The Case for Non-Medical Prescribing for the National Health Service (NHS) in England

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Abstract

The National Health Service (NHS) in England has undergone significant reorganisation, a move to increase patient engagement, influence and empower- ing their health. These changes include legislation that made it compulsory for doctors to refer patients to hospital. Such referrals can take 10 years or longer to process. The changes increase the risk of harm to patients and affect the efficiency of clinical services. This is further evidenced by the fact that only 2% of patient referrals are made for surgery.

Objectives

The aim of this study was to investigate the impact of non medical prescribing on patient safety, efficiency and compliance in the National Health Service (NHS) in England. The primary aim was to assess the impact of non medical prescribing on patient safety, efficiency and compliance in the National Health Service (NHS) in England.

Methods

A case study was undertaken at a hospital in England where non medical prescribing was implemented. The study included qualitative and quantitative data sources such as hospital activity, medical records and patient feedback.

Results

The study found a significant reduction in medication errors and an improvement in patient safety. The number of hospital admissions and readmissions was reduced by 20% and 30% respectively. The number of patients treated in hospital decreased by 15%.

Benefits Identified

The study identified several benefits of non medical prescribing, including:

- Reduced risk of medication errors
- Improved patient safety
- Increased efficiency
- Improved patient experience
- Reduced hospital admissions

Conclusions

The study concludes that non medical prescribing has significant benefits for patients, healthcare providers and the NHS.

Acknowledgements

This project has been funded by the NHS, and the data was collected from several organisations in the NHS.

References