

Reducing Time of Referral to Scan for CT Lung Biopsies

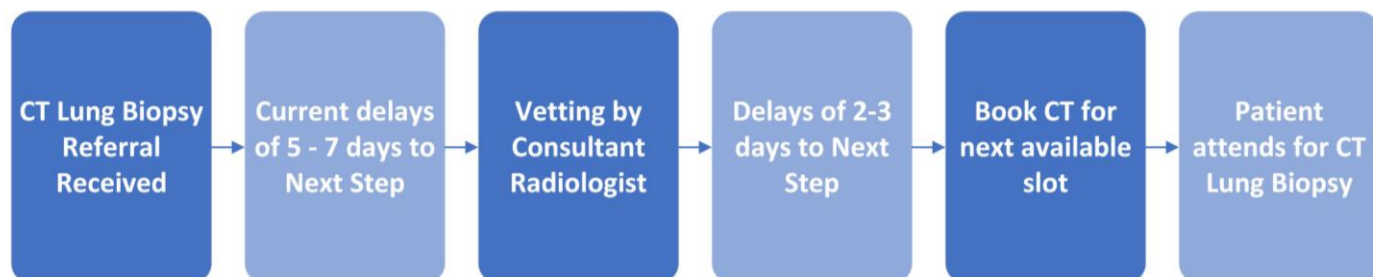
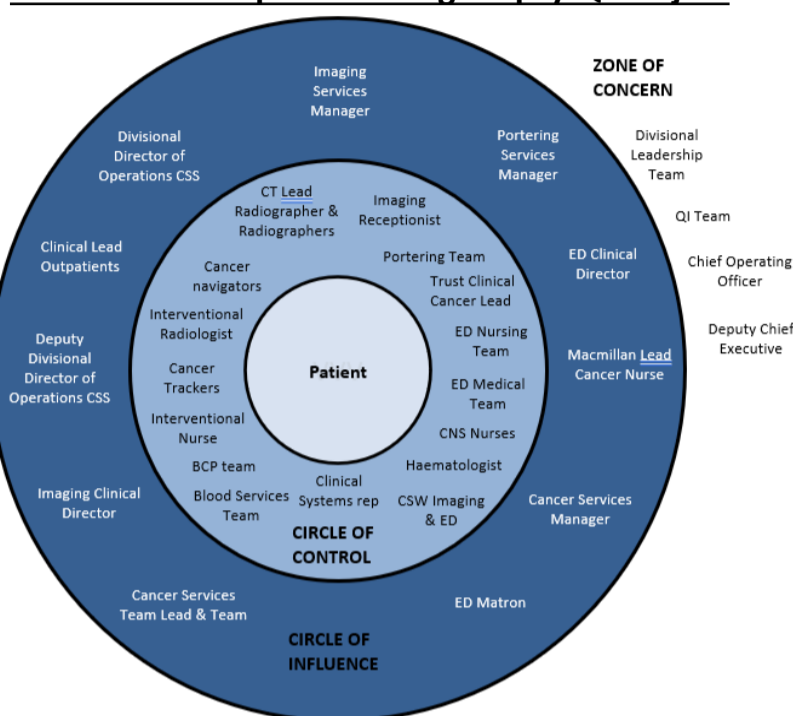
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Quality Improvement Awards 2024

CT Guided Lung Biopsies – from Cancer suspected to biopsy 21-11-23 Current process

Stakeholder Map for CT Lung Biopsy QI Project



Aim: To reduce Turnaround time by 10% from 15 to 13.5 days by 23.03.2024

Project Charter: To reduce the outpatient waiting time from Referral to actual CT Lung Biopsy from 15 days by 10% to 13.5 days, by 31.03.2024, for those patients needing a lung biopsy to facilitate identification and treatment of any pathology found. This will improve the service for patients by reducing waiting times for this type of exam.

Model for Improvement:

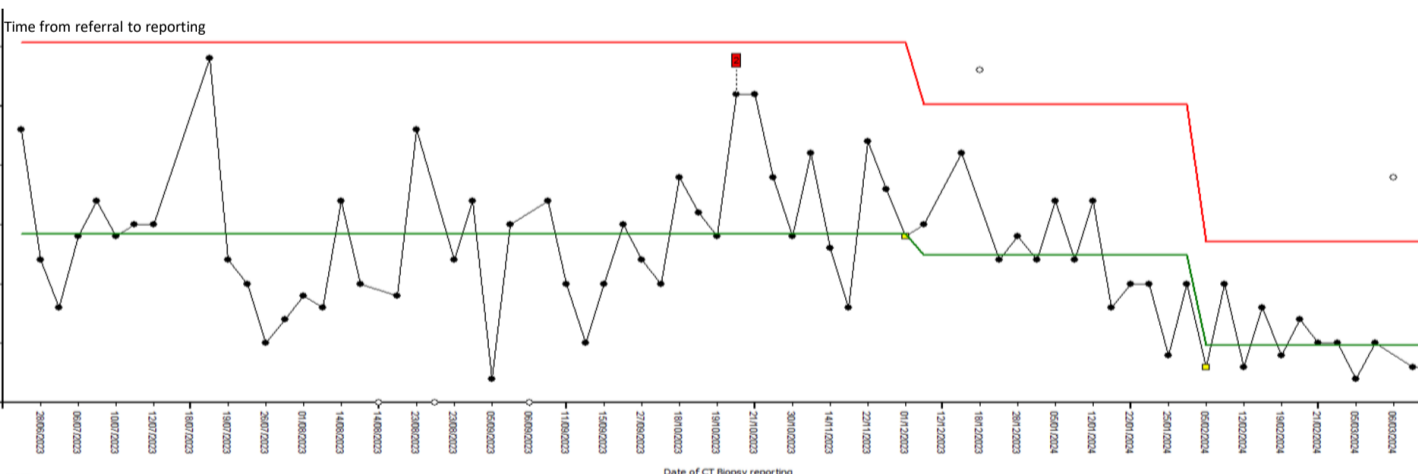
Faster diagnostic standards “FDS” of 28 days from Referral to Diagnosis. “ People should have cancer ruled out or have a diagnosis within 28 days.” This involved all stakeholders shown above sharing their expertise on current issues.

- **1st Intervention** was to introduce automatic vetting of Referrals from 4 agreed Respiratory Consultants on 04.12.2023 & streamlining INR Blood test process. PDSA Cycle followed to test this out.
- **2nd Intervention** - Employed an Imaging Cancer Pathway Co-Ordinator to liaise with Consultant Radiologists and attend MDTs from 05.02.2024. PDSA Cycle followed.
- The interventions were measured and the data recorded resulting in:
- The SPC chart below which shows the mean interval from request date to biopsy has reduced to **7.4 days, by 29.03.2024. This is a reduction of 49.3% from 15 days**
- Next steps to identify next improvement, target by % reduction, and 3rd PDSA cycle.
- CPD Session with Imaging Services & Stakeholders to be organised to share learning and QI methodology.

PDSA Cycle 1



Reducing Turnaround time CT Lung Biopsy 06/09/23-29/03/24- Imaging



PDSA Cycle 2



Sustainability-The new process is now embedded in Imaging and Respiratory Clinics. The current SOP will be updated. Stakeholder CPD Session to share learning. Further QI Project identified to reduce time to Imaging Report from CT Lung Biopsy.

QI Project CT Lung Biopsy

By pulling together a wide multidisciplinary team of Stakeholders with the same aim and levels of commitment, using QI methodology, it has been possible to make a significant difference in reducing the waiting time for CT Lung Biopsy patients. Compliance with the National 28 day Cancer pathway can now become a reality.

Working in partnership
The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust
Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust