



Service Priorities and Programmes
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TIA clinic is efficient and safe for secondary stroke prevention –

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Introduction

Transient ischaemic attack (TIA) is an important treatment target as it implies an increased risk of stroke. Recent study showed that prompt treatment can reduce the risk of recurrent stroke in TIA patients.

Objectives

This retrospective cohort study aimed to determine the efficiency and safety of the TIA clinic service of Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH).

Methodology

A fast tract TIA clinic with prompt neurological assessment accessible to Accident and Emergency Department (AED) referral was established in 2012 in QEH. All case records from the TIA clinic attendance from September 2012 to December 2015 were reviewed.

Result

225 cases from AED, 409 from in-patient and 125 from private practitioner or government out-patient clinic were referred to the clinic during the specified period. For cases referred from AED, the median waiting time of nurse clinic was 4 days and that of neurologist consultation was 12 days. The median session of doctor clinic attended was 2 (IQR 1-3). 200 (88.8%) were eventually discharged or referred to general outpatient clinic.

Among them, 163 cases (72.4%) were diagnosed to have TIA. Stroke recurrence rate of these patients were 0.6% (2 days), 0.6% (7 days), 1.8% (30 days), 1.9% (90 days) and 3.1% (1 year) respectively. The stroke recurrence risk in this cohort is lower than that reported in international cohort.

In conclusion, the TIA clinic service in Queen Elizabeth Hospital is efficient and safe.