

Atopic Eczema in Children Example

Using a Model for Improvement approach.

1. What are we trying to accomplish? Needs to be specific 'by how much?' and 'by when?'

To improve care and wellbeing of children suffering from eczema in line with existing guidelines.⁽¹⁾

- To increase the proportion of children who have had eczema severity and psychosocial/quality of life assessment undertaken and documented at each consultation by x% in x months' time
- To increase the number of children offered a personalised stepped-care treatment plan by x% in x months' time
- To increase the proportion of children given verbal and written information and advice about atopic eczema and its treatment by x% in x months' time
- To increase the proportion of children offered annual review to ensure optimal treatment by x% in x months' time
- To increase the proportion of children who are prescribed sufficient quantities (250-500g weekly) of unperfumed emollients for daily use by x% in x months' time

2. How will we know that a change is an improvement?

- % of patients with disease severity assessment documented in EMR
- % of patients with Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI) documented in EMR
- % of patients with personalised treatment plan issued
- % of patients given verbal and written information and advice about eczema and its treatments
- % of patients attending for annual review
- % of patients with sufficient quantities of unperfumed emollients on repeat prescription

3. What changes can we make that will result in improvement?

Undertake a PDSA approach to **each planned change idea** and include **measurement of outcomes, processes and unexpected effects (called 'balance measures')**.

- Development of an eczema template for practice systems to facilitate disease severity and impact assessment, and management plans
- Development of a recall system for annual review of patients with eczema
- Staff teaching session on Eczema and Eczema template and formulary
- Develop letter of invitation for medical review of eczema patients with key facts about eczema medications
- Develop practice formulary with pre-set quantities of emollients
- Signposting of patients to national/local patient support groups and educational programmes through leaflets/prompt on practice template

References

1. [NICE Quality Standard Atopic Eczema in under 12s](#)