

Time critical Parkinson's medication

Objective

In March 2021, we set out to ensure people with Parkinson's received their medication within 30 minutes of the prescribed time within our inpatient community hospitals. This was through an innovative approach in combination with the Life Quality Improvement System.

Intervention

A pharmacist initially began by engaging with 1 to 2 community hospital wards. They supported staff in an informal way to understand the importance of Parkinson's time critical medications. From this, our Time Critical Quality Improvement Team, which comprises a consultant nurse, 2 pharmacists, a Parkinson's nurse, and quality lead began. Other healthcare professionals, such as pharmacy technicians and acute Parkinson's nurses, join our meetings as required.

Weekly reports were initially created from prescribing data and disseminated via email to our pilot community hospital wards. These contained data tables and visual charts to illustrate how far away from the 30-minute window medication was being taken. Bite size educational video links within the email combined with the development of ward based posters with QR codes, helped this project gain momentum with more wards coming onboard.

Weekly ward reports are now colourful and easily break down data, highlighting how far away from the 30 minute window medication has been administered. The report goes further showing whether wards have achieved gold or silver status for their efforts. These wards are then rewarded through the WOW! Awards.

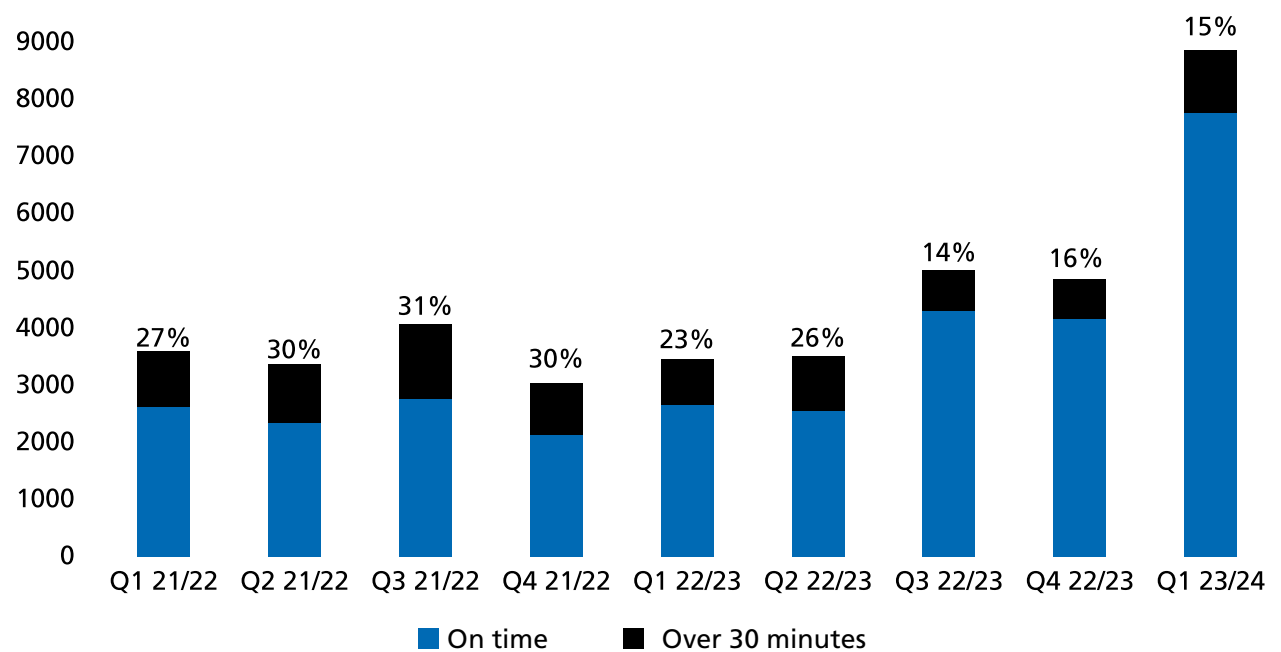
We are also supporting medication management link nurses for each ward area. During 2023 World Parkinson's day, we provided each ward with a P-UK washbag containing a pill timer rememberer, along with specific booklets and information. This has enabled us to bring our key mental health wards into this project, bringing us to 16 wards over 9 different community hospital sites.

Our project information is now a story board approach. Regular updates are provided to our Medication Optimisation Safety Committee. Our chief executive has pledged support to this national work. Through the development of monthly online drop-in meetings, ward staff are sharing experiences of best practice. In one care location, the matron purchased magnetic pill timers for whiteboard use, which others now want to adopt in their areas. The drop-in events also provide a forum to identify low stocks of resources, discuss educational requirements and provide valuable updates to the project team.

References: Parkinson's UK Get It On Time. NICE guidance NG71
Acknowledgements: Thanks and appreciation to our patients and staff for providing feedback on the project. Parkinson's UK for providing the wash bags, information packs and Get It On Time promotional material.

A quality improvement approach

Results showing PD meds administered per quarter (12% improvement in meds being delivered on time)



Word cloud from patient and staff experience feedback

I do not need to keep repeating everything when the ward staff have more knowledge about Parkinson's. This gives me reassurance that my medication will be given on time.
Inpatient quote

Empowered Quality improvement
Person centred
Skilled safe Knowledge Dependency
Caring Pill timer
Parkinson's Pharmacy Staff Quality of life
Impact Nurses Education Patient Team
WOW! Link nurse Awards Symptoms Fantastic Wonderful
Innovation Medication Pharmacy Staff Quality of life
Achievement

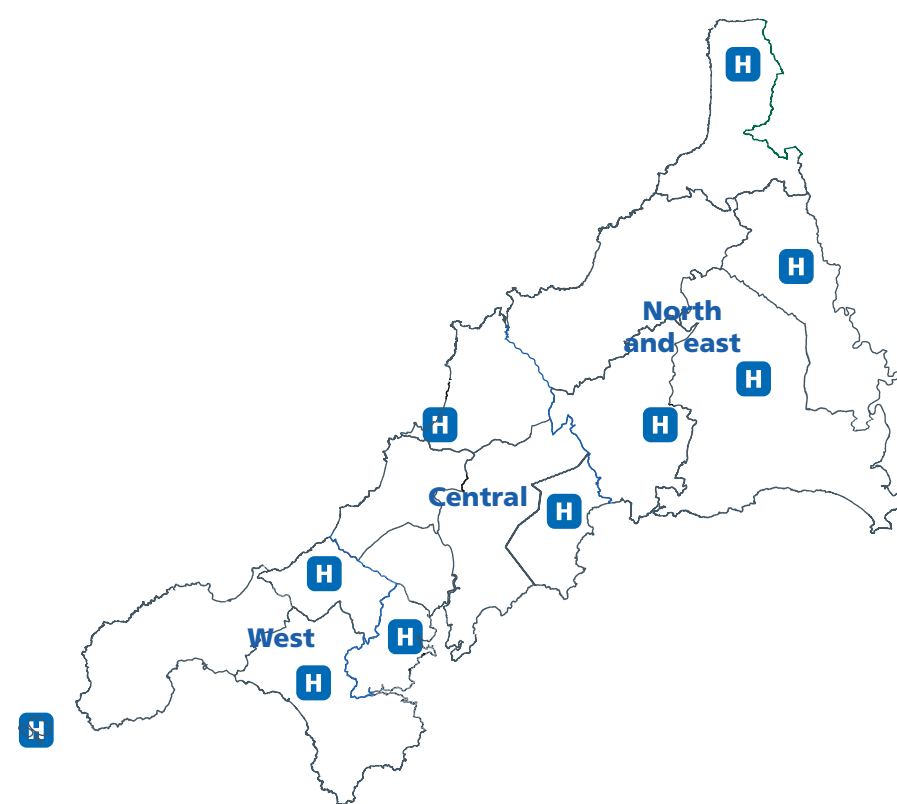
Our care locations

Weekly email report example

3 wards delivered the target **gold standard**. Great work from Heligan, Harbour and Anchor.

Boscawen and Willow wards came in with **silver standard** outputs, great effort!

Carn Brea and Lismore wards showed great improvement: **bronze standard**.



Project team



Lynne Osborne
Nurse Consultant



Luke Huntley
Pharmacist



Jacqui Chamberlain
Parkinson's Nurse Specialist



Kylie Lock
Quality Lead

Outcome and next steps

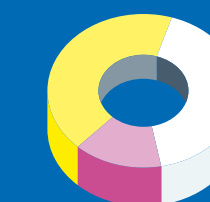
To date there has been a 12% reduction in medications prescribed out of the 30 minute window. Many of our wards are achieving the gold standard of 0% of doses over 30 minutes.

We worked with our Education Department and mandatory training is in place for all our ward staff going forward to support this project.

We are liaising with the acute trust, sharing valuable work and aiming to join up our project work. Our project group membership will be expanded to incorporate service users and we are applying for a small grant to obtain more magnetic timers for wards and to provide further education.

We have won the 2023 Community Hospital Association Innovation and Best Practice Awards for this project.

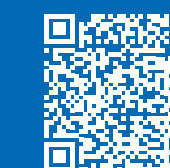
Key successes



Weekly reporting with visual charts



Educational masterclasses



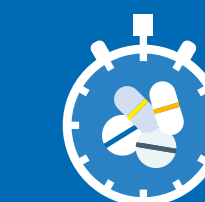
Quick scan posters to access videos



Celebrating success and WOW! Awards



Engagement with medicine management nurses



Pill timer packs