THE POST COVID CLINIC - TRIAGING AS PART OF AN MDT TEAM

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OUTLINE

What we have done

What we have learnt

What an effective Post-COVID MDT clinic could look like



THE AUCKLAND EXPERIENCE

17 August 2021

The first case of the Delta variant was reported in NZ



THE MIDDLEMORE DELTA EXPERIENCE

TOTAL CASES 284

NP O2 – 162 (57%) HFNO – 91 (32%) CPAP – 69 (24%)

ICU – 33 (11.6%) Intubation – 10 (3.5%)

Deaths - 6 (2%)





POST-COVID RESPIRATORY CLINIC

Commenced October 2021

In the past 7 months - 141 patients received an FSA appointment

- 92 patients seen face to face
- 49 patients contacted by telephone

THE MDT TEAM



Respiratory Physician

(General Physician)



Nurse Practitioner



Physiotherapist



Physiologists Radiologists

MDT CLINIC FORMAT



Aim to see patients 6–8 weeks postdischarge All patients to get CXR +/lung function tests on arrival in clinic Clinical assessment Physiotherapy assessment 6MWT 5 rep STS

? Overnight oximetry ? ECG ? echo Referral to other subspecialities ? CT chest ? Other

investigations





OUTCOME OF THE 141 FSA APPOINTMENTS

79 (56%) discharged to GP



62 (44%) referred for clinic follow-up

- Post-COVID clinic (30 patients)
- Sleep clinic (29 patients)
- HVS clinic (13 patients)
- Better Breathing service (8 patients)
- Health psychology (7 patients)
- Diabetes (6 patients)
- Obstetrics (5 patients)
- Chest clinic / bilevel clinic (4 patients)
- Orthopaedics (3 patients)

DISTINCT GROUPS OF PATIENTS



Fully recovered



Pulmonary sequelae

Organising pneumonia Lung fibrosis Bronchiectasis



Non-pulmonary sequelae

Chronic pain HVS Fatigue



Comorbidities

OSA Diabetes Obesity Cardiac Social issues...

WHAT WE HAVE LEARNT

Patients are grateful for the opportunity to attend a Post-COVID clinic – or receive a telephone call

Having their experiences and any ongoing symptoms validated is important to them



Patients found it of benefit to be seen in person. Allowed them to visualise results (CXR, lung function) but also to work with the physiotherapy team face to face



The clinic is an excellent place to assess patients and triage their referral to Better Breathing and Breathing Pattern Disorder clinics

Important not to focus on time-frames and to stay optimistic about long term outcomes





THANK YOU

