

384 Local Closed Loop Audit: COVID-19 Screening Before Endoscopic Ultrasound

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Aim: Endoscopic Ultrasound (EUS) is one of the important diagnostic tests in patients with probable hepatobiliary or lung diseases. As it is an airborne procedure and due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, British Society of Gastroenterology and NICE guidelines have stated that patients who are undergoing EUS must be tested for COVID-19 within 3 days before the procedure. EUS must be considered deferring if the patient tests positive. The aim of this audit is to increase the proportion of patients being swabbed within 3 days/72 hours of the procedure to > 90% by the end of 2021.

Method: A list of patients who underwent elective EUS in January (initial audit) and mid-May to mid-June (re-audit) were collected using Endosoft software. Afterwards, electronic patient record system was checked for the date of the COVID-19 swab and its results. This data was then recorded in a password-protected Excel spreadsheet and the proportion of the patients meeting the standard was calculated.

Results: The results of the initial audit indicated that although 95.7% of swabs were done within 3 days of the procedure, only 40.9% were done within 72 hours. These results were discussed at a mortality and morbidity meeting, and recommendations were. Hence, in the re-audit, 98.4% of the swabs were done within 3 days of the procedure and the percentage of swabs being done within 72 hours increased to 95.2%.

Conclusions: The target of increasing the proportion of patients being swabbed within 3 days/72 hours of the EUS procedure to > 90% was met in mid-2021.