

Patients on Home Enteral Nutrition: Emergency Department Presentations

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Background

Formal review of HEN service

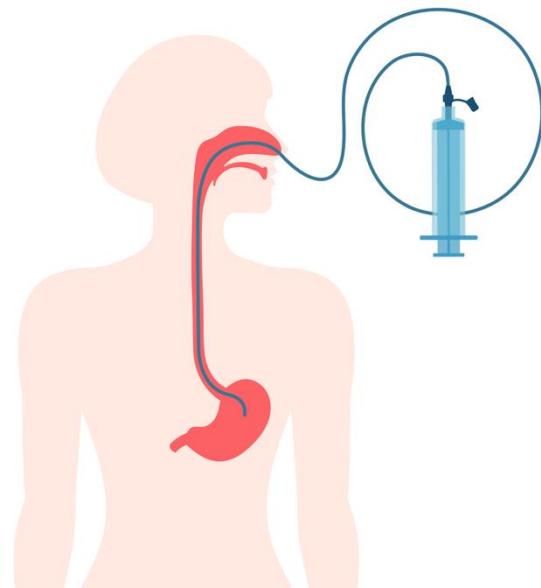
- Meet increased needs
- Improve efficiencies

Results of patient experience data

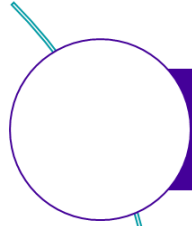
- 43% attended ED for a tube/nutrition related issue

No centralised HEN service

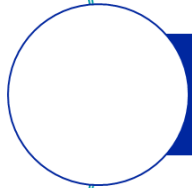
- Access to timely MDT care is variable across the service



Project Aims



To determine the **frequency of ED presentations** for RMH HEN patients



To **describe the tube and/or EN-related complications** prompting ED presentations and subsequent hospital admissions



To make **recommendations** for improving the HEN service at RMH

Methodology and Data Collection

Eligibility

Registered on the RMH HEN service
between 01/01/2022 - 31/12/2023

Had an enteral feeding tube

Presented to RMH ED for a tube and/or
EN-related issue

Outcome Measures

Demographics

Indication for HEN

Tube Type

Number, reason and preventability of ED
presentations

Number of and reason for hospital
admissions

Results – Presenting Patients (n=32)

164 patients were registered on the RMH HEN service during the study period

Of these; **32 patients presented to ED across 67 presentations** for tube and/or EN-related issues



Age

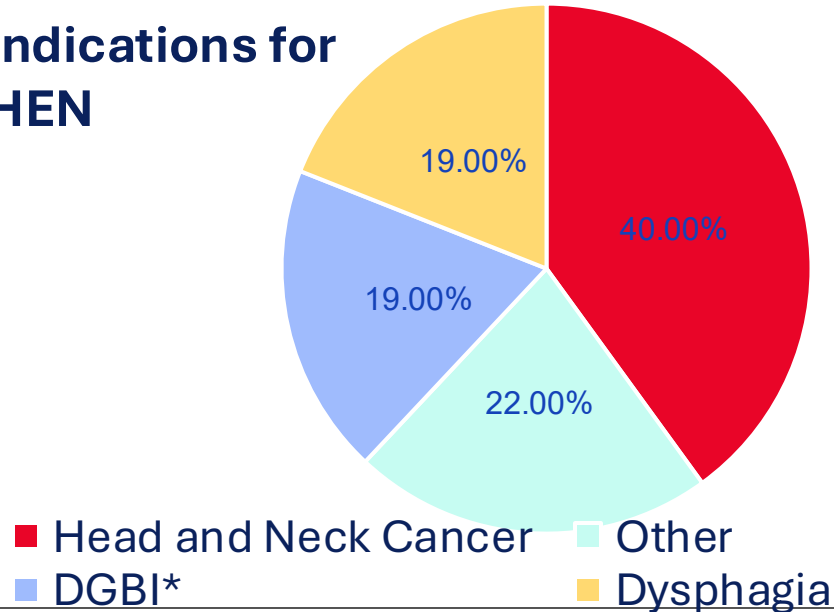
Median [IQR] age
66
[52, 71] years



Sex

17 (53%) Male

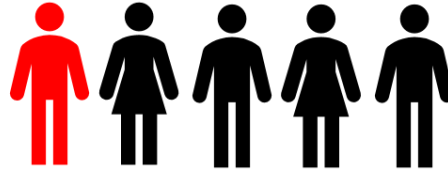
Indications for HEN



Results – Presenting Patients (n=32)

**ED
Presentations**

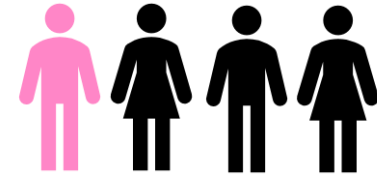
**1 in 5 patients presented to
ED**



**41% (n=13)
presented to ED
≥ 2 times**

**Hospital
Admissions**

**41% of patients required 1
admission**



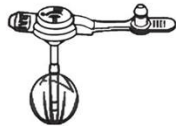
**1 in 4 patients required ≥ 2
hospital admissions**

Results – ED Presentations (n=67)

Type of Feeding Tube

- 39% (n=26) **gastrostomy tubes**
- 21% (n=14) **low profile tubes**
 - 10% (n=7) **balloon tubes**
 - 5% **external traction tubes**

34% (n=23) **nasojejunal tubes**



Reason for ED Presentation



22% (n=15) **gastrointestinal** complication



16% (n=11) **mechanical** complication



13% (n=9) **stoma** complication

Results – ED Presentations (n=67)



1 in 4 ED presentations were considered preventable

Non urgent stoma issues

EN-associated constipation and/or diarrhoea

Carer stress

Broken EN tubes with delayed fixing

Patient request for earlier medical input

Results – ED Presentations (n=67)

Timing of ED Presentations

Weekdays, in hours	34% of presentations - 8 (35%) were preventable
Out of Hours (after 5pm, on weekends)	66% of presentations

Representing Patients

- 50% had a DGBI, 44% had a NJT
- Gastrointestinal complication was the most common indication
- 65% of representations resulted in a hospital admission

Key Takeaways - Where to From Here?

Insights



ED presentations common and often lead to admission



Around **1 in 4 presentations** may be preventable

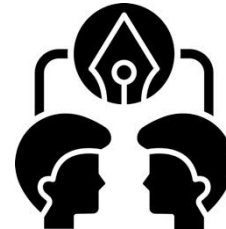


Patients with DGBIs experience the **highest rates of representations**

Next Steps



Implement a **standardised approach** to HEN care



Explore **patient and staff perspectives** and co-
patient-centred discussions

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