

789 New Minor Surgical Set as A Way to Improve Surgical Efficiency During COVID-19 Pandemic

I. Eiben¹, P. Eiben², D. Bahadori³, D. Kazzazi¹, F. Simon¹

¹Guy's and St Thomas NHS Foundation Trust, London, United Kingdom,

²Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust, London, United Kingdom, ³Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, London, United Kingdom

Introduction: Large number of paediatric plastic surgical procedures were identified in Evelina Hospital during COVID-19 pandemic as not requiring large conventional surgical operative sets that can contain at average 35 instruments. Large sets are more expensive, take longer preparation time due to instrument counting and as a consequence take more total operating time. Furthermore, more instruments need to be unnecessarily purchased, stored and cleaned post procedure. Simple paediatric plastic surgery procedures including nailbed repair or laceration repair require limited and largely replicating operative instrument set. We have therefore introduced Small Minor Plastic Surgical set (MS) containing only 10 instruments. We audited its effectiveness and introduced a revised version of the set as per feedback, permanently arranged into theatre operative set collection.

Method: MS set was introduced to Evelina Theatres and used at senior surgeons' discussion for paediatric plastic surgical procedures. Feedback was gathered from the surgeon and scrub nurse via specially designed questionnaire at post operation and theatre team debrief. Suggested alterations were implemented and New Minor Surgical (NMS) set was introduced and re-audited using revised questionnaire.

Results: 61% of surgeons and 89% of scrub personnel thought MS set contained everything that was needed for the case. Following revision 91% of surgeons and 95% of scrub nurses thought NMS set contained all necessary equipment for the operation.

Conclusions: NMS set introduced into daily surgical practice in Evelina Hospital theatres improved overall staff satisfaction when considering both surgeon and nursing staff. It provided cost- and time-effective operative set now vastly used across surgical specialities.