HOW FAR ARE WE FROM ACHIEVING PARKINSONS UK RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARKINSON’S DISEASE INPATIENT DRUG MANAGEMENT IN ACUTE HOSPITALS?

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Introduction: Get it on time Campaign by Parkinson's UK developed standards for inpatient drug prescribing for Parkinson Disease (PD) patients. A third of PD patients get admitted to acute hospitals and have poor overall drug management.

Aims: To establish if PD inpatients in University Hospitals of Leicester (UHL) achieved the Parkinson's UK standards which are:

Standard 1: All patients have their medication regimen accurately recorded on admission

Standard 2: All patients have their prescribed Parkinson's medication administered on time

Standard 3: All patients are able to self-medicate if competent to do so.

Methods: A retrospective case note audit of 41 consecutive patients with PD admitted during the period July to September 2010 in 3 hospital sites in UHL was carried out.

Results:

Standard 1: 89% of patients had PD drugs documented but 52% did not have the timing documented in the drug charts.

Standard 2: There was a first dose delay in 48% of patients mainly due to non availability of drugs. Medication was given always on time only in 27% of patients and 50% had missed doses.

Standard 3: Only 25% of patients who could self medicate did so.

Conclusions: Only standard 1 was achieved to an acceptable level. Delays in drug administration can be prevented by better provision of drugs. Self medication of drugs may not a feasible option in an acute setting. Patient and staff education about PD may be the key to success.