

# Locating Tendon Hammers on Our Wards

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## 1. The problem

- It is generally believed that there is a need to increase awareness, particularly among foundation year doctors, of the importance of performing a full neurological examination, including ophthalmoscopy, in medical inpatients.
- The TOS study (Nicholls 2013) detected that 33% of patients could not recollect being examined with a tendon hammer and 48% said they had not been examined with an ophthalmoscope. In contrast, the majority (95.7%) remembered the use of a stethoscope in their examination.
- Part of this problem is a lack of suitable equipment on wards.

## 2. The improvement aim

- Reducing length of time for finding tendon hammers to <30s within a month.

Of the measures mentioned in the driver diagram the following were focused on.

- Time to find tendon hammer

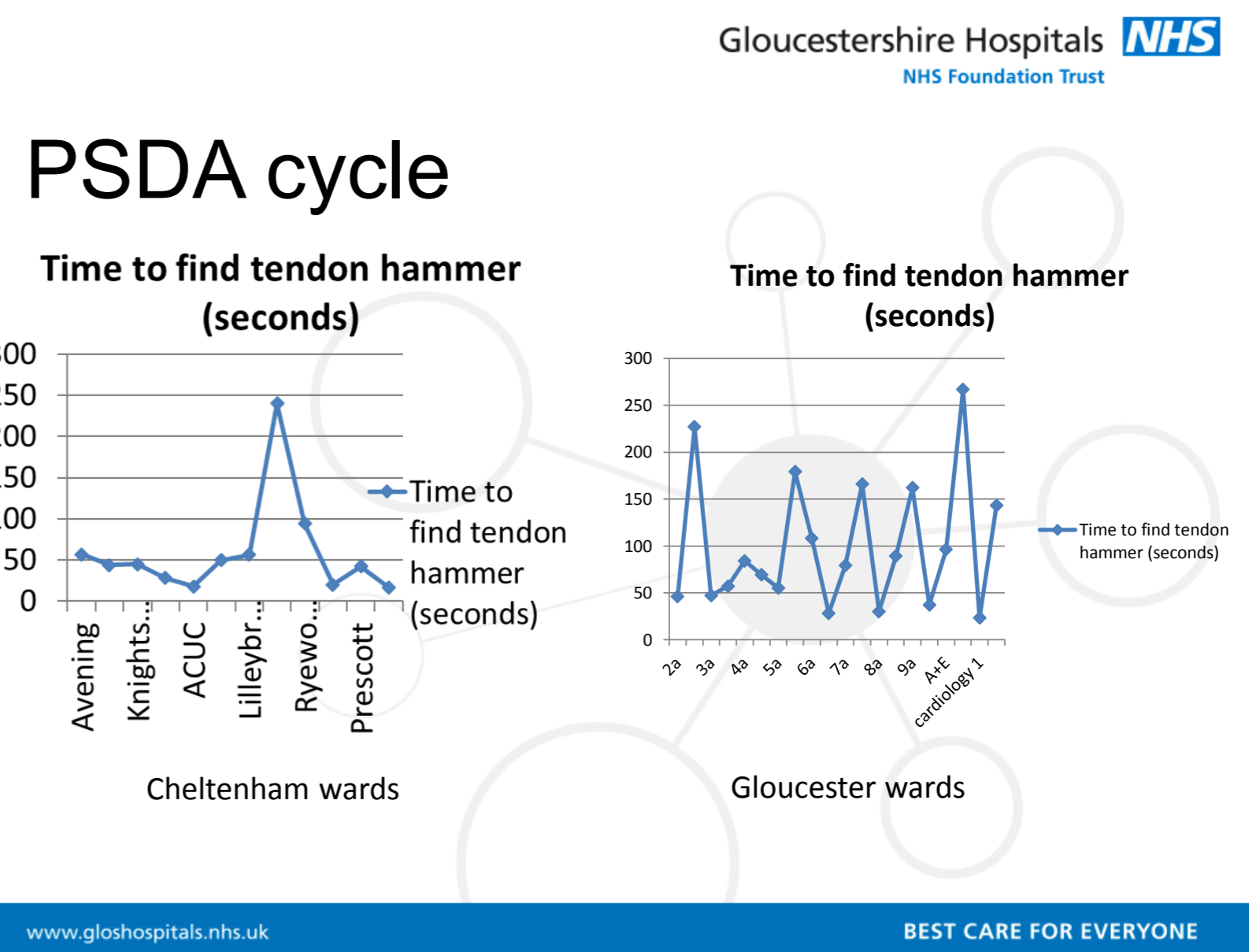


Figure 2 Time it took to find tendon hammers on wards throughout the trust.

## Driver Diagram

Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

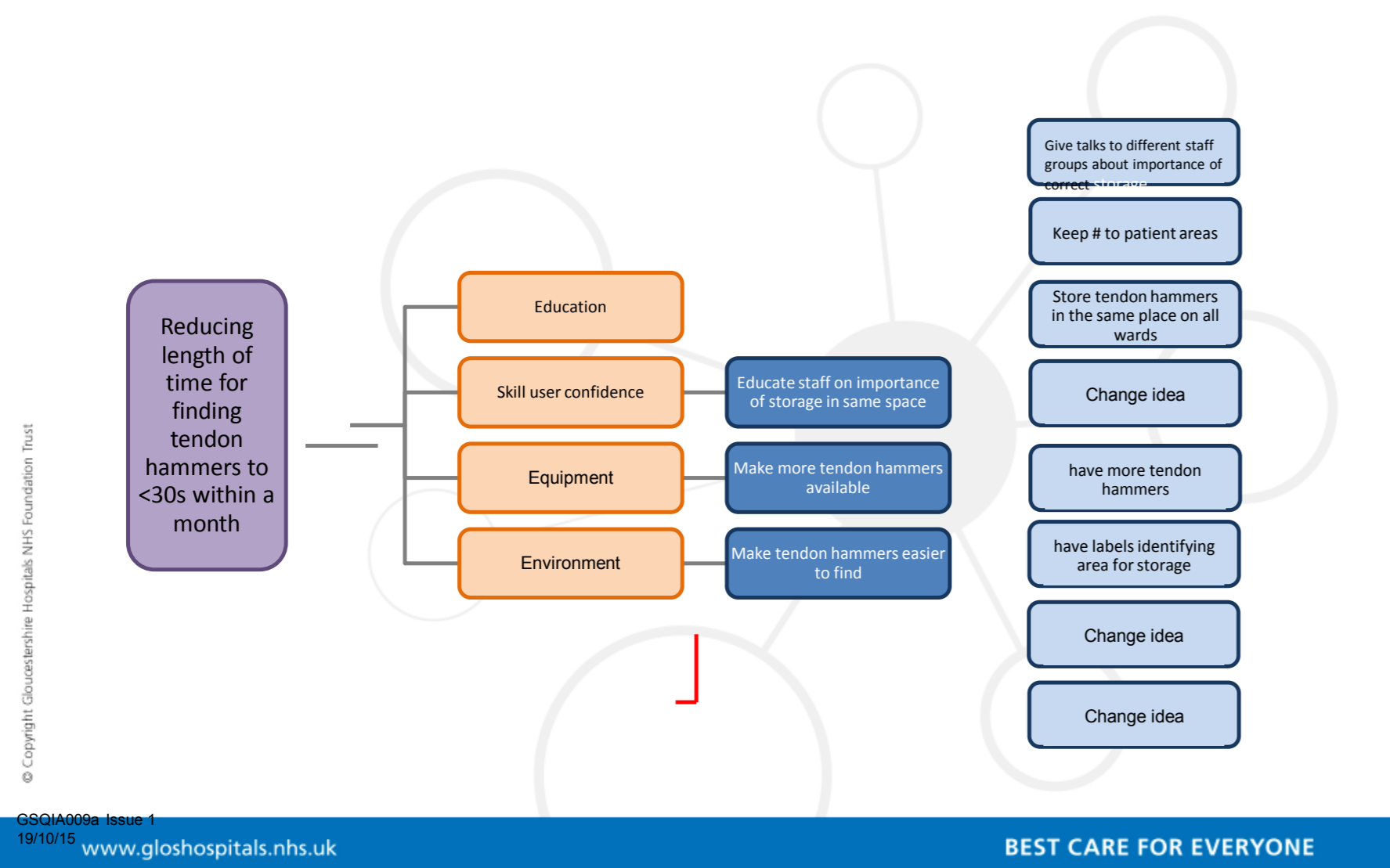


Figure 1 Diagram showing original driver diagram for intended project.

- Location of tendon hammer



Figure 3 Poster used on wards to indicate location of tendon hammers

## 6. Results

## 3. Measures focused on

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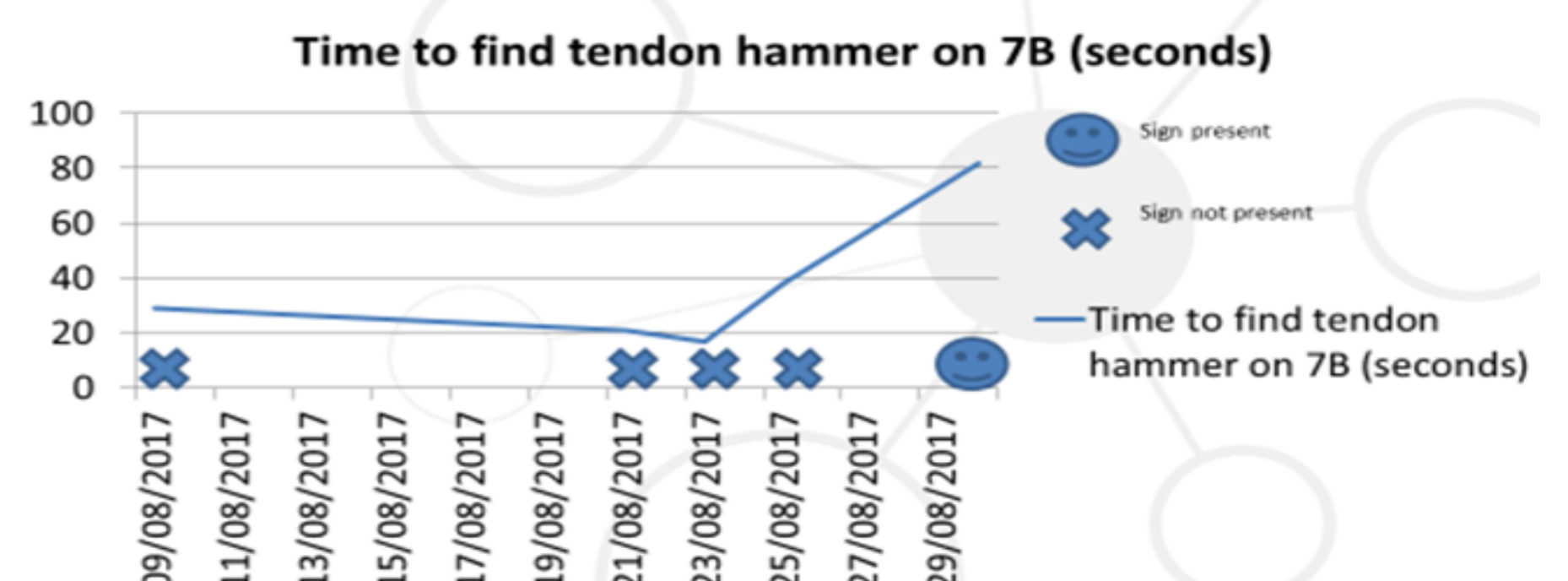
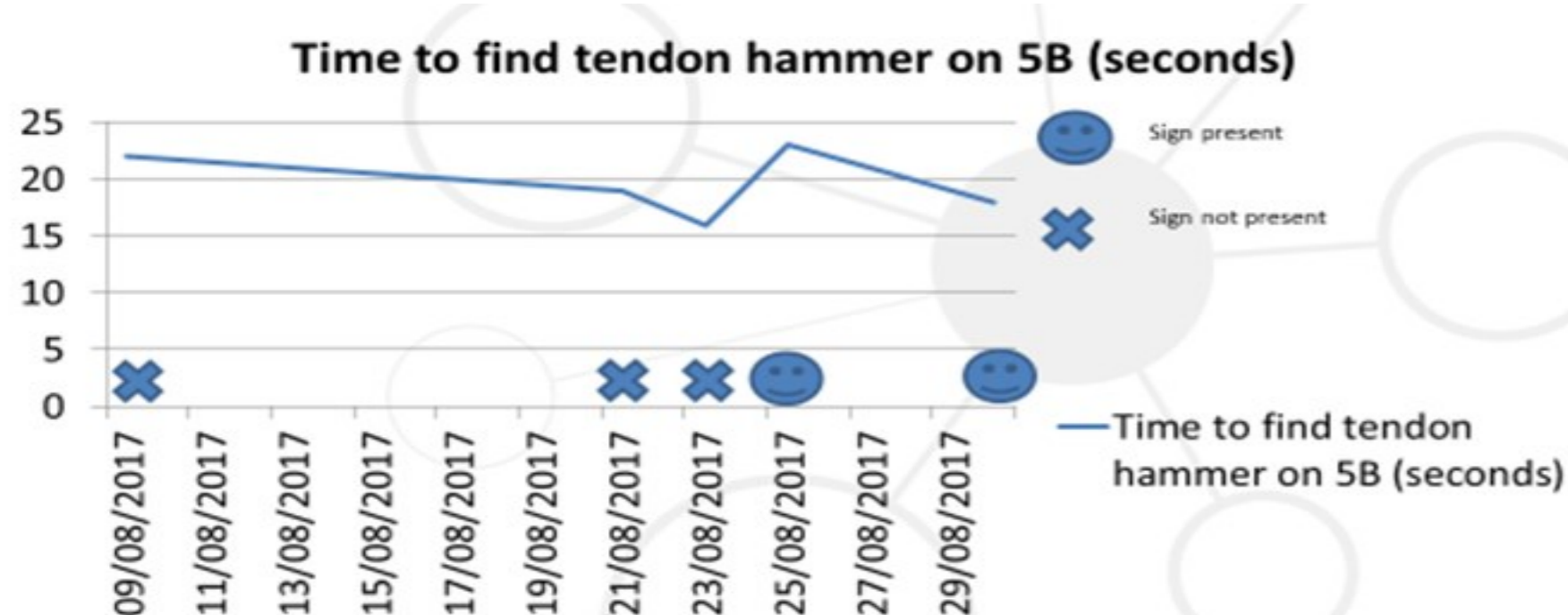


Figure s 4 and 5 Results from two wards in Gloucester post intervention showing variable results.