Development of Scotland-Wide Process for Management of Acute Adrenal Insufficiency

Barbara S Wardhaugh¹, Jacquie Reid², Dahrlene Tough³, SPEG MCN Nurse Group
¹ Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh, ² Royal Aberdeen Children’s Hospital, Aberdeen, ³ Scottish Ambulance Service, Edinburgh

Method

All patients with known Adrenal Insufficiency are recorded on a local Hospital Alert System.

In conjunction with the Scottish Ambulance Service a national Hazard Alert System has been established. A standard information sheet was designed and piloted.

If an Ambulance is requested the crew attending are alerted that the child is at risk of an adrenal crisis and may require administration of intramuscular hydrocortisone. Policy remains that ideally parents administer intramuscular Hydrocortisone prior to arrival of ambulance.

In addition a number of information leaflets and teaching guides to improve knowledge and support families in the acute management of Adrenal Insufficiency have been developed.

Conclusion

We now have improved education for Patients and Carers and developed an emergency plan with Scottish Ambulance Service for those children at risk of Adrenal Crisis.

Scottish Ambulance Service – update

Awareness: Alerts for 181 people at risk of adrenal crisis are now held within the Scottish Ambulance Service Ambulance Control Centre system.

Education: all clinical staff received a learning-in-practice update on adrenal crisis, including assessment, treatment and further management.

Practice change: Ambulance Technicians and Paramedics can both administer Hydrocortisone.

Data: 2013/14 an increased use of Hydrocortisone has been noted.

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