NHS Foundation Trust

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



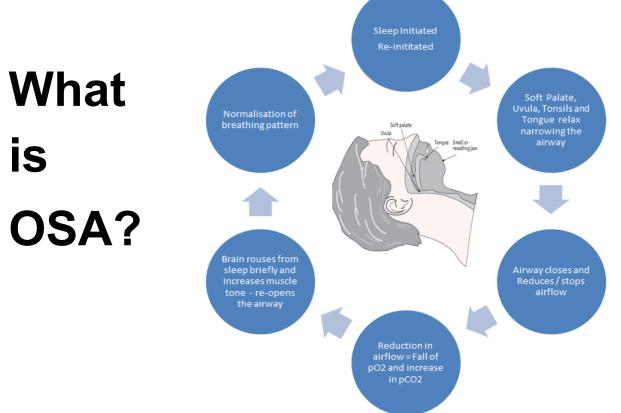
Introduction

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.

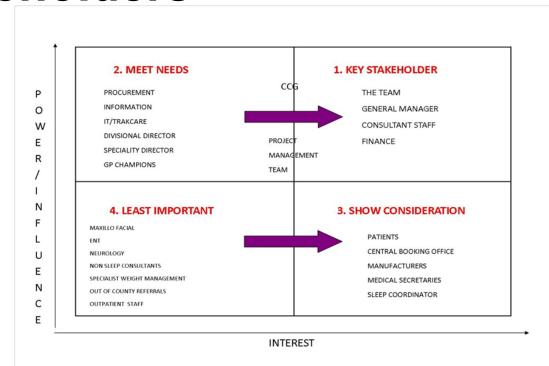
If this was you would you want to wait 6 months to have your condition diagnosed and treated?

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.

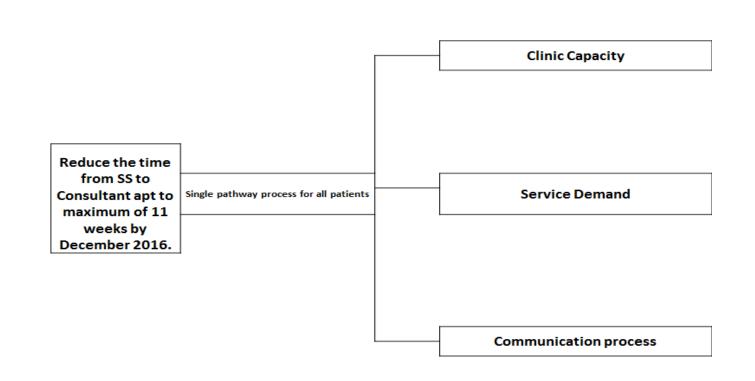


Stakeholders

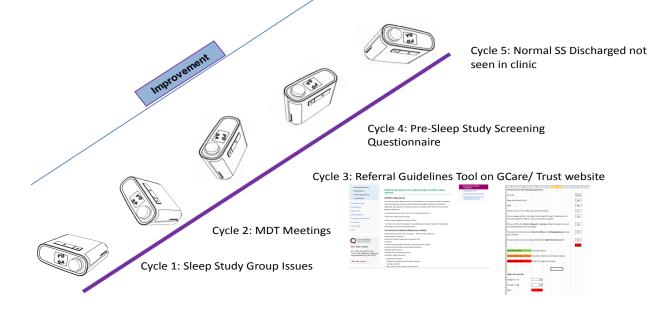


Primary / Secondary Drivers

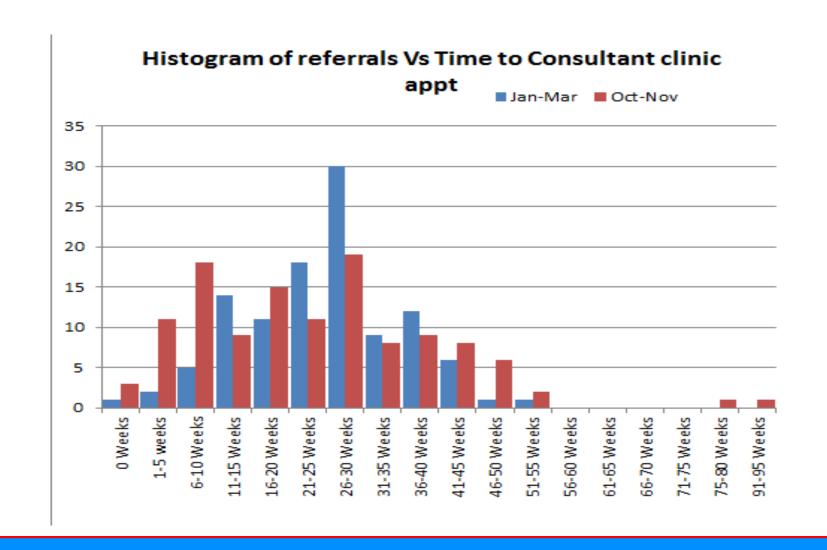
Primary Driver Secondary Driver



PDSA Cycles

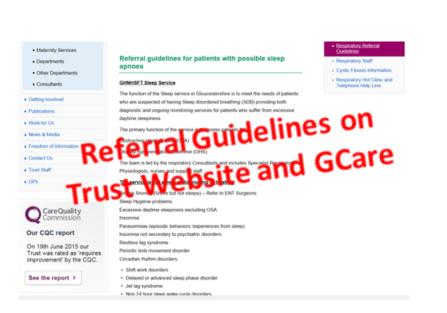


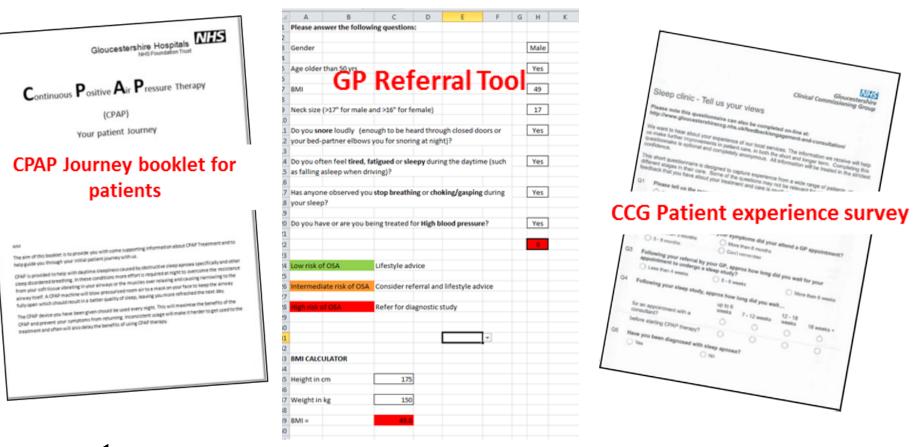
Elements of cycles we have been through on our process



Developments

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

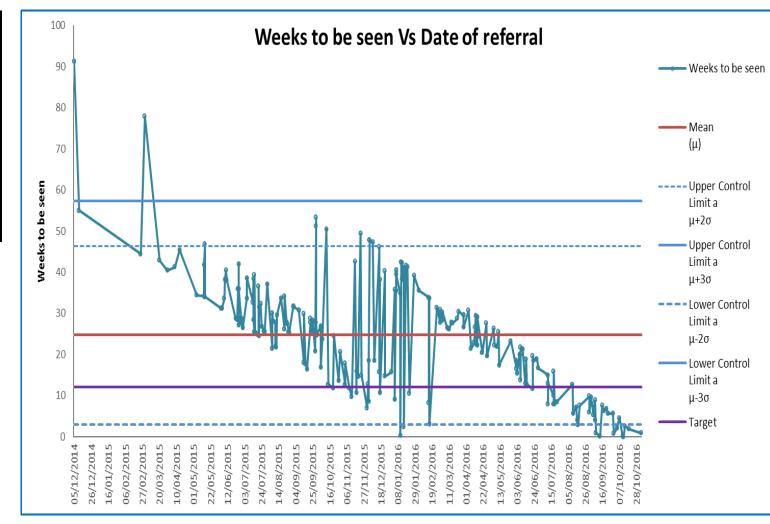




Key Results and Achievements

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 PATH	WAY - Jan-	Mar 16	
Consultant Breakdown				Total
	Α	В	С	
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
0/	14.29%	7.14%	0.00%	9.32%
% seen within 11/52			pt to Nov 16	3,52,0
-				Total
Consultant Breakdown	NEW PATH	łWAY − Sej	pt to Nov 16	
Consultant Breakdown	NEW PATH	HWAY - Sej B	pt to Nov 16	Total
Consultant Breakdown n mean Days	NEW PATH A 58	B 30	ot to Nov 16 C 33	Total
Consultant Breakdown n mean Days SD Days Mean Weeks	A 58 143.64	B 30 230.13	ot to Nov 16 C 33 144.97	Total 121 165.45
Consultant Breakdown n mean Days SD Days	A 58 143.64 111.08	B 30 230.13 120.82	ot to Nov 16 C 33 144.97 85.20	Total 121 165.45 112.76
Consultant Breakdown n mean Days SD Days Mean Weeks	A 58 143.64 111.08 20.52	B 30 230.13 120.82 32.88	ot to Nov 16 C 33 144.97 85.20 20.71	Total 121 165.45 112.76 23.64



Conclusions

There is plenty more work to be completed to implement the full pathway. Moving to Choose and Book sleep studies and taking control of the consultant clinics is essential to the improvement of the pathway. The implementation of the Consultant of the week for sleep is also paramount to the allocation of sleep studies from a Choose and Book referral, this and clinic capacity are still the biggest blockers to the full implementation of further components of the pathway.