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P013 - Quality Improvement Project: Implementing New ‘ANCA sample’ pathway

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Background and aim:
This QIP is based on the British Society of Rheumatology (BSR) and British Health Professionals in Rheumatology (BHPR) guideline for the management of adults with ANCA-associated vasculitis published in 2014. We have measured the compliance with the recommendation that ANCA results should be available within 1 working day, which followed by a short pilot study to improve compliance.

Method:
Retrospective review of 100 ANCA positive patients’ samples at our hospital in the period between April 2015 and April 2016 in a pre-existing immunology database. Those patients had total of 460 samples sent to the Lab during this period. Patients’ data were sourced from electronic records.

Results and Discussion:
The original results have revealed a poor turnaround time (TAT) for ANCA results; only 17% (76/470) were available within 1 working day. Hence, a full assessment of the ANCA sample pathway was performed. The quality group at Greater Manchester Immunology Service-GMIS decided to redesign the ANCA testing pathway by implementing PR3/MPO “on Bio-Rad BioPlex 2200 analyser” as a first line test, and this is in line with the revised 2017 international consensus recommendations; testing for ANCA in small vessel vasculitis can be done by PR3- and MPO-ANCA immunoassays, without the categorical need for IIF (Indirect immunofluorescence).

A 3 months pilot was performed at MFT in the period between February and May 2018, which has remarkably improved the TAT, with over 70% of results available within 1 working day. The aim is to apply the above pathway to all ANCA requests across the North West of England then nationally.

Conclusions:
Prompt diagnosis and rapid initiation of effective treatment are important factors for optimum outcome in patients with ANCA Associated Vasculitides. This QIP has identified the main issue in the ANCA sample pathway. By redesigning and implementing the ANCA sample pathway, the lab managed to issue ANCA results within 24 hours in over 70% of ANCA requests. Hence the compliance to BSR/BHPR guideline has improved significantly.