Innovative One Stop Nurse Managed DVT clinic
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Introduction
The nurse managed consultant led Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) clinic was established in 2010. Previously, patients were assessed by the nurses using the Wells score and venometry followed by senior medical review. Patient flow was slow due to delay in medical review and radiology department imaging.

Aim
• Timely diagnosis and management
• Improve quality of care
• Patient satisfaction and safety
• Improve flow

Methods
Following negotiations we secured Independent Vascular Scanning (IVS) for the DVT clinic. Patients undergo a whole leg scan at the first visit. Clinic skill mix is: 3 band 6 nurses supervised by Consultant nurse.

Service offered:
• Parenteral & oral anticoagulation with appropriate counselling
• Information regarding diagnosis & management including post thrombotic syndrome
• Differential diagnosis if DVT excluded
• Timely GP correspondence
• Arrange follow up of all DVT patients in a consultant clinic within 8 weeks
• Management of extensive superficial thrombo-phlebitis
• Education for all staff groups, patients and relatives/carers

CLINIC OUTCOME (monthly average)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Jan-Jun 2011</th>
<th>Jan-Jun 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doppler Scan</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pts LMWH</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti. Coag Referrals</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total VTE Diagnosis</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of patients attending DVT clinic for LMWH has significantly reduced given self administration, rapid diagnostics and increasing NOAC use

Number of patients attending the DVT clinic for anti-coagulation has reduced as patients are referred to appropriate out of area clinics promptly (Salford, Wigan & Leigh).

The number of patients with DVT diagnosis is higher than the number of scans as inpatient scans are still being done by the hospital radiology department as per local agreement.

Baseline bloods (incl D-Dimer) approx £30.00 per patient

Staff Development
DVT clinic nurses are Non-Medical Prescribers. One of the nurses works as the VTE champion. She works with the Hospital Associated Thrombosis (HAT) team to update the HAT database and ensure 100% completion of RCA for HAT, required to sustain National VTE Exemplar status. Bolton VTE team was shortlisted at the Greater Manchester clinical research awards 2014 for successful recruitment in the PREFER VTE trial.

Conclusion
Flow through the clinic is excellent and patient satisfaction based on two surveys, ranged between very good to excellent. This innovative DVT clinic model has significantly improved efficiency and patient safety as well as quality of care, with more than 98 % of the referrals managed as outpatients.

References

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DECREASE IN REFERRAL TO ASSESSMENT TIME
DECREASE IN TIME TO SCAN
IN AVAILABILITY OF CLINIC

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A nurse-led outpatient service for patients with DVT.
21 January, 2003 Shirley Partington, DipHEd, RGN, EN, is specialist vascular nurse, vascular studies unit, Tameside General Hospital, Tameside and Glossop Acute Services NHS Trust, Lancashire Independent Vascular Services (IVS) specializes in provision of high quality, comprehensive vascular services to the NHS and Private sector with its team of highly talented and experienced clinical vascular scientists. IVS is committed to quality improvement, has robust QA procedures and has/had or exceeds all CQC and NHS standards for service delivery.