

REASON WHY?

Missed allergies pose a significant risk to patient safety. Data from RSH and PRH hospitals showed a notable number of missed allergies for patients undergoing surgical procedures in 2024-2025. These allergies are often picked up as part of the final theatre checks. Timely recording of allergies is key to ensure patients do not suffer harm.



Reduce missed allergy documentation for elective general anaesthetic patients by 20% by 31st October 2025.

PLAN

The theatre clerk noticed that a large number of patients did not have an allergy alert assigned, despite having an allergy following the implementation of the new Careflow system.

An initial audit was carried out in 2024 between January and December to understand the extent of the issue. Over 600 patients got through the system without their allergies being picked up before the patient got to theatre between 2024 and 2025.

The plan was to improve the number of allergy alerts that were recorded in careflow prior to a patient getting to theatre.

DO

Pre-op communications sent to staff at the end of February 2025 to advise of allergy recording in Careflow.

Data collection on missed allergies began to record Ward areas that have missed allergies.

Feedback mechanisms established, including reminders to staff on both sites.

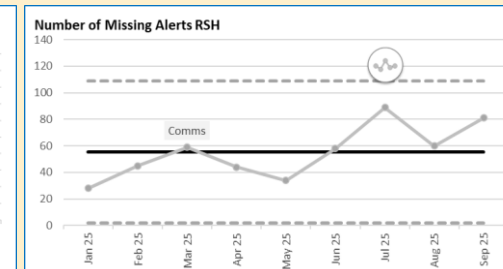
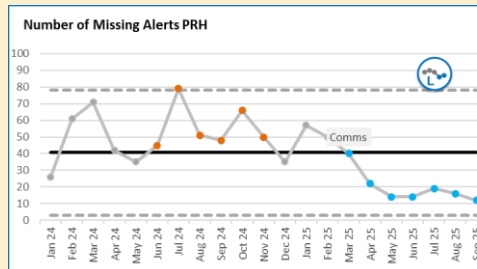
Allergy alerts notified to Michelle Cole (Divisional Director of Nursing – Surgery, Anaesthetics, Critical Care and Cancer) to follow up.

Data sent to Pre-op Manager for further investigation (e.g. elective cases sent to Rachael Bollands).

STUDY

The data shows that the number of missed allergy alerts at PRH has reduced by 46.7% from 2024 and 2025 (for the comparable period January to October) showing a statistically significant improvement. Between April 2025 and September 2025 there were 97 missed allergies recorded. 5208 patients underwent surgery with a missed allergy rate of 1.86%.

At RSH between April 25 and September 25 there were 367 instances of missed allergies. 5,858 patients underwent surgery, with a missed allergy rate of 6.27%.



The process appears to have been more effective at PRH than RSH. It is felt that this is supported by the use of the Telford Elective Surgical Hub (TESH).

ACT

The current process of feedback mechanisms and reminders to staff will be ADOPTED.

Further improvement work will be undertaken at RSH and ideas generated on how to further improve the process.

Additional work will be carried out on reviewing the use of an electronic TCI (To come in) form and automating to recording of allergies.

Additional understanding needs to be had around allergies to identify true allergies or sensitivities/ intolerances which should not be documented as an allergy.