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Acute Pulmonary Embolism

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Acute Pulmonary Embolism (PE), a form of venous thromboembolism (VTE), is a potentially life-threatening diagnosis where there is significant heterogeneity in presentation in the Emergency Department and lack of standardization regarding subsequent inpatient management.

**Goal/Objective**

To standardize approaches for the evaluation and treatment of newly diagnosed PE beginning in the Emergency Department and extending through hospitalized care. To develop standardized risk stratification of PE patients (i.e., Low, Intermediate, High) to facilitate appropriate management and guide disposition decisions (discharge, ED Obs, Hospital Obs, Hospital Inpatient) to improve patient experience, outcomes, and efficiency. To develop performance metrics for assessing standardized care delivery implementation.

**Baseline Metrics/Current State**

- Prior to this project, we did not have the ability to report data based on PE risk stratification levels.
- We are now tracking PE encounter volumes by risk-stratification in our monthly and quarterly scorecards.
- PE order set utilization increased from 33.3% in FY20 Q1 to 63.2% in FY20 Q4 TD (data as of 8/10/20).

**PE Order Set Development**

Epic now calculates the VTE score.

The overall order set uses previously entered into the patient’s Epic chart to evaluate the VTE score. To calculate the score, enter the dose in the patient’s chart.

**Clinical Guideline for Work Up of Pulmonary Embolism (PE)**

**PE Order Set Go-Live and Clinical Pathway**

**Updated Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) Treatment Order Set and Associated Workflows**

The Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) Treatment Order Set has been updated to provide easy access to risk assessment tools. The target population for this order set is newly diagnosed VTE patients (Pulmonary embolism or Deep vein thrombosis). The new design of this set enables providers to make informed decisions about risk stratification and management of VTE patients.

**Plan**

- Dr. Hein created an educational PowerPoint for providers on the new PE order set and clinical pathway.
- Wes Zemrak, Pharmacy Supervisor, created a Scope article summarizing PE project achievements. This article will be published in September.
- PE AVS SmartText was implemented. This provides PE educational materials in the patient’s AVS.

**Outcomes**

- Increase PE order set utilization.
- Dr. Samir Haydar will continue to send email reminders to ED providers regarding the PE order set and sustainability.

**Next Steps**

- Dr. Hein created an educational PowerPoint for providers on the new PE order set and clinical pathway.
- Wes Zemrak, Pharmacy Supervisor, created a Scope article summarizing PE project achievements. This article will be published in September.
- PE AVS SmartText was implemented. This provides PE educational materials in the patient’s AVS.