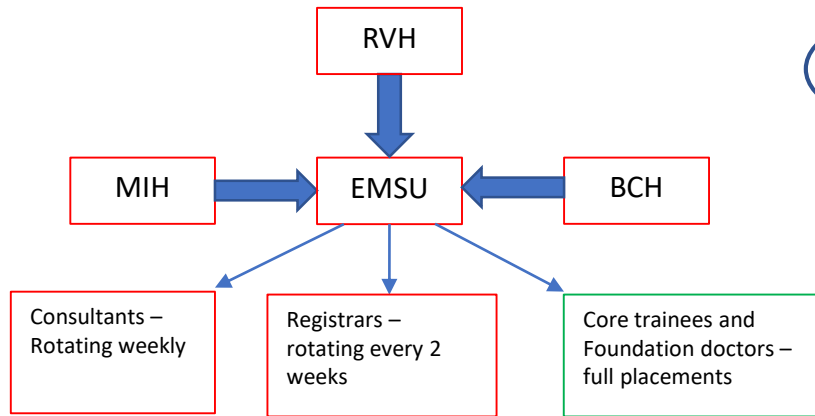


Morbidity in an Emergency Surgical Unit

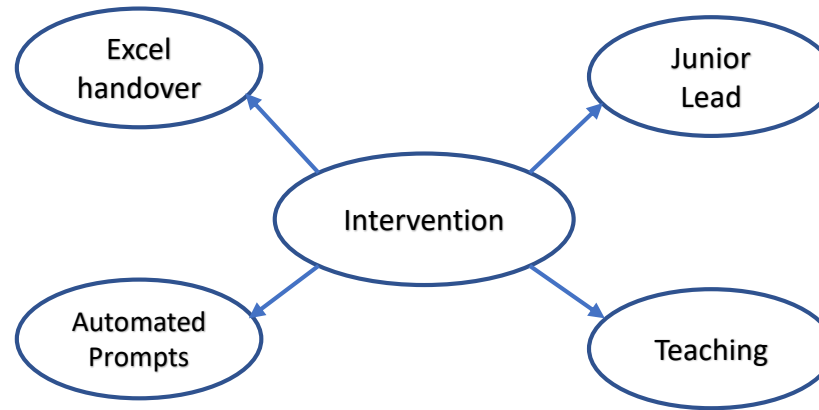
Context

In June 2013 the Emergency Surgical Unit (EmSU) was opened in the Royal Victoria Hospital Belfast, this was to allow the segregation of emergency and elective general surgery for the Belfast health and social care trust. The consultants and registrars posted in general surgery in the Belfast trust rotate through the EmSU thus providing emergency care while in the Royal Victoria Hospital.

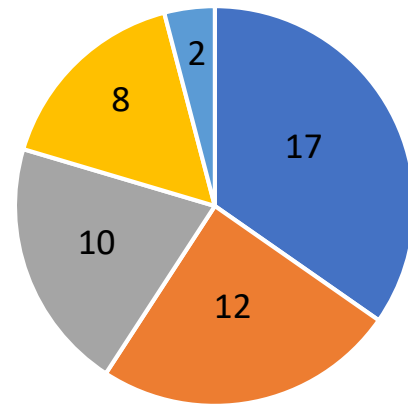


Issue and assessment of issue

From the beginning of the EmSU the collection of Morbidity information for discussion at Morbidity and Mortality meetings, which occurred every 3 months, was inconsistent. As stated in RCS professional and clinical standards November 2015 and Good Surgical Practice (RCS 2014), all surgeons should regularly attend morbidity and mortality meeting to discuss cases based on locally set criteria. I found that the senior staff were only in the EmSU for short periods of time and therefore did not feel able to implement the collection of morbidity, the junior staff were not being involved in the M&M meetings and had been given no method of collecting the morbidity data.



Breakdown Aug - Oct 2018



■ CDC 1 ■ CDC 2 ■ CDC 3a ■ CDC 3b ■ CDC 4a
*CDC - Clavien-Dindo classification

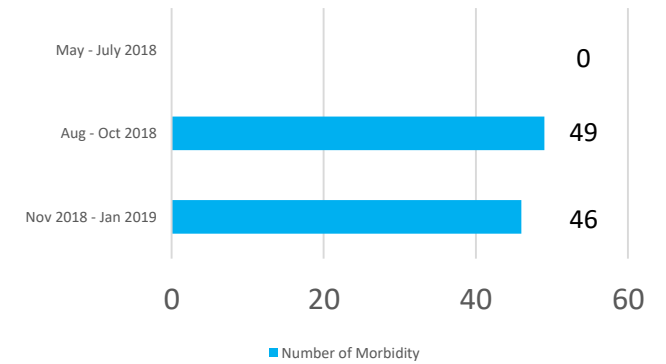
Initial Morbidity data collection and discussion was 0 prior to intervention.

Following the intervention from August 2018 to October 2018 there were 49 morbidity cases collected with 8 Clavien-Dindo 3b cases discussed.

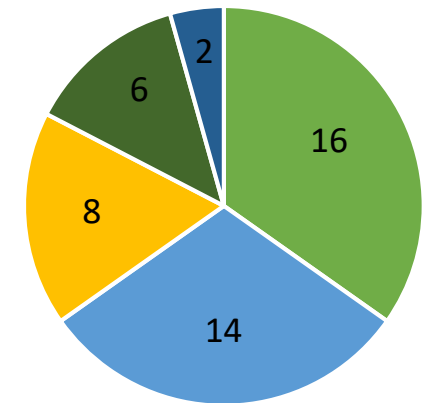
During the period of November 2018 to January 2019 there were 46 morbidity cases collected with 6 Clavien-Dindo 3b cases discussed.

This showed a significant and sustained improvement in Morbidity collection.

Morbidity Data Collection



Breakdown Oct 2018 - Jan 2019



■ CDC 1 ■ CDC 2 ■ CDC 3a ■ CDC 3b ■ CDC 4a
*CDC - Clavien-Dindo classification

References

Royal College of Surgeons professional and clinical standards November 2015
Royal College of Surgeons Good Surgical Practice 2014