

Project Title

Advanced Practice Physiotherapists in TTSH Emergency Department

Project Lead and Members

Project members: Ms Ngo Xueting, Mr Loh Wei Bing, Dr See Keng Kew Terence, Dr Quek Yong Jing Daniel, Mr Christopher Ng Thong Lian, Adjunct Assistant Professor Ang Hou, Adjunct Associate Professor Lee Keng Thiam, Adjunct Associate Professor Sreedharan Sechachalam, Dr Tandon Ankit Anil, Mr Ringo Yee You Wah, Ms Sharika Udiipi, Ms Ong Pei Gin, Ms Vanessa Ho Yi Ki

Organisation(s) Involved

Tan Tock Seng Hospital

Healthcare Family Group(s) Involved in this Project

Allied Health, Medicine

Applicable Specialty or Discipline

Emergency Medicine, Hand & Reconstructive Microsurgery, Orthopaedic Surgery, Physiotherapy

Project Period

Start date: 2018

Completed date: May 2022

Aims

To address prolonged wait times and mitigate risks of chronic pain for MSK patients in TTSH ED, a revolutionary shift towards early physiotherapy intervention was undertaken.

Project Attachment

See poster appended/ below

Background

See poster appended/ below

Methods

See poster appended/ below

Results

See poster appended/ below

Lesson Learnt

Engaging multiple stakeholders is crucial for the project's success, requiring continuous collaboration toward a shared goal. The unforeseen disruptions caused by Covid-19 necessitated flexibility and effective communication among collaborating departments. The project's achievements hinge on the support and collaboration of all stakeholder departments.

Looking ahead, the team plans to expand the scope of practice for APPs, enabling them to prescribe pain medications and issue medical certificates, as well as to extend the service into outpatient clinic settings. As the proposal for such an extended scope of practice for physiotherapists is a first in Singapore, some anticipated challenges include concerns about patients' safety, going through stringent review process before being granted Clinical Board's approval. These can be overcome via the ongoing engagements with stakeholders and aligning with guidelines from MOH to develop a framework that includes robust training and stringent governance to ensure safety in clinical care.

Additional Information

National Healthcare Innovation & Productivity (NHIP) 2024 – Best Practice (Care Redesign category)

Conclusion

See poster appended/ below

Project Category

Care & Process Redesign

Access to Care, Turn Around Time and Waiting Time

Keywords

Advance Practice Physiotherapy, Emergency Care

Name and Email of Project Contact Person(s)

Name: Ms Ngo Xueting

Email: xueting_ngo@ttsh.com.sg