

Post-Operative Radiographic Confirmation of Hip Arthroplasty

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Specialty	orthopaedics
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Background

Post-operative radiographic check X-rays following hip arthroplasty are recommended by national guidelines and best practice documents including the BOA/BHS guidance. Timely review of these films by a senior clinician ensures implant positioning is confirmed and early complications are identified. Audit of this process at St Thomas' had identified delays in X-ray ordering and review, with some films not being reviewed at the trauma meeting as intended.

Aims

To review compliance with post-operative radiographic protocols following traumatic neck of femur arthroplasty at St Thomas' Hospital and to reduce time-to-check-X-ray to within 1 day post-operatively.

Objectives

1. Identify all patients undergoing total hip replacement or hemiarthroplasty for NOF fracture between May and August 2023. 2. Document timing of AP and lateral X-ray ordering post-operatively. 3. Record whether X-rays were reviewed by SpR, consultant or at the trauma meeting. 4. Benchmark findings against BOA/BHS best practice guidelines and implement changes to reduce delays.

Guidelines

BOA/BHS: Best Practice for Hip Arthroplasty — Getting it Right the First Time; NICE guidance on hip fracture management

Keywords

hip arthroplasty, post-operative X-ray, NOF fracture, hemiarthroplasty, quality improvement, imaging