

#### 467 Impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic on Acute Surgical Patients' Discharge Summaries

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**Background:** The emergence of the Coronavirus pandemic has placed increased demands on the NHS workforce, especially in medical and intensive care units. The subsequent redistribution of surgical house officers to accommodate this in a single centre has possibly negatively impacted on the effective discharge notification of acute surgical patients.

**Methods:** Discharge summaries of all patients discharged from a Surgical Assessment Unit were collected and analysed, to identify the date of completion and grade of responsible clinician. Data collection was carried out over three weeks before the initiation of lockdown measures and continued for a further three weeks during the peak of the Coronavirus pandemic with a three-week interventional period in between.

**Results:** In the initial audit, 36.2% of the 246 patients had delayed discharge summaries with an average of 7 days to complete. On re-evaluation, 45.3% of the 223 patients had delayed discharge summaries, with an average of 12 days to complete. A survey conducted post-re-audit identified that the most common reason for this was due to time constraints.

**Conclusions:** The reallocation of surgical staff has affected communication between primary and secondary care. Given the potential repercussions of these delays, healthcare systems should be made aware of this consequence, especially in preparation for any future resurgences.