



QI Month 2024

Managing Pelvic Girdle Pain remotely: A consultation

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What highlighted the improvement opportunity?

Pelvic Girdle Pain (PGP) is a common, debilitating condition that affects women during pregnancy. Usual care entails a referral to Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy for a face-to-face assessment. A Systematic Review conducted by Muñoz-Tomás et al (2023) identified that physiotherapy telerehabilitation provided similar outcomes to face-to-face for functionality, quality of life and satisfaction. Usual care currently involves a referral to physiotherapy and a face to face assessment and follow ups when required.

We wanted to examine the feasibility of conducting virtual assessment over a 3 month period and compare the outcomes for attendance and follow up rates with usual care

What did you want to achieve?

To determine the feasibility of assessing and treating women with pelvic girdle pain over the telephone. To compare the outcomes in follow up and attendance rates in order to develop a more efficient service.

What did you do to implement the change/improvement?

An audit was undertaken from May 2023 to August 2023 to examine the impact of a one-off virtual assessment (via telephone) by one clinician providing patient education, guidance and information on belts via email follow up. Data was collected on attendance, follow up rates (70 patients) and patient satisfaction. This was then compared to usual care (September 2023 to December, 114 patients). Virtual consultations resulted in lower did not attend rates (virtual 2% vs. face to face 19%) and lower follow up rates (virtual 19% vs. face to face 41%).

How will/did you know that there has been an improvement?

We looked at attendance rates and follow up rates. Satisfaction questionnaires were sent via OR code.

Have you had any feedback?

Only 1 patient responded with positive feedback on the service.

