

Management of Acute Kidney Injury in Trauma and Orthopaedic Patients

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Specialty	orthopaedics
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Background

Acute kidney injury (AKI) is a common and potentially life-threatening complication in trauma and orthopaedic inpatients, particularly in the elderly population undergoing emergency surgery. NICE guidelines require prompt recognition of AKI warning stage alerts and clinical review within defined timeframes. Concerns were raised following review of adverse incidents involving AKI in the department, prompting a formal audit of AKI recognition and management in T&O; patients at both GSTT sites.

Aims

To audit management of patients flagged as AKI stage 2 or 3 and those requiring naloxone reversal in the Trauma and Orthopaedic department at GSTT, measuring compliance with NICE and local guidelines.

Objectives

1. Identify T&O; patients admitted between September 2023 and March 2024 who were flagged as AKI stage 2 or 3 or who received naloxone. 2. Assess timeliness of clinical review following AKI alert generation. 3. Review pre-operative renal function checks for elective surgical patients. 4. Evaluate referral rates to nephrology and clinical review at 3-month post-discharge follow-up.

Guidelines

NICE AKI guidelines (CG169); GSTT local AKI management guideline; CQC standards

Keywords

AKI, acute kidney injury, orthopaedic surgery, naloxone, renal function, NICE CG169