR score: a method for auditing clinical records, H, Tuffaha, T, Amer, P Jayia, C, Bicknell, N Rajaretnam, P Ziprin, RCS Annals, 2012, 94(4): 235-239H