
AN AUDIT INTO DOCUMENTED DISCUSSIONS ABOUT DRIVING DURING THE ASSESSMENT AND DISCLOSURE PROCESS IN THE MEMORY CLINIC SETTING.

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Introduction

Memory services provide assessment to patients with memory difficulties. One important topic discussed is driving. This audit looks into whether discussions surrounding driving are documented in the patient's notes.

Objectives

The objective was to see if discussions are held about driving with patients at memory clinics.

Aims

A similar audit was carried out in the south of the county. It was hoped that the findings and recommendations had been implemented in the North of the county, and improvements made.

Methods

Standards were set that 100% of patients seen by memory services would have a documented discussion about driving at the initial and/or disclosure appointment. A period of 6 months, August 2012 to January 2013 was selected. 423 patients were referred and 60 patient's notes were randomly selected using a random integer set generator to look at.

Results

We are currently in the process of collecting and analyzing results. The results will be available before the conference.

Conclusions

By the time people with memory impairment access memory services they are likely to have been driving for most of their lives; it has provided them with independence and access to means. Despite this, requirements are set out by Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency UK that they must be informed when the licence holder has been diagnosed with dementia. They can suspend a licence based on their assessment, for the safety of the patient and the public. It is therefore of vital importance that these discussions are taking place.