

Where's The Pacing Defibrillator?

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Background

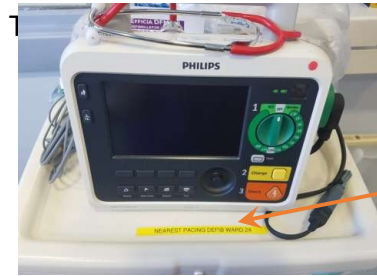
A clinical incident during a cardiac arrest call revealed that not all defibrillators within downstream wards at GRI have the pacing function.

Staff knowledge of where to source a pacing defib was poor.

Pacing defibs are located on wards 7/16, 19 and 24.

Results

Staff awareness (both medical and nursing) increased following the first intervention. However, over 50% of staff remained unaware of the location of pacing defibrillators. There are several barriers to improving awareness including rotation of staff and the relative infrequent use of the pacing function.

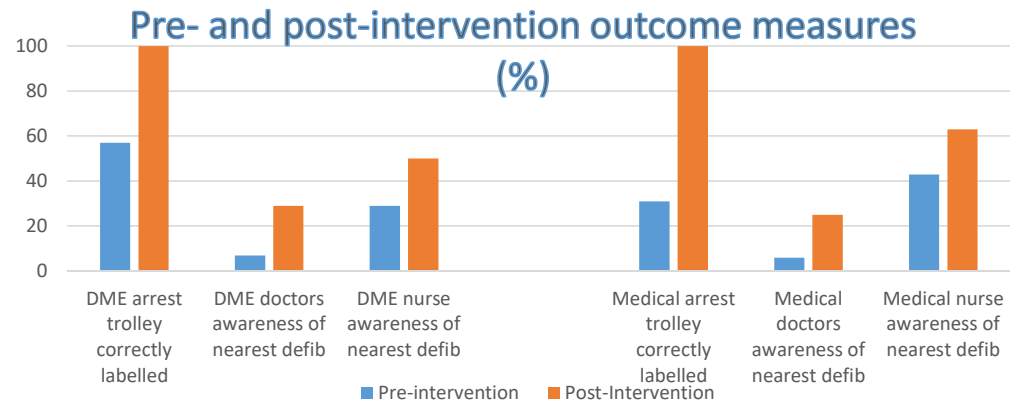


New labels added to all arrest trolleys

Method

All downstream non-pacing defibs were checked for labeling indicating the nearest pacing defibrillator. A member of both nursing and medical staff on each ward was asked if they knew the where the nearest defib was. If not, they were then asked if they knew where to find such information.

1st intervention: All arrest trolleys were labelled with the correct location of the nearest pacing defibrillator and staff members re-questioned.



Conclusion

Further work is required to raise awareness of this issue and to improve staff knowledge of the location of the nearest pacing defib. Information regarding this will be included at the next induction of junior medical staff to both DME and Medicine within GRI, as part of this ongoing project. Resus trolley folders and '2222 Call' posters will also be updated.