Atopic Eczema in Children Example

Using a Model for Improvement approach.

1. **What are we trying to accomplish? Needs to be specific ‘by how much?’ and ‘by when?’**

To improve care and wellbeing of children suffering from eczema in line with existing guidelines.(1)

- To increase the proportion of children who have had eczema severity and psychosocial/quality of life assessment undertaken and documented at each consultation by x% in x months’ time
- To increase the number of children offered a personalised stepped-care treatment plan by x% in x months’ time
- To increase the proportion of children given verbal and written information and advice about atopic eczema and its treatment by x% in x months’ time
- To increase the proportion of children offered annual review to ensure optimal treatment by x% in x months’ time
- To increase the proportion of children who are prescribed sufficient quantities (250-500g weekly) of unperfumed emollients for daily use by x% in x months’ time

2. **How will we know that a change is an improvement?**

- % of patients with disease severity assessment documented in EMR
- % of patients with Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI) documented in EMR
- % of patients with personalised treatment plan issued
- % of patients given verbal and written information and advice about eczema and its treatments
- % of patients attending for annual review
- % of patients with sufficient quantities of unperfumed emollients on repeat prescription

3. **What changes can we make that will result in improvement?**

Undertake a PDSA approach to each planned change idea and include measurement of outcomes, processes and unexpected effects (called ‘balance measures’).

- Development of an eczema template for practice systems to facilitate disease severity and impact assessment, and management plans
- Development of a recall system for annual review of patients with eczema
- Staff teaching session on Eczema and Eczema template and formulary
- Develop letter of invitation for medical review of eczema patients with key facts about eczema medications
- Develop practice formulary with pre-set quantities of emollients
- Signposting of patients to national/local patient support groups and educational programmes through leaflets/prompt on practice template

**References**

1. [NICE Quality Standard Atopic Eczema in under 12s](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs46)