

New DAWN DVT Module

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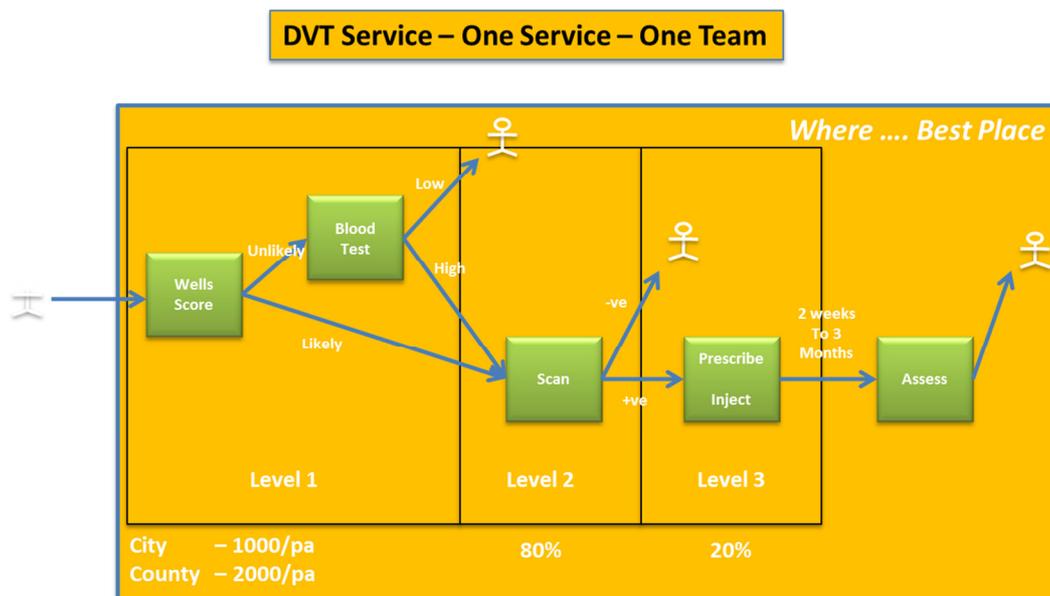
The DVT service at the University Hospital of Leicester is separate from the anticoagulation service. The patient is diagnosed, prescribed and treated by the DVT clinic before being passed to the anticoagulation team. Referrals for the DVT service come from GPs, wards, A&E and outpatients.

Prior to the development of the DAWN DVT Diagnosis & Assessment module, the service was paper based with very little space and no clerical support which resulted in a huge workload for the DVT nurses and low staff morale. Furthermore, a serious patient incident with key documentation unable to be found, highlighted the need to assess how the service could be improved.

In 2011 Dr Strong attended the DAWN AC User Group Meeting and saw a presentation from Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust in which they outlined how they had been working with 4S DAWN to develop a DVT module that was specific to their DVT service and its requirements. This prompted the Leicester team to review their DVT service with a view to achieving a seamless referral and GP communication process; an improved clinical governance and audit trail; and more importantly a paperless system. Team meetings were held with Consultants, Senior Managers and DVT Nurses to discuss how best to improve the service.

The DVT processes and pathway were defined and the Leicester team worked with 4S DAWN to structure a DVT Diagnosis & Assessment module that specifically suited the needs and workflow of the DVT clinic.

The Pathway – Primary Care & Secondary Care / Specialist-Generalist – not site specific



As only 20% of patients scanned actually have a DVT, the DAWN DVT module enabled the clinic to reduce their workload by 80% as they were clearly able to determine at each stage, whether the patient needed to be progressed through the defined DVT workflow or discharged from the clinic.

Leicester DVT clinic also outlined further benefits from the introduction of the DVT module:

- Information is electronically stored therefore easy to access for future episodes
- Provides an audit trail
- Saves time and resources as only collecting relevant information
- Fluent, methodical way of working
- Simplified algorithms easy to use
- Message box to highlight information for other users
- Ability to add messages for letters to GPs, e.g. abnormal blood results
- No more writing endless discharge and blood results letters
- Easy referral to the anticoagulation clinic
- As 80% of patients scanned are negative and now discharged, this allows the DVT clinic team to spend more time with those patients who require treatment

Both Dr Strong and the DVT nurses believe that the introduction of the DAWN DVT Diagnosis & Assessment module has revolutionised the way Leicester’s DVT clinic operates. A demonstration of the module was then given by George Kitching who took delegates through the DVT pathway and outlined how it was configured specifically to fit Leicester’s workflow.

Leicester DVT team and the 4S DAWN team continue to work together to develop the DVT module further and realise Leicester’s vision for the future:

