

Emergency Dept. OPEL Calculator

Project aim

The aim of this project was to create a Operational Pressures Escalation Calculator (OPEL) for the Emergency Department (ED) that could demonstrate on an hourly basis what the pressure points in the department are.

Results

The ED OPEL calculator has been developed in Excel in line with the needs of the department, i.e. information that they need to know on an hourly basis

Project team

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Timeline for delivery

From: Aug 2021

To: Sept 2021

Measures

The measure for success of the tool was the output of the calculator being representative of the position of the department and supporting the optimisation of flow through the department. A qualitative measure was the ease of use compared to BAU practices.

Tests for change

The tool was piloted by the assistant service manager and iterations of the tool were developed upon feedback. The output of the tool needed to be representative of the ED position. Once the pilot was complete, the tool was rolled out to the trackers.

Results – OPEL calculator

Emergency Department OPEL Calculator															
DATE: <input type="text"/>		<table border="1"> <tr> <th colspan="2">Key</th> </tr> <tr> <td>ED OPEL 1</td> <td>Score less than or equal to 180</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ED OPEL 2</td> <td>Score more than 180 to 320</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ED OPEL 3</td> <td>Score more than 320 to 400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ED OPEL 4</td> <td>Score more than 400</td> </tr> </table>				Key		ED OPEL 1	Score less than or equal to 180	ED OPEL 2	Score more than 180 to 320	ED OPEL 3	Score more than 320 to 400	ED OPEL 4	Score more than 400
Key															
ED OPEL 1	Score less than or equal to 180														
ED OPEL 2	Score more than 180 to 320														
ED OPEL 3	Score more than 320 to 400														
ED OPEL 4	Score more than 400														
Action Plan															
Category	Trigger	Score 5	Score 10	Score 15	Score 20										
OPEL STATUS															
ED Attendances	Attendances (Last hour)	<10	>10-14	>15-20	> 20										
ED Attendances	Total number of patients in the department	<50	51 – 80	81-100	>100										
Capacity	CDU Capacity	>4	3	2-1	0										
Capacity	Resus spaces available	4	3	2	1 or less or resus patients in majors										
Capacity	ED Majors spaces available	4	3	2-1	0										
Wait times	Wait for ED Clinician	<30mins	31- 60 mins	61mins-90-mins	>90mins										

		07.45am		08.45am	
		Actual	Score	Actual	Score
		180		180	
ED OPEL 1		5		5	
		5		5	
		20		20	
		20		20	
		20		20	
		5		5	
		5		5	

Learning and next steps

Next steps include automating the calculator so that it is accessible for all.

