

Supplementary material 3. Audit tool

Clinical assessment and pathway:

1. At the time of initial assessment, was the patient asked about the postural component of the headache?
Yes No
2. What was the time interval from the initial suspicion of spontaneous intracranial hypotension (SIH) to assessment by a neurologist?
<24 hours <48 hours <4 weeks <3 months >3 months
3. Was the patient educated or directed to educational resources regarding:
Bed rest? Yes No
Hydration? Yes No
Analgesia? Yes No
Methods to avoid deconditioning and deep vein thrombosis? Yes No
4. At what point was the patient referred for multidisciplinary discussion in a specialist neuroscience centre?
Immediately after SIH was suspected After 1 epidural blood patch (EBP)
After 2 EBPs After >2 EBPs N/A (not referred)

Investigations:

1. What imaging was performed at the first assessment?
MRI head with contrast MRI head without contrast
MRI whole spine Other (please specify) _____
2. Was the imaging reviewed by a consultant neuroradiologist?
Yes No
3. Was lumbar puncture performed?
Yes, to measure opening pressure Yes, for other reasons No

4. For patients with abnormal brain or spine MRI undergoing myelography, how many blood patches had been performed beforehand?

None 1 2 > 2 (specify) _____

5. For patients with a spinal longitudinal epidural collection (SLEC) undergoing myelography, was “dynamic” myelography performed?

Yes No

6. For patients without a SLEC undergoing myelography, was lateral decubitus myelography performed?

Yes, examining both sides Yes, one side only No

Procedures:

1. Once diagnosis of SIH was made, how soon was the first non-targeted EBP performed?

<48 hours <2 weeks <4 weeks <3 months >3 months

2. After EBP was the patient:

Given a point of contact for their clinical team? Yes No

Contacted at 12-48 hours to enquire about concerning features? Yes No

How soon was efficacy of EBP assessed?

<10 days 10-14 days 2-4 weeks 4-8 weeks >8 weeks

3. Once a decision for to operate has been made, how soon was the date of surgery?

<2 weeks <6 weeks <3 months >3 months

4. Was outcome assessed at the following intervals and included in an outcomes database?

6 weeks Yes No

3 months Yes No