

261 Using Technology to Improve Inpatient Surgical Lists

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Introduction: Every day in our surgical department; prior to our quality improvement project, Junior Doctors spent on average 3.26 clinical hours maintaining 5 surgical inpatient lists of different specialities

with accessibility of lists rated as “neutral” based on a 5-point scale from difficult to easy. Our hospital previously had lists stored locally on designated computers causing recurrent difficulties in accessing and editing these lists.

Method: We used surveys sent to clinicians to collect data.

Cycle 1: Surgical Assessment Units list on Microsoft Teams

Cycle 2: Addition of surgical specialities and wards lists onto Microsoft Teams.

Cycle 3 (current): expand the use of Microsoft Teams to other specialities.

Results: Utilising technology led to a 25% reduction in time spent on maintaining inpatient lists, to 2.46 hours a day, and an improvement in the accessibility of lists to “easy”. Across a year, this saves over 220 hours clinician hours which can be used towards patient care and training. Furthermore, use of Microsoft Teams has improved communication and patient care, in the form of virtual regional Multi-Disciplinary Team meetings and research projects.

Conclusions: Microsoft Teams is currently free to all NHS organisations in England so there is potential for these efficiency savings to be replicated nationwide.