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Evaluation of Patient Satisfaction Score While Waiting in the ER and Enlisting the Various Factors Responsible for the Delay Admission from the ER in a tertiary care center of New Delhi, India

Priya Govil¹, Anita Rawat², Kishalay Datta³

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Abstract

The patient waiting in the Emergency room for both the patient assessment and patient transfer out to the assigned destination (ward or intensive care unit) are major indicators in healthcare reform. This is generally assessed by patient satisfaction score. This score is usually lowest in the emergency room worldwide, mostly due to the patient load in the emergency room. We aim to assess the patient satisfaction score and the cause of delay in patient shifting out of the emergency room in our institute as the emergency department is the first point of contact in patients.

Keywords: Emergency room; Patient assessment; Ward or Intensive care unit; Healthcare reform.

INTRODUCTION

The recent healthcare reforms has been focussing majorly on patient centered care and thus, it required active patient participation for decision making.¹ Patient satisfaction metrics play a vital role in assessing the ED care.² The patient satisfaction score has been the lowest in the ED when compared to other centers within the hospital. The delay in patient transfer out to the respective destination depends on variable factors within the healthcare setup. In this article,

Author's Affiliation: ^{1,2}Senior Consultant, ³Director and HOD, Emergency Medicine, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Shalimar Bagh 110088, Delhi, India.

Corresponding Author: Priya Govil, Senior Consultant, Emergency Medicine, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Shalimar Bagh 110088, Delhi, India.

E-mail: drpriyasharma5@gmail.com

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we will be assessing the patient satisfaction score in the ED of our institute and enlisting the various factors associated with delay in patient transfer out. This will help in better patient centered care and improve the quality of medical care to be provided to the patient community.

Review of Literature

Quality healthcare means the patient needs and expectations are readily met by the healthcare institute.² Patient satisfaction is the measure of quality of healthcare.² Several factors play a role in patient satisfaction, which should be observed and co-ordinated to improve the patient's overall health.³ Satisfied patients are, overall, more compliant to the instructions given by the medical team, thus improving the quality of healthcare.⁴

Assessment of the patient satisfaction score overall also benefits the healthcare team to modify their healthcare norms to improve the patient quality care.⁵ Various articles have been published on online platforms regarding the