

Ambulatory Emergency Care at Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Background

The purpose of AEC is to:

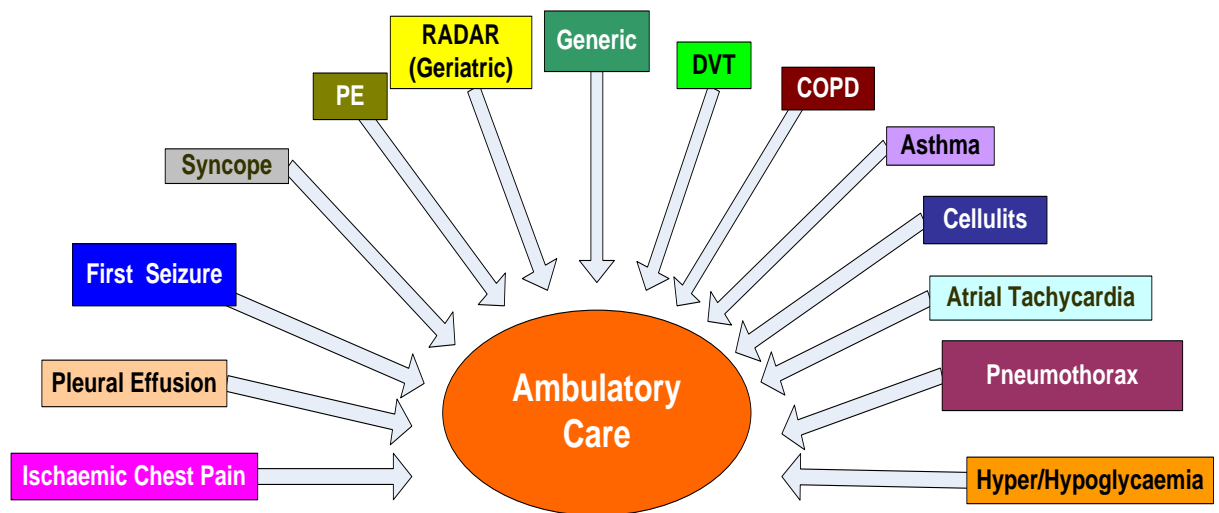
- Avoid unnecessary emergency admissions by providing same day/next day assessment, investigations and treatment,
- Release capacity in ED
- Support early discharge

Tools Used

- AEC Directory
- Risk assessment tools



Ambulatory Care Team



Improvement so far

- Increased throughput
- New pathways
- Expansion of Unit
- Collaboration with GP liaison
- Education of GPs
- Standardized processes
- GP referral pathway
- Established 6 new pathways
- Expansion of unit space
- Expansion of opening hours

Challenges

- Staffing
- Space
- Maintaining referrals from ED during junior doctor changeover
- Delays in development of non-medical ambulatory care (process vs pathway model)
- Commissioning and agreeing tariffs with CCG

Next Steps

- Increase utilisation of existing pathways
- Development of new medical pathways
- Development of non-medical ambulatory care
- Consideration of nurse practitioner role

