Enhancement Program to increase Day Surgery and Same Day Surgery rates in Ophthalmology

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Introduction
Day Surgery (DS) and Same Day Surgery (SDS) rates are one of the most important key performance indicators in Ophthalmology in HA. Higher DS and SDS rates save resources by reducing demand for hospital beds, reduces nosocomial infection rates and increases patient satisfaction by allowing patients to return home early. It is particularly feasible in Ophthalmology as Ophthalmic surgeries are usually short in duration and most Ophthalmic patients are mobile and able to care for themselves. In this Enhancement Program, we share some of our strategies to increase DS and SDS rates in Ophthalmology.

Objectives
To increase the rates of DS and SDS in Department of Ophthalmology, Caritas Medical Centre, through an Enhancement Program.

Methodology
Our 5-step Enhancement Program includes:
1. Revision of the pre-operative anesthetic assessment guidelines so more suitable patients can be identified and targeted.
2. Organization of staff training session for the introduction of the Program
3. Enhance patient education and acceptance by producing pamphlet and videos, introducing its purpose, advantages and logistics.
4. Engage patients to participate in their own decision making by providing a communication platform in designated pre-operative talks and pre-operative anesthetic assessment clinics.
5. Regular monitoring of DS and SDS rates after implementation and identification of areas for improvement.

Result
The Enhancement Program was introduced in 2Q 2015. The rate of DS and SDS was increased from 29% in 2Q 2015 to 52% in 4Q 2016. Positive feedback from staff, patients and relatives was received.