



Quality Improvement Projects

Project Title: Improving the care of the severely contracted hand.

Team Members: Care Home Support Team (CHST)

Problem/Background:

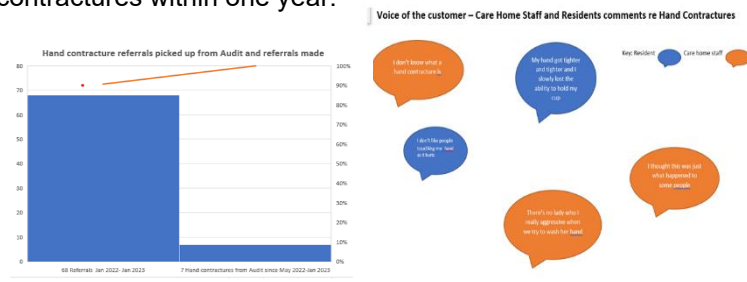
Hand contractures can cause pain, pressure damage and lead to serious health concerns.

Lack of referral for severe hand contractures has an impact on patients due to increased risk of pressure sores and further complications from hand contractures.

37% of 62 patients on caseload had hand contractures (Feb 2023) 7 hand contractures were picked up from audits of homes since May 2022.

Current State:

The data shows via audit within 7-month period 7 hand contractures were identified this shows care homes were unaware of the need to refer. 68 referrals were received for hand contractures within one year.

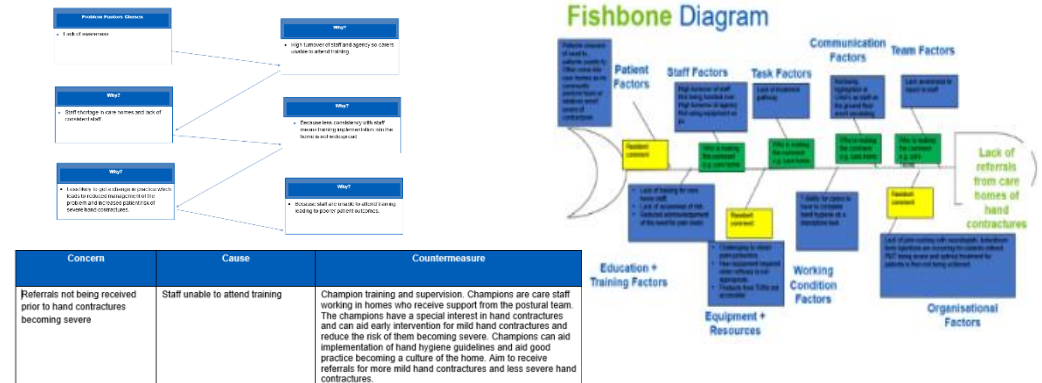


Vision & Goals:

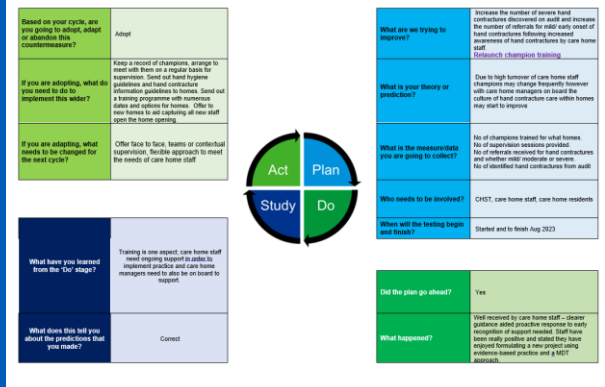
Vision: Care homes would refer all patients with hand contractures to the PMT on first signs.

Goals: Reduce the number of hand contractures picked up audit by 50% by May 2023.

Analysis, Root Causes and Countermeasures:



PDCA Cycles:



Outcomes

There were 68 referrals received for hand contractures Jan 2022-2023. Over 100% increase in referrals within 6 months. Shows an increase in awareness of hand contractures.



Insights/Learning:

To continue and aid sustainability requires integration into operation of home, aid carer job satisfaction and postural management champions to continue supervising. The outcome Data has now raised further question that requires further analysis. There is now a new current state to explore, the A3 is live and fluid.

