

Well Woman Wednesdays



A QI Project to offer Cervical Cytology to Inpatients within Wotton Lawn Hospital

PROBLEM

The number of women attending cervical screening is falling. Attendance is currently at its lowest ever, with only 74% of women taking up their smear test invites. Research suggests that women with Serious Mental Illness are even less likely to attend for screening.

AIM

Our aim was to initiate a cervical screening

service within Wotton Lawn Hospital, and

offer and facilitate screening for every

eligible woman.



MEASURES

No. of women given the opportunity to

have a smear test, and the number of

women who accepted the test

CHANGE IDEAS

* Raising awareness

* Posters in wards and around

hospital Creating a clinic environment



PDSA CYCLE: Possible change ideas as Plan, Do, Study, Act

- Use driver diagram to consult with ward team and service users.
- Develop posters to raise awareness among staff and service users and to open the discussion to include their involvement.
- The project has expanded to include all women's health following feedback from service users.
- We have distributed leaflets, and designed an information stand board to be displayed on the ward.

Driver Diagram – Women's Wellbeing

Primary Drivers

Parity of esteem agenda: -"Everyone with a mental health problem gets access to the services they need, when they need them".

Maximise accessibility to, and availability of, cervical screening to this vulnerable group of women.

Remove barriers to cervical screening and improve the service user experience, whilst making effective use of NHS resources

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Secondary Drivers

Offer women the opportunity to have a smear test within Wotton Lawn Hospital. This is an environment that is familiar, supportive and practical for them. Poor past experience, waiting times, travel difficulties and lack of knowledge are all barriers to the uptake of screening. Nursing and service users working together to develop ideas.

Non attendance at screening appointments is a risk factor for cervical cancer. Offer appropriate screening for this vulnerable yet potentially complex group in a clinic based environment Seek informed consent.

Minimise anxiety or adverse psychological aspects of screening. Offer screening as part of the "whole" female inpatient package by using a flexible, timely, whole person centered approach demonstrating sensitivity. Maximise trust with a professional that is familiar and offers choice to the woman through communication and consultation. Reduce embarrassment through education and facts around cervical screening,

Outcomes

To save lives by reducing the incidence of and mortality from cervical cancer through screening eligible women. To detect cervical changes earlier, and support

subsequent treatment towards improved outcomes.

Make life better for those who use our services through demonstrating Trust values in the promotion of positive physical and mental health

including instruments used and the procedure

Reflecting on our learning

Cervical screening is now offered to 100% of women as part of our Well

Woman Clinics. 62% of eligible women accepted screening whilst an inpatient.

What happened next....



Links have been made with the local breast screening services who have agreed to offer a fast track mammogram service to women who are eligible for screening but may have missed their appointments.

We have an expert by experience working alongside us as part of this ongoing project.

