

100% of patients in IMH Recovery Care Ward 54A will receive eye screening assessment within 6 months' time and annually thereafter

Team Members:
APN Qu Yuanrong (Leader), APN Regina Lua Ubana (Facilitator),
Midm Catherine Chua Siew Hong (Facilitator),
Dr Erliza Maria Saronhilo-Labagday, Dr Michael Lim Khong Jin,
NC Paramesvari W.O Jayaraman, Ms Joey Tan Jingyi,
SN Janaki Selvarai, SN Susila D/O Nagaras
Email Contact: Yuan_Rong_Qu@imh.com.sg

Problem Statement

Recovery Care Ward 54A:

50 -bedded Male Long-Stay Ward
Main diagnosis: Schizophrenia
Average of Length of Stay in IMH: 17 years

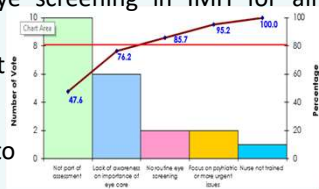
Eye problem:

Delay in detecting vision impairment in IMH Ward 54A

Eye issues in 54A	
34%	Have cataract
8%	Have both cataract and glaucoma
64%	Eyes not assessed

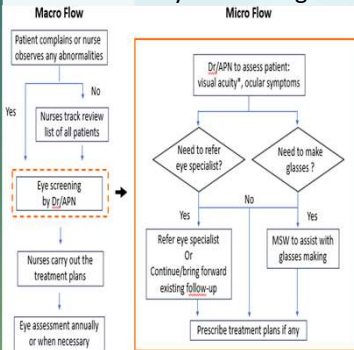
There is no routine eye screening in IMH for all inpatients.

Vision impairment affect patients' quality of life, mental health, & may increase risk of fall due to vision loss.



Potential Solutions

Team revised eye screening workflow as below:



The "Visual Acuity Screening" form was created to be used during Eye Screening process.

Visual Acuity	Left Eye	Right Eye
Unaided		
With Glasses		
Others		
Symptoms	if Yes, mark 'X'	
Pain		
Blurring of vision / Loss of vision		
Redness		
Diplopia		
Flashes		
Screening Questions	if Yes, mark 'X'	
Does your vision affect your daily activities?		
If glasses can help you see better, do you want to wear glasses?		
Management Plan	Mark 'X' for the selected field	
1. Refer Ophthalmology		
2. Refer Nurse to bring patient to make glasses		
3. 2-yearly visual acuity screening		
Others (free text)		

The Eye Screening process would be subsumed under Recovery Care Six-Monthly Review process, including into the new Electronic Medical Records build.

Patients would be assessed & treated timely. With the successful implementation of the project, no patients will be left untreated unknowingly, suffering preventable vision issues, & their quality of life could improve.

Project Aim

To achieve 100% of Ward 54A patients receiving eye screening assessment within 6 months' time and annually thereafter. Having an annual eye screening process ensures early detection of vision problems in patients and prevent further deterioration of eye diseases so that timely treatment can be administered.

Eye assessment screening were conducted from October 2021 to May 2022.

Lessons Learnt

What and how to assess patients' eyes were the first challenges faced. Eye specialists from NUH were consulted and eye screening form which was created is applicable to be used for IMH patients.

Secondly, not all patients consented or could be assessed due to different individual factors. The nurses required training to coax & screen patients.

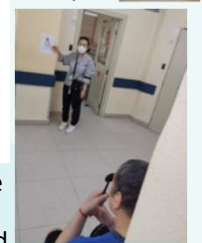
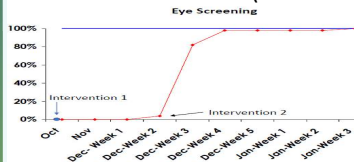
Consideration of team members in terms of contribution and expert opinion value added to the project.

Implementation of PDSA cycle helped team to test the process and solve the problems encountered.



Outcomes & Impacts

Training on the importance of eye care was conducted for ward nurses and their knowledge were increased base on post-training survey. All 51 patients' eyes were assessed by Ward Doctor & Advanced Practice Nurse (APN). 5 patients referred to eye specialist & received treatment (4 cataracts, 1 macular scar).



This project was present in Quality & Value Council Meeting on 27/4/23 & approved for Scale & Spread. Project title was revised to: "100% of patients in the 21 IMH Long Stay Wards will receive eye screening assessment within one year's time and two-yearly thereafter".

IMH Ward 54B was selected for a trial before spreading to the rest of the 19 wards. Registered Nurses (RNs) are trained to check patients' vision. Patients will be assessed & managed accordingly.