

# Healthcare professionals' perspectives on transferring patients to theatre at a tertiary centre for thoracic cancer surgery – The Walk or Wheeled (WoW) Project

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# Disclosures

- No disclosures
- Outside this work: conference fees from Lilly Oncology and personal fees from Vitae Professionals

# The WoW Project

- “ Would you like to walk to theatre? “
- Evidence
- Transformation process / change<sup>1</sup>
- Full project
  - 1. Healthcare professionals
  - 2. Patients
  - 3. Implementation



<sup>1</sup> Lewin, K. Frontiers in group dynamics. (1947) In Cartwright, D. (Ed.), Field Theory in Social Science  
London: Social Science Paperbacks.

# Introduction

- Patients commonly wheeled in a bed to theatre
- Previous patients' surveys suggested patients would be willing to walk <sup>2</sup>
- Walking may have a positive impact on patient's perception of their care <sup>3</sup>
  
- Aim of the study: to survey healthcare professionals' perspectives regarding methods of transfer for patients undergoing thoracic surgery

<sup>2</sup> Nagraj S, Clark CI, Talbot J, Walker S (2006). Which patients would like to walk to theatre?. *Ann R Coll Surg Engl*; 88: 172–173.

<sup>3</sup> Turnbull LA, Wood N, Kester G (1998). Controlled trial of the subjective patient benefits of accompanied walking to the operating theatre. *Int. J. Clin. Pract.* 52 (2); 81-3

# Methods

- Cross sectional survey
- Questions on:
  - Current practice
  - Perceptions on offering patients choice on mode of transportation
  - Impact on current workload
- Results summarised in frequency (%) and medians (IQR)
- Categories comparisons using Fisher's exact test

# Results

- 69 out of 141 questionnaires returned (49% response rate)

	(n=69)
Mean age (SD)	35 (9)
Male, n (%)	21 (32)
Background, n (%)	
HCA	7 (10.5)
Nurse	53 (79)
Doctor	7 (10.5)
Median experience at NHS (IQR)	6 (3-12)
Median experience at RBH (IQR)	3 (1-7)

# Results

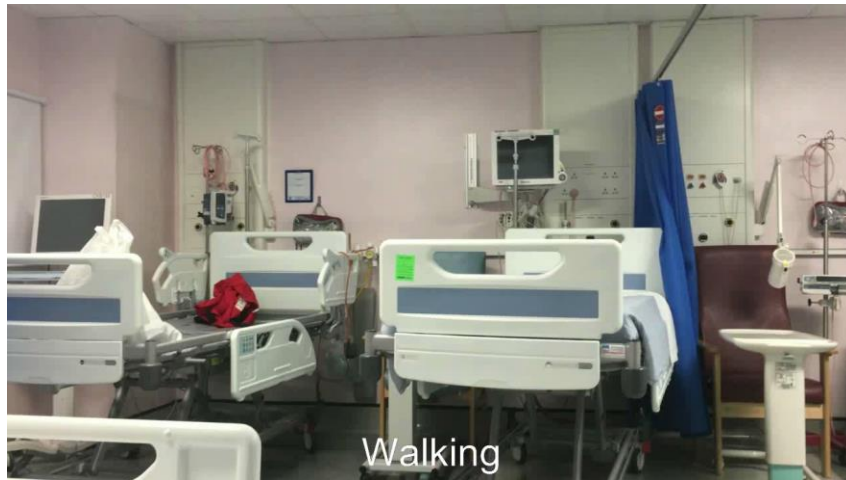
Question, n (%)	Disagree Strongly	Disagree Slightly	Neutral	Agree Slightly	Agree Strongly	
Patients should be offered options on how they would like to be transferred to theatre	4 (6)	4 (6)	8 (12)	13 (19)	39 (57)	P=0.82
I am comfortable with the way patients are currently transferred to theatre	3 (4)	2 (3)	15 (22)	27 (40)	21 (31)	
If our current practice changes, I will consider it to be a burden	21 (32)	15 (23)	20 (30)	7 (11)	3 (4)	P=0.51

# Results

Question, n (%)	Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Agree
	Strongly	Slightly		Slightly	Strongly
Changing the way we currently transfer patients to theatre will be positive for them	4 (6)	7 (10)	23 (34)	19 (28)	15 (22)
Patients benefit from being wheeled in a bed to theatre	3 (5)	10 (15)	32 (48)	10 (15)	11 (17)
Patients benefit from walking to theatre	6 (9)	8 (12)	27 (40)	19 (28)	7 (11)
Being wheeled in a bed has a positive impact on patients' anxiety	4 (6)	12 (18)	30 (45)	14 (21)	7 (10)
Walking to theatre has a positive impact on patients' anxiety	9 (13)	11 (16)	26 (39)	14 (21)	7 (11)
In terms of comfort, being wheeled in a bed to theatre is the best for patients	3 (4)	13 (20)	16 (24)	19 (29)	15 (23)
In terms of comfort, walking to theatre is the best for patients	11 (16)	14 (21)	25 (37)	14 (21)	3 (5)
If I was a patient going for surgery, I would like to be wheeled in a bed to theatre	14 (21)	8 (12)	9 (13)	12 (18)	24 (36)
If I was a patient going for surgery, I would like to walk to theatre	13 (19)	9 (14)	18 (27)	12 (18)	15 (22)



# Discussion



## Conclusion

- The results of our survey suggest that healthcare professionals are comfortable with the current transfer method of wheeling patients in bed to theatre, but are uniformly supportive of patients being offered options (walking) and do not consider change in practice as a burden.