
162. Improvements in General Practice Type 2 Diabetes Management Using Clinical e-Audit

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Objectives:

To review changes in type 2 diabetes management as a result of using an electronic quality improvement tool which enables GPs to review their management of patients against clinical indicators and to assess acceptability of this tool.

Methods:

Participating GPs used the Clinical e-Audit to review 20 patients aged over 16 years with type 2 diabetes prescribed an oral antidiabetic agent or insulin. Achievement of guideline recommendations for HbA1c and blood pressure (BP) levels, choice of antidiabetic agents and aspirin, statin and antihypertensive use were compared against peers using immediate feedback provided. Participants completed a qualitative survey upon completion. Achievement of learning objectives, drivers for participation, and suggested improvements were analysed.

Results:

Data was provided by 803 GPs for 16,049 patients. After repeat audit, improvements were shown in achievement of target HbA1c (< 7%) and BP levels (51% to 69% and 48% to 78%, respectively); insulin use in patients using two or more antidiabetic agents with HbA1c > 7% for over 3 months (17% to 28%, n=2654); aspirin use (63% to 81%, n=14,457); statin use in patients with total cholesterol > 5.2 mmol/L (61% to 77%, n=7744); and ACEI or angiotensin II receptor antagonist use in patients with microalbuminuria, macroalbuminuria or proteinuria (82% to 89%, n=3355). Relevance to clinical practice, high quality of NPS audits and changes to patient care as a result of participation ranked highly as reasons for participation. Learning objectives were entirely/partially met for > 96% participants.

Conclusions:

Participation in Clinical e-Audit resulted in improvements in achievement of target levels and drug use in patients with type 2 diabetes. The tool had a high level of acceptability. Ongoing availability of Clinical e-Audit (compared to fixed periods for paper audits) provides more GPs with an opportunity to improve their management of patients with type 2 diabetes.
