New models of care supported by diagnostic technology

Prof Dan Lasserson MA MD FRCP Edin MRCGP
Senior Interface Physician in Acute and Complex Medicine, Dept of Geratology
Associate Professor, Nuffield Department of Medicine
Clinical Lead for Diagnostics and Pathways, Oxford AHSN

@DanLasserson
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Future hospital: Caring for medical patients

A report from the Future Hospital Commission to the Royal College of Physicians
September 2013

Hospitals on the edge?
The time for action

Five Year Forward View
Future Hospital Principles – the interface with the community

- A Medical Division that has in-hospital and community based components
- Ambulatory emergency care should be the default for all patients, unless admission required on clinical need
- Develop specialist models of care that operate beyond the ‘hospital walls’, providing care integrated with community providers/GPs, particularly into care homes
- Clinical Coordination centre that can match care needs with capacity/capability across the health economy (to include Urgent Care, Out of Hours care, Medical Division)
The hospital - community interface
What is ambulatory emergency care?

• Diagnosis, observation, treatment, rehabilitation not provided in the traditional hospital bed base or outpatients
• Improved patient experience, reduce negative impact of hospital admission, cost-effectiveness
• Needs observation periods, rapid diagnostics, decision-makers, reassessments
• Communication with a ‘capable community’
A Post Hospital Syndrome?

• Medicare readmissions in US ( >65 years) after index admissions for acute MI, pneumonia, heart failure
• 18-25% readmitted within 30 days, mostly with different conditions
• Interpreted as a ‘transient, acquired generalised increase in risk for multiple conditions’

JAMA 2013;309 (4): 355-363
NEJM 2013;368:100-102
Delivering ambulatory emergency care

- Community based acute multidisciplinary assessment and treatment
- Working outside the ‘hospital walls’
- Integrated working with community partners
- Improve patient and carer experience of acute assessment and treatment
Emergency Multidisciplinary Unit (EMU)

• Accessible, rapid, multidisciplinary diagnosis and treatment from a community setting

• Credible alternative to acute hospital admission

• Personalised acute care process, tailored to risk, patient and carer preference

• Platform for innovation in care models for older patients living with frailty
Emergency Multidisciplinary Unit (EMU)

Investigations
- **POC bloods** Na, K, urea, creatinine, calcium, glucose, blood gases, lactate, INR, haemoglobin, troponin, CRP
- **Plain X-Ray** (no cross-sectional imaging)

‘Interface multidisciplinary team care’: delivers enabling care alongside interventions traditionally delivered in an acute hospital, in settings close to home
- Intravenous fluid, diuresis, antibiotics, blood products
- Frequent assessment/monitoring (therapist, nursing, social, medical care)

Care Pathways
- Ambulatory care
- Bed based care (community or acute)
Acutely unwell frail older adult living at home/care home

Primary Care

Paramedic

Community team

EMU referral

Dedicated transport

EMU assessment and treatment

Home

Community hospital

Acute
Point of Care vs Laboratory – controlled lab based studies

Sodium i-Stat V Lab (mmol/l)
Line X=Y

Laboratory

Potassium i-Stat V Lab (mmol/l)
Line X=Y

Laboratory
Point of Care vs Laboratory in routine clinical use

![Graph showing the comparison between iStat Cr (POC) and Lab Cr. The graph includes a linear regression line and 95% confidence interval, with data points representing iStatCr and y.]
Importance of POC testing in community settings

Relationship between mean weekly temperature and mean potassium
Bringing community innovation back into the hospital

Oxford University Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Patient flow – referral and in-reach

Clinical assessment
Diagnostics (POC, laboratory, imaging)
Parenteral therapy
Therapist interventions

No further follow up after initial assessment

Ambulatory treatment pathway

Small % of patients with short acute stay

Home
Care home
Community hospital

Acute medical bed
Selecting patients for ambulatory emergency care

- Fundamental element of Future Hospital report is ambulatory emergency care

- What is the level of agreement over which patients are suitable to be ambulated in acute illness?
Selecting patients for ambulatory emergency care

% same day discharge from acute medical referrals by consultant
Selecting patients for ambulatory emergency care

- 533 consecutive acute referrals
  - median age 80 yrs, 59% female, mean Barthel = 16.7
  - 11% referred by paramedics, 85% referred by GPs
  - 13.3% from care home/supported living
  - Of those living at home 23% had a care package, 40% living alone
Selecting patients for ambulatory emergency care

- 533 consecutive acute referrals - presentations
  - 48% decreased mobility/functional decline
  - 37% breathlessness
  - 20% falls
  - 18% acute confusion
  - 43% deemed to have increased care needs
Selecting patients for ambulatory emergency care

- Pathway outcomes at 30 days after referral
  - 61% remained on an ambulatory pathway
  - 10% initially ambulatory then escalated to acute care
  - 28% initially admitted
    - 9% transfer to acute hospital bed
    - 19% admitted to community hospital bed
## Markers of physiological status – NEWS

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<td>A</td>
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<td>V, P, or U</td>
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*The NEWS initiative flowed from the Royal College of Physicians' NEWSDIG, and was jointly developed and funded in collaboration with the Royal College of Physicians, Royal College of Nursing, National Outreach Forum and NHS Training for Innovation.*
NEWS score - predicting continued ambulatory status at 30 days

AUC: 0.648 (0.594, 0.703)
NEWS score + POC blood tests (urea, crp, Hb) - predicting continued ambulatory status at 30 days
Candidate biomarkers for ambulatory care selection

All presentations to ED with breathlessness

BNP predicts long term mortality irrespective of diagnosis

European Journal of Clinical Investigation (2007) 37, 834–841
Delivering new care models – professional perspectives

“I think it does provide a better experience for patients, it’s smoother and … they obviously get their treatment quicker”

“I don’t think we could function at all as a unit without it [POC testing]”

“crucial… integral to running this service”

“for our decision making at the time and to provide a plan for that patient and give them the best treatment we need to have that [POC test] result in our hand there and then”

Croxson C, Glogowska M, Locock L, Lasserson D, under review, BMC Health Services Research
Delivering new care models

• POC blood tests are critical enablers
  • Release a cascade of change in processes of care
  • High quality decision making in the acute care pathway
  • Rapid diagnosis and rapid rule out
  • Move care closer to home
  • Improve patient flow
  • Patient and carer experience
Delivering new care models - challenges

• POC tests are critical enablers
  • Which blood tests optimise selection for ambulatory care?
  • Acute care in the home / care home
  • Clinician pipeline – new care models and new ways of working
  • POC imaging – acute kidney injury, effusions, doppler…
New models of care supported by diagnostic technology

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