

REDUCING THE WAIT FOR THE SLEEP APNOEA CLINIC APPOINTMENT TO 11 WEEKS



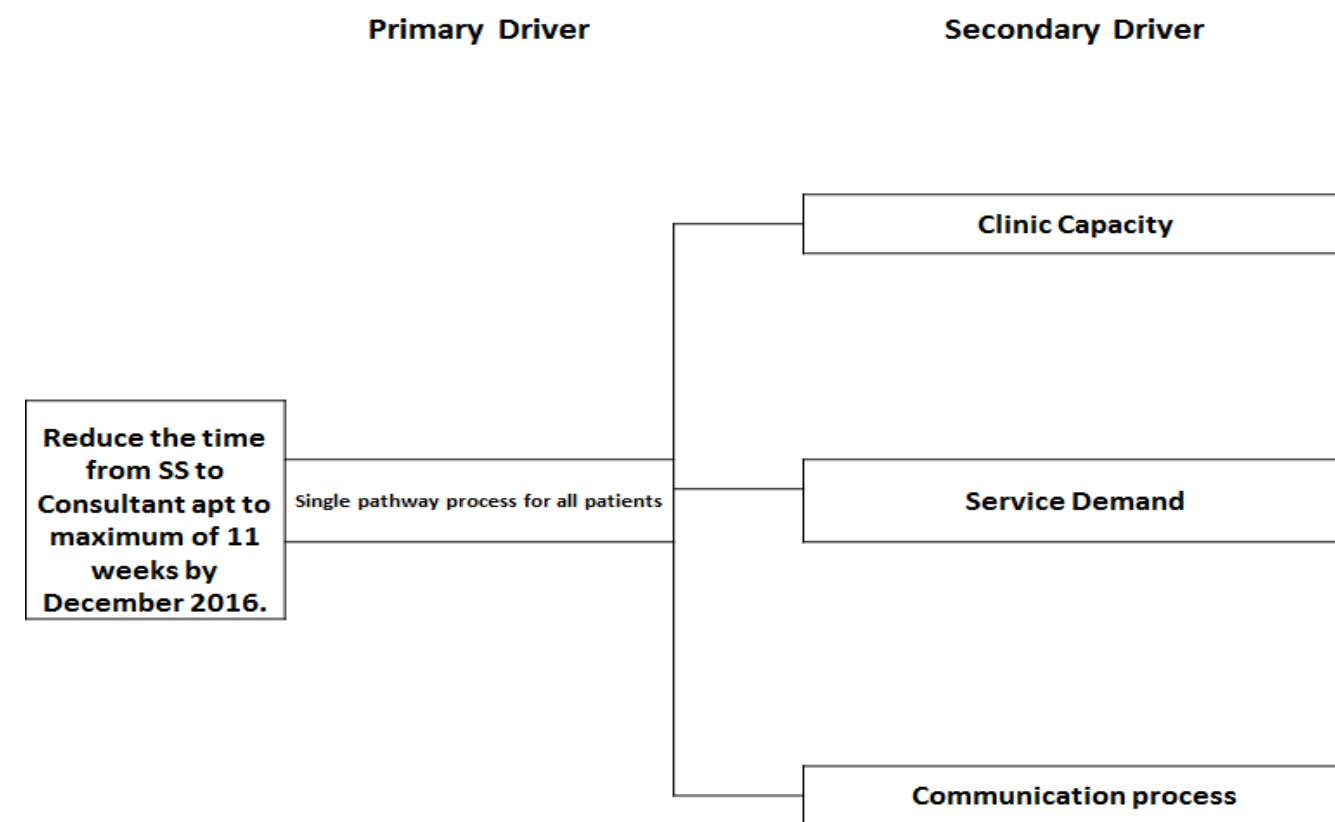
Introduction

Sleep apnoea is a condition which finds the sufferer having problems breathing overnight due to their airway collapsing. In order to resume breathing they are forced to wake up and this can occur 5-100 times an hour. Imagine being woken every minute through a whole night and then trying to undertake all your normal daytime activities without feeling tired, or even falling asleep. If this was you would you want to wait 6 months to have your condition diagnosed and treated?

No we didn't think this was acceptable either but due to the increased publicity surrounding this condition we were facing an unprecedented number of referrals and the service was unable to cope.

In order to change the situation with no additional resources all interested parties looked at the patient pathway to see if we could improve it and as a result reduce the wait for patients. The outcome was a radical approach and one that should significantly improve the patient experience.

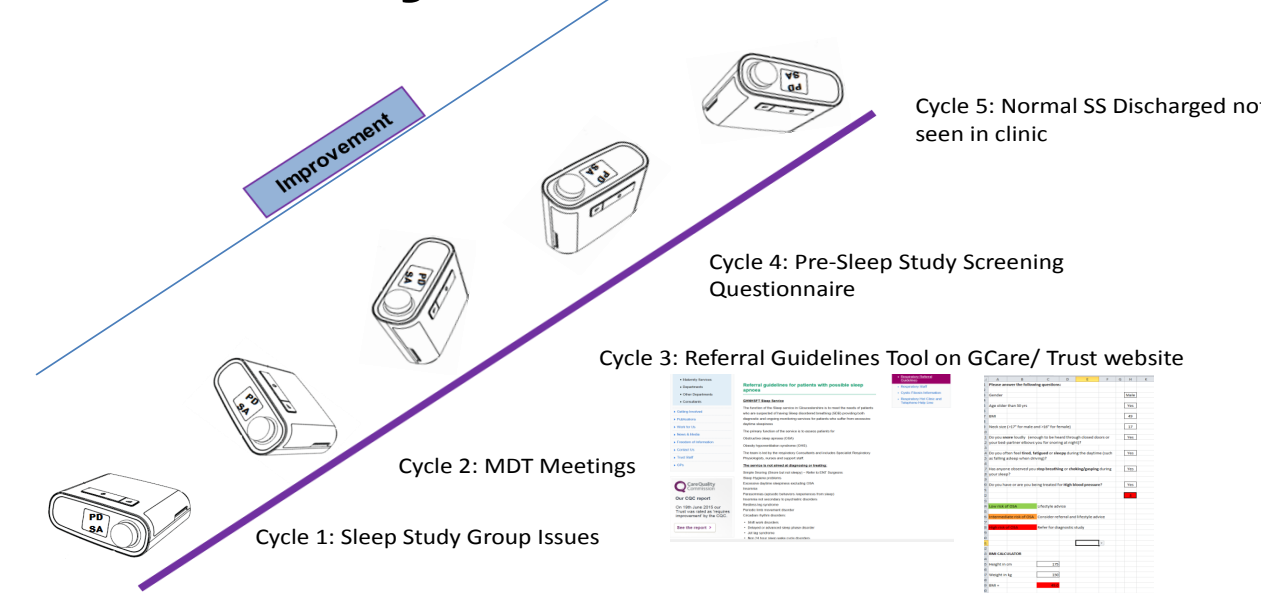
Primary / Secondary Drivers



Developments

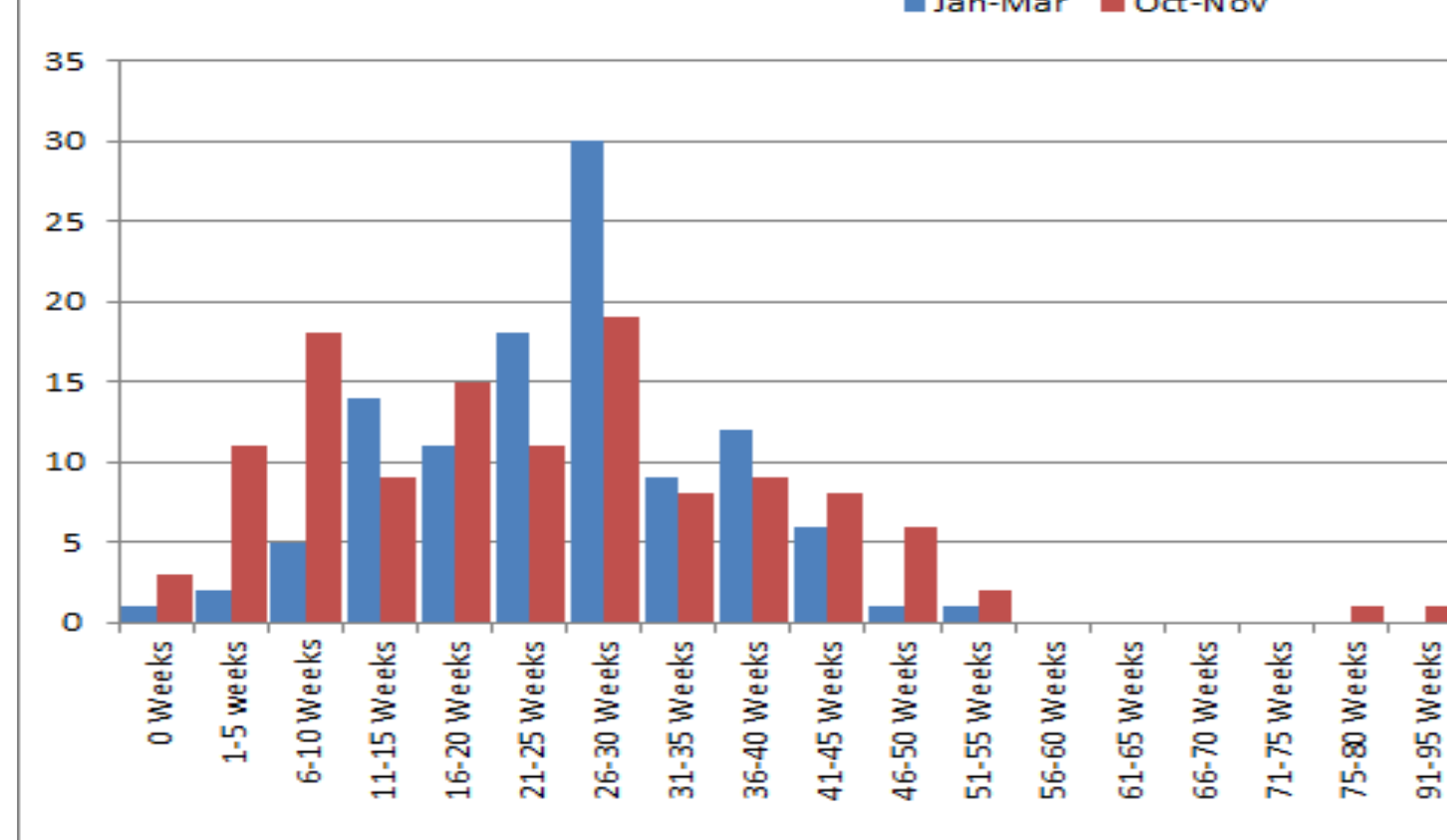
Some areas of the pathway and documentation which have been produced as a part of the process

PDSA Cycles



Elements of cycles we have been through on our process

Histogram of referrals Vs Time to Consultant clinic apt

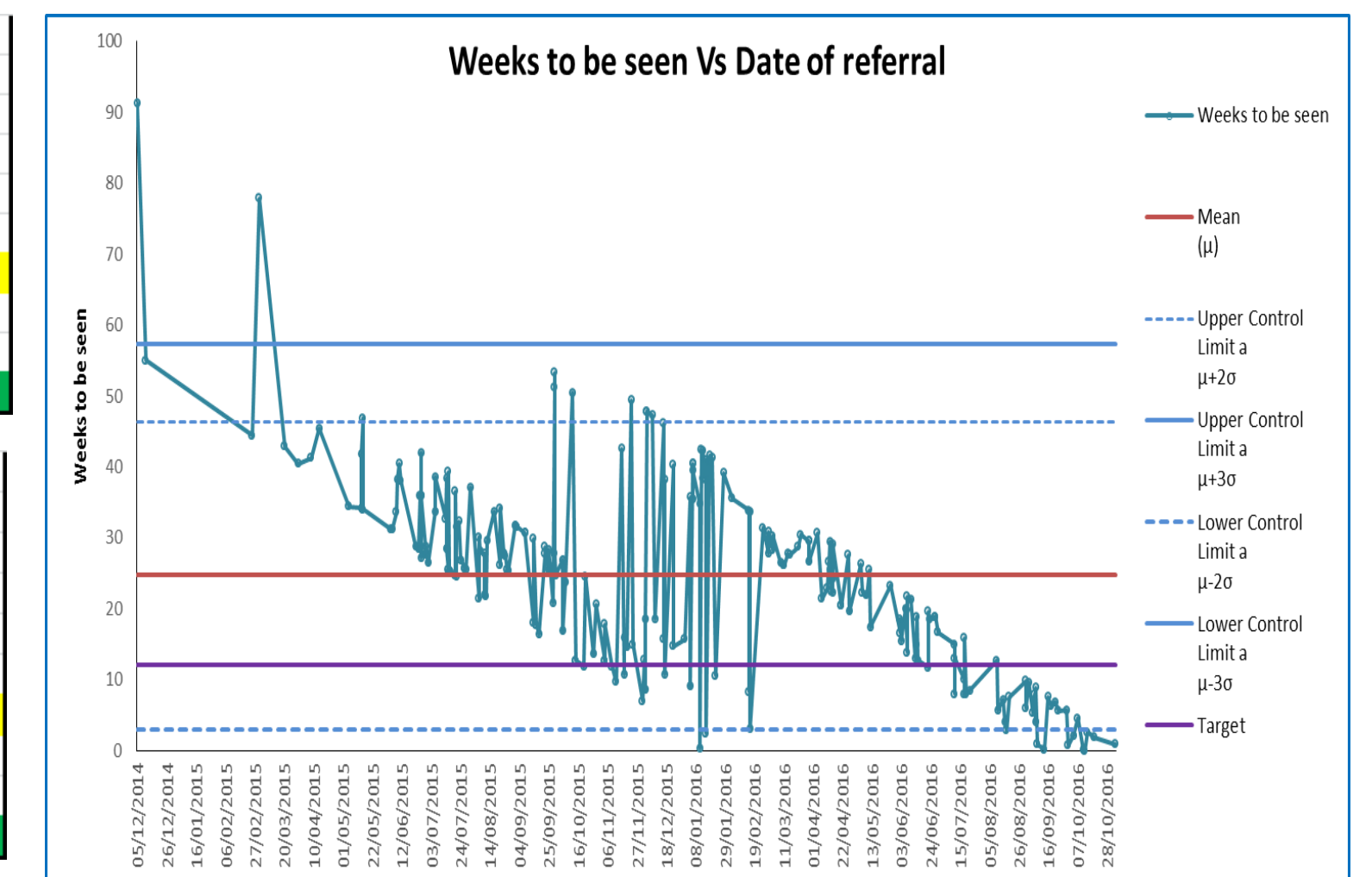


Key Results and Achievements

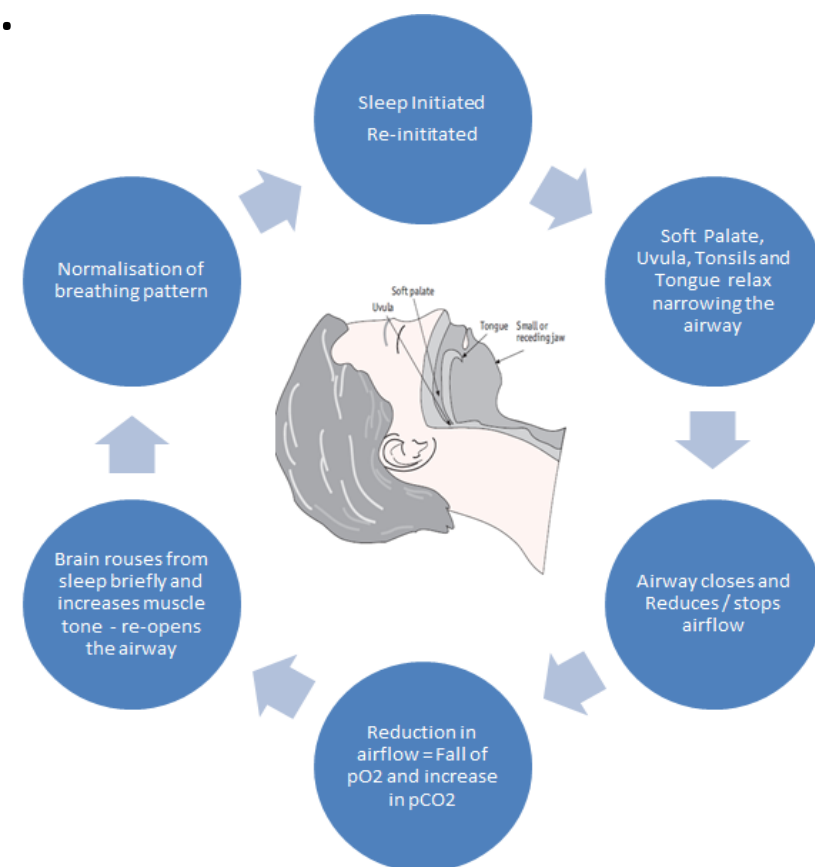
Improvement of around 18% more patients being seen within 11 weeks. Still only 28% of patients seen within 11 weeks of referral. Control of the clinic templates / booking is essential in making the pathway work. MDT Meeting and group sleep study at Cheltenham General. Discharge of patients with a normal sleep study opening up capacity.

OLD PATHWAY - Jan-Mar 16				
Consultant Breakdown	A	B	C	Total
n	63	28	27	118
mean Days	165.08	208.32	189.22	169.48
SD Days	82.11	67.53	35.18	109.53
Mean Weeks	23.58	29.76	27.03	24.21
Over > 11/52	54	26	27	107
Under < 11/52	9	2	0	11
% seen within 11/52	14.29%	7.14%	0.00%	9.32%

NEW PATHWAY - Sept to Nov 16				
Consultant Breakdown	A	B	C	Total
n	58	30	33	121
mean Days	143.64	230.13	144.97	165.45
SD Days	111.08	120.82	85.20	112.76
Mean Weeks	20.52	32.88	20.71	23.64
Over > 11/52	34	27	27	88
Under < 11/52	24	3	6	33
% seen within 11/52	41.38%	10.00%	18.18%	27.27%



What is OSA?



Stakeholders

