



NoS Trauma Network Newsletter

Spring 2023

Issue 16

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Introduction

It looks like Spring is finally here in the North and brings with it the optimism for the year ahead, despite the financial situation we find ourselves in. The news that the Scottish Government will no longer deliver our final tranche of money for continued development of the Network is now well known. Despite this, on our assurance visits over the past 6 months to the majority of the hospitals in the Network, I have been humbled and inspired by the great work being done by each and everyone one of you to ensure the care delivered to our trauma patients continues to improve. You have my thanks and gratitude for this.

We are in the process of writing the Network strategic plan for the next 5 years. Whilst not finalised, we will be looking to further develop our governance framework, streamline lines of communication between different group meetings and develop a more robust model for teaching and training across the Network. In a network covering a huge geographical area but with a small population, major trauma remains, thankfully, relatively infrequent. Teaching and training are therefore critical to maintaining the skills, knowledge and decision-making processes needed to optimise patient outcome. This should be a top priority for the Network moving forward and I have some exciting ideas on how we might achieve this - watch this space.

Tim Hooper

NoS Trauma Network Clinical Lead

Welcome to Lee Allen, Major Trauma Centre Clinical Lead



Lee studied Medicine at the University of Aberdeen, graduating in 2002. He worked in Aberdeen, Edinburgh, and Glasgow before returning to Aberdeen to train in anaesthesia. After obtaining the primary FRCA he moved into full-time intensive care medicine in 2007 and has never left! He achieved FFICM registration in 2015 and was appointed as Consultant in Critical Care in 2016. He has experience in Extra-Corporeal Life Support, is a FICE mentor, and faculty for the European Trauma Course. Lee has been involved with the Scottish Intensive Care Society and is departmental lead for neuro-critical care.

Lee has interests in research and was Chief Investigator in the DAMSEL2 trial. His work at the University of Aberdeen is focussed on developing the Undergraduate MBChB curriculum, as Co-Lead for Tutor-led Case Based Learning.

Having cared for trauma patients in the intensive care, Lee is keen to help develop the MTC, building on its success to date.

Lee takes over from Mr David Boddie as MTC Clinical Lead. Mr Boddie helped lead the formation of the MTC since its inception and the Network's thanks goes out to him for the many years of support.

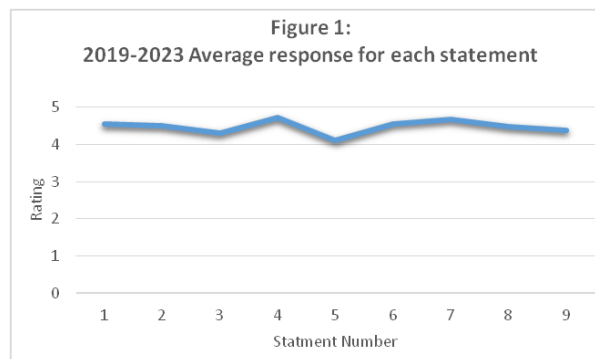
Patient Feedback

MTC Patient Experience of Trauma Care

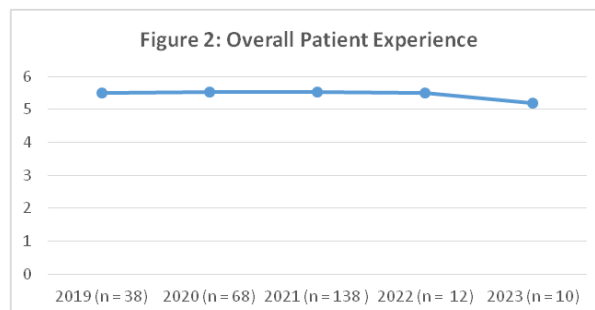
by Hafsa Ali, Assistant Psychologist, MTC

Patient satisfaction data was collected in the form of a questionnaire, from 2019-2023 (n = 266), by Trauma Co-ordinators within the MTC. A majority of this data being collected in 2021 (n = 138). The respondents were patients (n = 208), carer/family members (n = 45) and other (e.g. left blank, MTC case manager, n = 13). Data for 2023 is necessarily incomplete but still presented.

Respondents were asked to rate their agreement to nine statements about their MTC care: patient choice and patient centred care, patient and family being kept informed in an appropriate way, the quality of care offered and the impression of the skill and knowledge of staff. Ratings were taken via a five point Likert scale, ranging from strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (5). A higher score indicates a more positive experience. On average, respondents gave a rating that fell between strongly agree (5) and agree (4), indicating a consistent positive patient experience in various areas of care (see figure 1).



Overall patient experience was rated on a six item scale, from very poor (1) to excellent (6). Figure 2 below shows this distribution throughout the 4 years, with little change across the years. Overall, patient experience throughout the 4 years was highly positive (M = 5.5).



In summary patient feedback is overwhelmingly positive with the significant majority of patients (98%) rating their care as good, very good or excellent. It should be noted that patients did not always differentiate between the care that was delivered by the MTC team and that delivered by individual specialties.

Therefore while positive for the trauma team and MTC, this should also be regarded as a general reflection of the high quality of trauma care, and consequent positive patient experience, provided within NHS Grampian across a very difficult period.

We hope to provide a fuller analysis in due course.



Care Opinion

Patients and families are encouraged to use Care Opinion to give their views of on care www.careopinion.org.uk ¹. Feedback can also be provided by calling 0800 122 3135 and feedback forms will be available in hard copy from services for those who do not have internet access.

Education

Rib Fracture Course, Raigmore Hospital

There has been increasing focus on the mortality and morbidity impact of rib fractures, particularly in elderly patients. Many of these patients in our network either do not make the journey from their initial place of attendance to the TU or the MTC, or those who do endure a bumpy ride.

Anaesthetists at Raigmore, Aberdeen and Fort William teamed together to adapt a course that Drs Colin Patterson and Ross Thomson designed for anaesthetic trainees, and made it applicable to rural general practitioners in their setting in the receiving hospitals around the network. The inaugural course was attended by 16 delegates representing a mixture of specialties from Shetland, Skye, Fort William and Raigmore. The feedback was hugely positive, with strong enthusiasm for the opportunity to scan volunteers. And strong enthusiasm for the lunch.

“I thought the course was well thought out and accessible to people with widely different experience”.

“This was a course that changed my practice in a positive patient-centred way – thank you!”

We aim to keep running this course annually so watch this space for the next advert next Spring.

Rosel Tallach, Hal Robinson, Sam Spinney, Colin Paterson and Ross Thomson.

¹<https://www.careopinion.org.uk/>



NoS Paediatric Education Sessions



The MTC Paediatric Trauma Education Sessions are scheduled to take place on every second Friday of the month from 12pm to 1pm (with the exception of school holidays). Please get in touch with gram.nosmtc@nhs.scot² if you want to join in with the sessions or view previous sessions.

Friday, 12th May

Friday, 9th June

Friday, 8th September

Friday, 13th October

Friday, 10th November

Friday, 8th December

HECTOR

HECTOR began as the Heartlands Elderly Care Trauma and Ongoing Recovery course which was established to develop a training programme for clinicians and independent practitioners who are responsible for looking after older people who have injuries.

These injuries that an individual sustains often play second fiddle to the complex comorbidities, frailty, and the challenges of caring for them within an ever-pressured emergency care system.

²<mailto:gram.nosmtc@nhs.scot>

Julie Blade, Jackie Burnett and Donna Paterson recently attended the newly launched two day course in the Scottish Centre for Simulation and Clinical Human Factors, Forth Valley Royal Hospital, Larbert. The course was mixed with practical scenarios, moulages, lectures and discussions focusing on the specific care needs of this group of patients. Further courses are planned and staff from the Network will be able to attend and enable learning and improvements to elderly trauma care to grow.




Funding

Spring round of RCN Foundation grants now open

Education grants for nurses, midwives, nursing associates and health care support workers are open for applications until 31 May 2023. You don't have to be an RCN member to be eligible for a grant. Grants range from £500 - £1600 and there are three different ones to choose from:

- RCN Foundation Professional Bursary Scheme – for nurses, midwives, nursing associates and health care support workers
- RCN Foundation Kershaw Grant – for healthcare support workers
- RCN Foundation Olufunke Adyeye Education Grant – for nurses, midwives, nursing associates and health care support workers from minority ethnic backgrounds.

Apply now at rcnfoundation.rcn.org.uk

Nurses looking for education funding? Consider the RCN Foundation Grant.

Upcoming Courses

- ETC Course, Suttie Centre, Aberdeen - 31st May to 2nd June
- ETC Course, Suttie Centre, Aberdeen - 31st August to 2nd September
- TNCC, Suttie Centre, Aberdeen - 9th to 10th September

Thank you!

Gillian Winter is leaving her post as the Network's Joint Paediatric MTC Clinical Lead at the end of April. On behalf of the NoS Trauma Network we would like to thank Gillian for her enthusiasm, dedication, knowledge and hard work. Gillian's replacement will be advertised shortly.

Update from the Scottish Ambulance Service



Over the past few months, a focus for SAS has been the re-establishment of annual 'Learning in Practice' training for all of our clinicians. This year's course is a hybrid model with funded time for online learning as well as face to face training. Major Trauma is included in both elements and includes a review of some of the trauma equipment that is carried on our front line ambulances as well as a Traumatic Cardiac Arrest practical scenario. Major Trauma is also a core component of the training programme for all of our new trainees, including a session on the Major Trauma Triage Tool. In the NoS, this is usually delivered face to face by one of the SAS Major Trauma team. We have also re-established our 'Trauma Tuesday' online CPD sessions with Professor Ian Roberts (CRASH2, CRASH3, WOMEN trial) joining to discuss TXA. The SAS Major Trauma team are now members of the SAS Patient Safety and Quality group which meets quarterly. This gives us an opportunity to update on major trauma developments, share regional trauma data and trends as well as listen to any feedback from regional SAS colleagues.

Martin Esposito, Consultant Paramedic, SAS



Rescue: Extreme Medics, Series 2

The second series begins to air on Channel Four at **9pm on Monday, 15th May** showcasing major trauma care in Scotland from pre-hospital to rehabilitation. You can always see it on catch up if you miss it on a Monday!

Highlights from 2022/23

As the new financial year begins, an assessment of achievements from the year just gone is recorded in an Network annual report. Some reflections are included here from staff across the Network as an early indication of the huge achievements and improvements that have been made in trauma care in the north despite a very busy and stressful year.



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