



Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust

Our Surgical AEC Journey



Background

- Wexham Park Hospital had an established Medical AEC
- Occasional Surgical patients were seen in AEC but no pathway for this
- No dedicated team for SAEC
- WPH new ED build – completion date April 2019



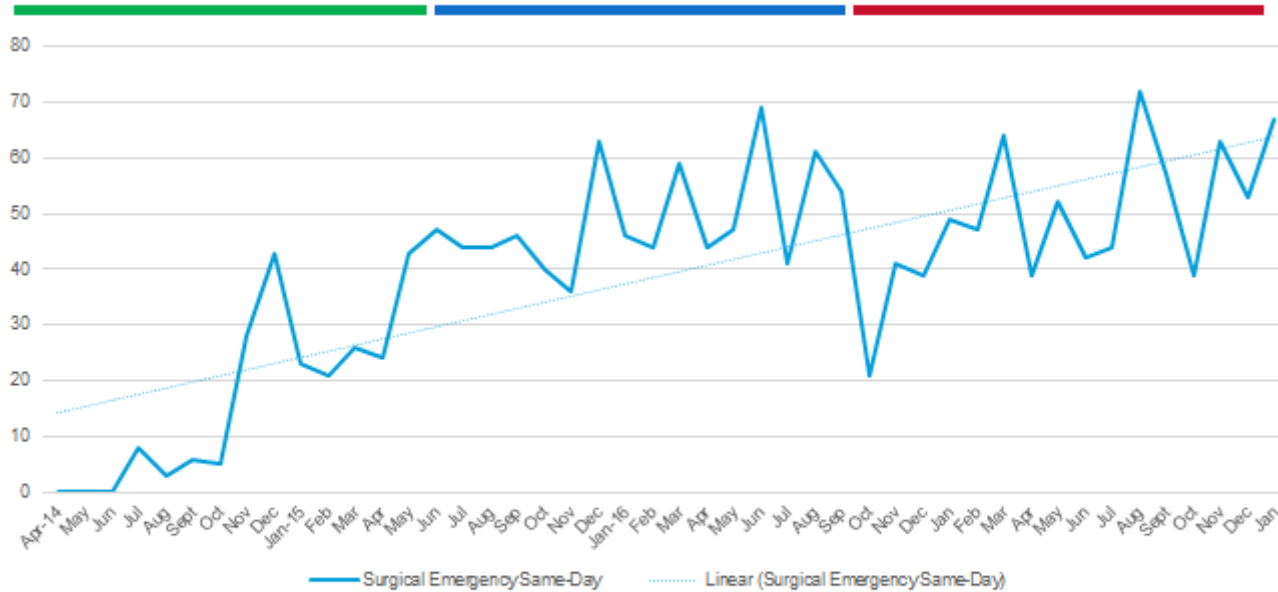
Changes/Improvements

- Assigned Registrars to cover SAEC 13:00-17:00 Mon-Fri
- Specialty Doctor increased SAEC capacity (approx 3 mornings per week)
- Online booking system for SAEC. Access/viewed by all
- SAEC Coordinator role introduced – ensures patients attend investigations, books patients in for SAEC review
- AEC Clinical Governance set up



Measurement/Impact of Changes

AECU Surgical Monthly Activity – Just Surgical Activity



Monthly Activity	Apr 14	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan 15	Feb	Mar	Apr 14-15	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan 16	Feb	Mar	Apr 15-16	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan 17	Feb	Mar	Apr 16-17												
Surgical Emergency/Same-Day	0	0	0	8	3	6	5	26	43	23	21	26	183	34	42	47	44	44	46	40	38	63	46	44	56	53	44	47	69	41	61	54	21	41	39	46	47	64	37	39	32	42	44	72	57	39	62	53	67
Total Monthly Activity	42	75	172	150	191	252	239	200	264	257	265	315	2505	269	332	333	345	325	345	325	415	359	389	447	4169	435	440	590	472	559	534	519	711	514	538	505	559	6411	404	581	413	423	577	500	508	661	524	612	



Challenges

- Limited space – for patient assessment/treatment, patient waiting area & for clinician administration. Awaiting new ED to be built.
- No additional capacity – using current resources (SpR's, Specialty Doctor, AEC Nurses)
- Roles & responsibilities not adhered by all. ? Due to understanding
- Not consultant led at present
- Radiology – no dedicated CT/MRI scan slots



Next Steps

- Recruit x2 additional General Surgery Consultants
 - Include SAEC in rota for all x10 Consultants
- SAEC policy
- Plan to increase same-day patients vs next-day planned returns
- Completion of new ED with dedicated Surgical SSU and larger purpose built AEC Unit!