

Tracking clinical pharmacists in ED: a local Time in Motion Study

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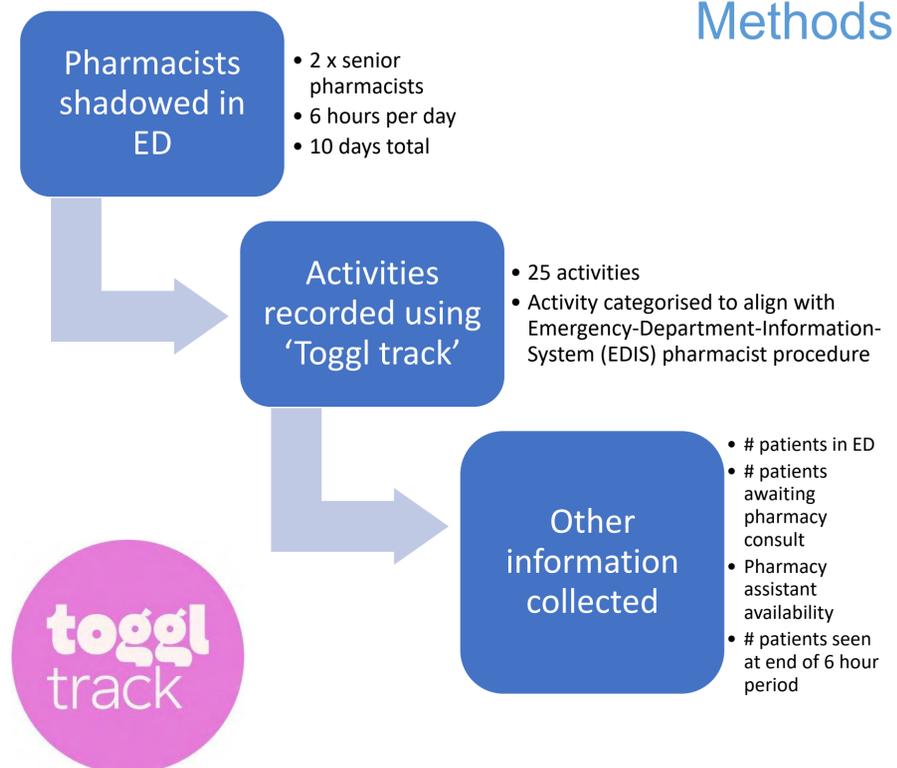
Background

- Emergency Departments (ED) are dynamic and unpredictable clinical environments. As they are often staffed by a sole pharmacist, prioritisation of competing tasks is essential.

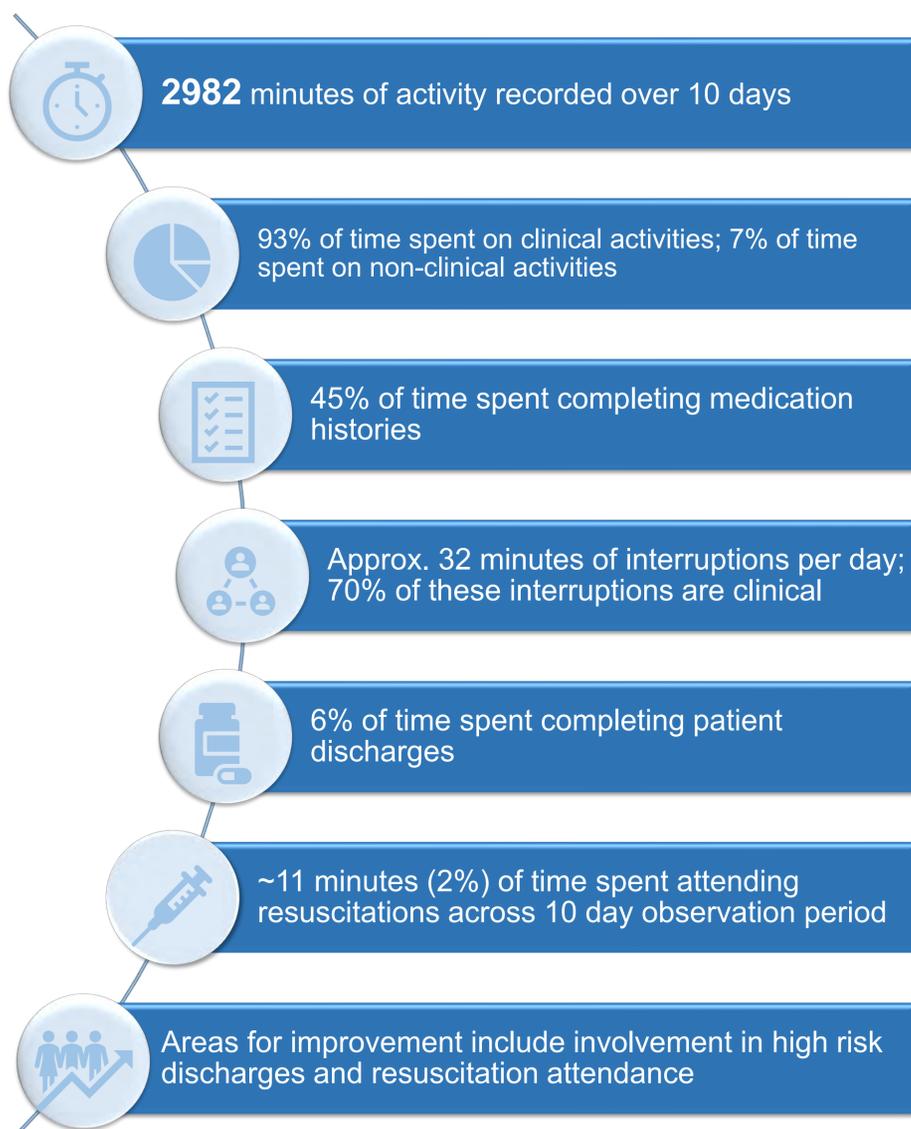
Objectives

- To understand the impact of pharmacy services on patient flow, medication access and medication safety.
- To analyse the time a clinical pharmacist spends performing various tasks in the ED at a metropolitan hospital

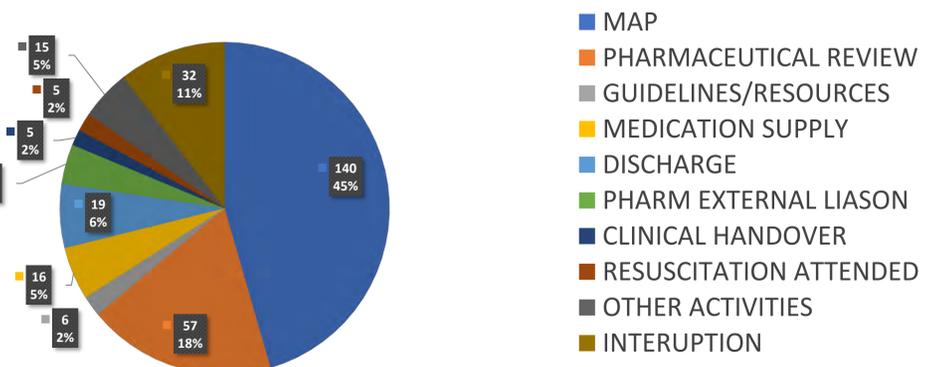
Methods



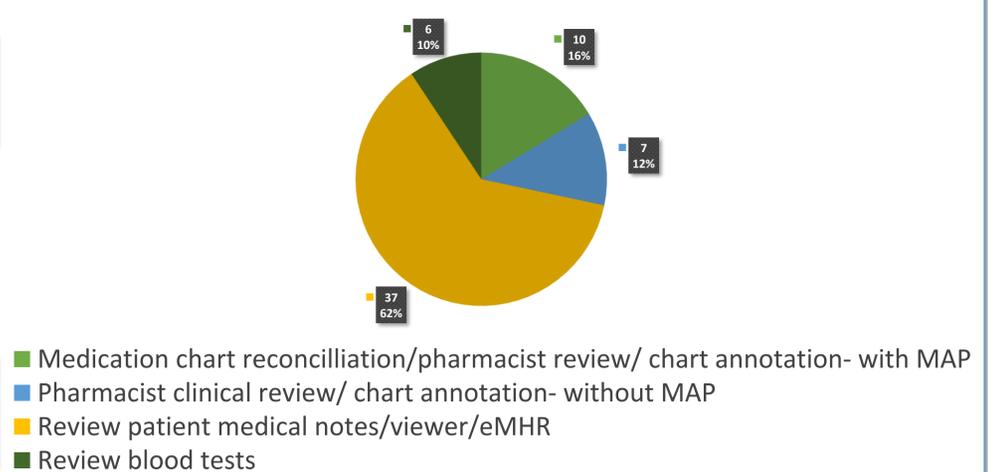
Evaluation



Average Day of an Emergency Department Pharmacist (minutes)



Time spent conducting Pharmaceutical Review of patients in the Emergency department (minutes)



Discussion

- This data demonstrates the ED pharmacists are currently practicing within the essential services outlined in the SHPA Standard of practice in Emergency Medicine.
- As ED pharmacy services are increasingly being sought nationally, there is demand for expansion of the current service to consistently provide 'emerging services'.¹ Service expansion is challenging with limited staffing capacity and increasing pressures for early medication histories to aid medical review and inpatient flow.
- Despite efforts to integrate 'emerging services' into the ED pharmacist's role, these findings demonstrate that limited time is currently being spent performing these.
- Re-evaluation and investigation into the multi-disciplinary-team pharmacist role could identify strategies to further integrate the pharmacist into this ED's model of care, providing optimal support and enhancing future service expansion.

References:

1. Welch S, Currey E, Doran E, Harding A, Roman C, Taylor S, et al. Standard of practice in emergency medicine for pharmacy services. Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research. 2019 Dec;49(6):570-84.

Acknowledgement:

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