Optimising resident doctor reviews on the postnatal ward: A Quality Improvement Project

Dr M. Kumar, Dr H. O'Connor, Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust

Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust

BACKGROUND

Resident doctors working in Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust routinely review patients in the postnatal ward independently. This can be challenging for those with limited or no prior obstetric (OBGYN) experience given the complexity of these reviews.

AIM

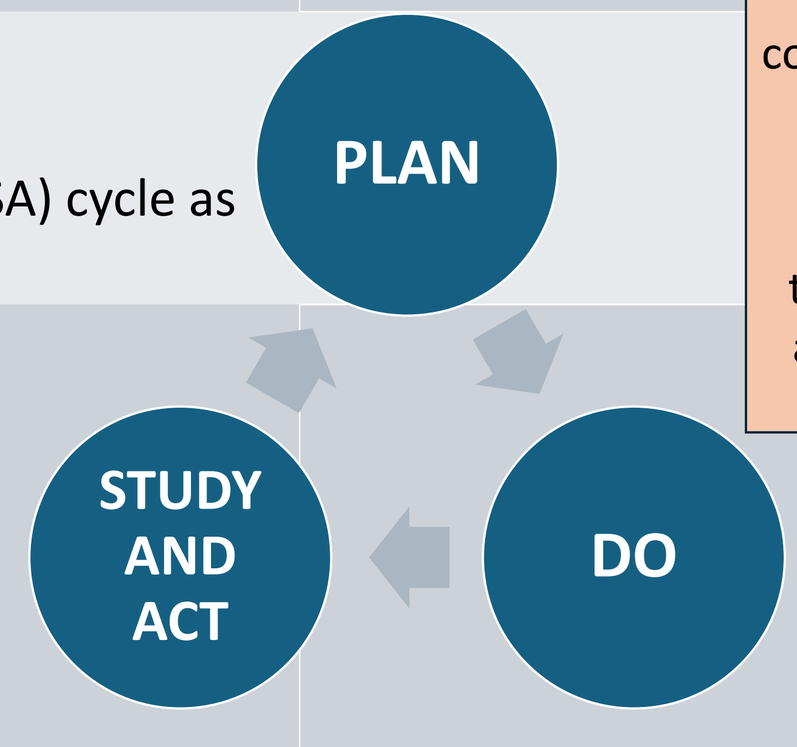
Improve resident doctors' confidence in reviewing postnatal patients

INCLUSION CRITERIA

Resident doctors working in OBGYN from April to August 2026 and are NOT undergoing Speciality training

METHODOLOGY

This QIP uses Plan – Do – Study – Act (PDSA) cycle as demonstrated



Pre-placement survey to assess understanding and confidence of resident doctors in managing common postnatal conditions namely assessing patients post C section, prescribing iron supplementation, assessing postnatal venous thromboembolism risk, prescribing adequate thromboprophylaxis and managing postnatal sepsis.

Provide a digital handbook containing management plan for the scenarios alongside relevant flow charts and Trust guidelines.

Survey to assess confidence post using the handbook.
Analyse outcome and discuss with wider multidisciplinary team.

RESULTS

- 12 doctors participated in pre handbook survey with only 7 participating in post handbook survey.
- The charts show a marked increase in self-reported confidence after the introduction of the handbook.
- Key for the chart: blue (very confident), orange (somewhat confident), green (not confident)

CONCLUSION

- Although the post intervention survey had a smaller response rate, the results suggest that the handbook was useful and accessible for resident doctors.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Incorporate the handbook into departmental induction for new doctors.
- Update the handbook regularly to maintain accuracy.
- Re – evaluate the intervention with a larger sample size.

