



AN ASSESSMENT OF THE ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTATION OF MEDICINE RECONCILIATION

BACKGROUND

Medicines reconciliation (MR) on hospital admission aims to reduce the risk of harm due to medication omission or inappropriate prescribing.

NICE
National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

A medicines optimisation report, published by NICE in 2015, identified a 30-70% unintentional variance between medications that patients were taking pre and post-admission. [1]

Accurate documentation of MR is crucial and an effective standard operating procedure (SOP) should facilitate this. [2]

OBJECTIVES

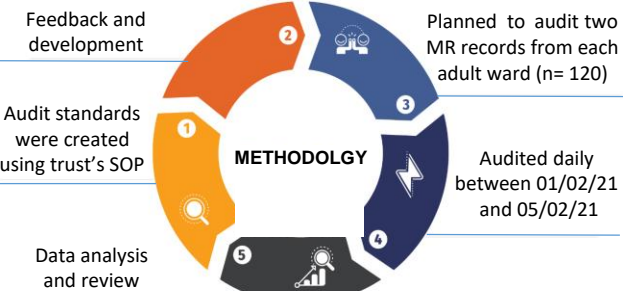
1. Assess documentation of medicine reconciliation on the trust's electronic notes according to trust SOP
2. Identify common problems with recording MR electronically
3. Evaluate if the SOP requires review

DISCUSSION

There is a clear need to amend the current SOP to clarify necessary elements of MR documentation combined with re-launch followed by re-audit after 6 months.

The SOP states that discrepancies can be communicated either verbally or via documentation in the medical notes. Interestingly it also states that verbal communication is preferred to ensure timely action.

These results are not a reflection of the quality of MR. The implementation of electronic recording is relatively new; therefore, the pre-existing SOP requires review and further clarity is required to determine which information must be documented. Stipulation between desirable and essential documentation criteria is also needed.



REFERENCES

[1] [Internet]. Nice.org.uk. 2015 [cited 16 February 2021]. Available from: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs120/documents/briefing-paper>

[2] Trust pharmacy clinical standard operating procedure. Obtaining and checking drug histories and medicines reconciliation. 2019 p. 1-14.

RESULTS

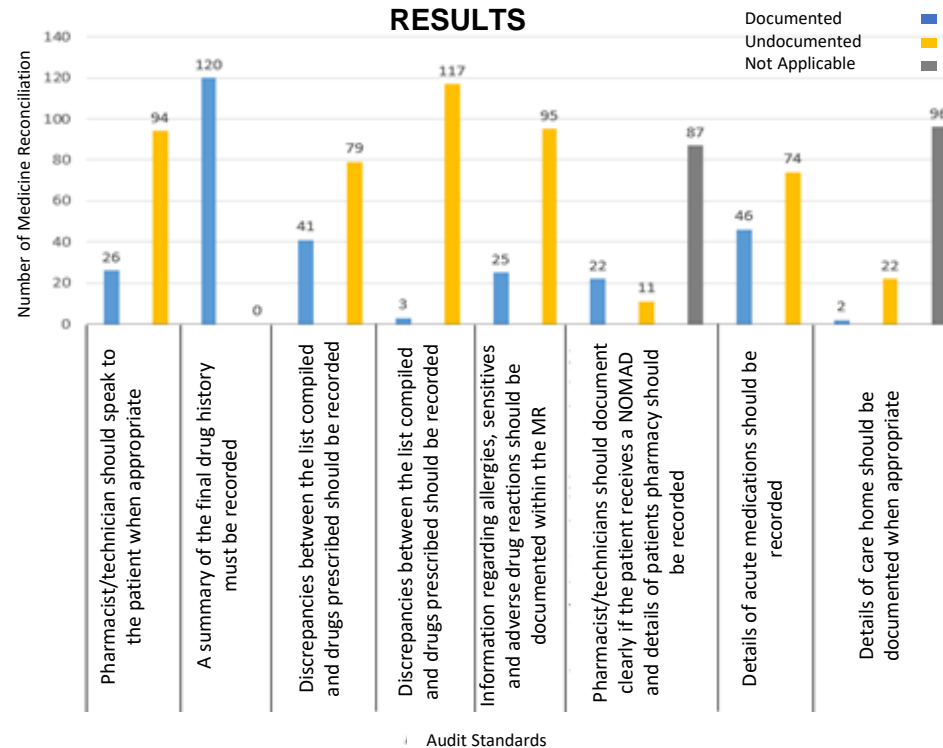


Figure 1: Electronic documentation of Medicines Reconciliation against audit standards [2]

STUDY LIMITATIONS

- COVID19
- Winter pressures
- Verbal communication not quantified

