



Intravenous Iron infusion pathway in the Obstetric Unit: a quality improvement project (QUIP)

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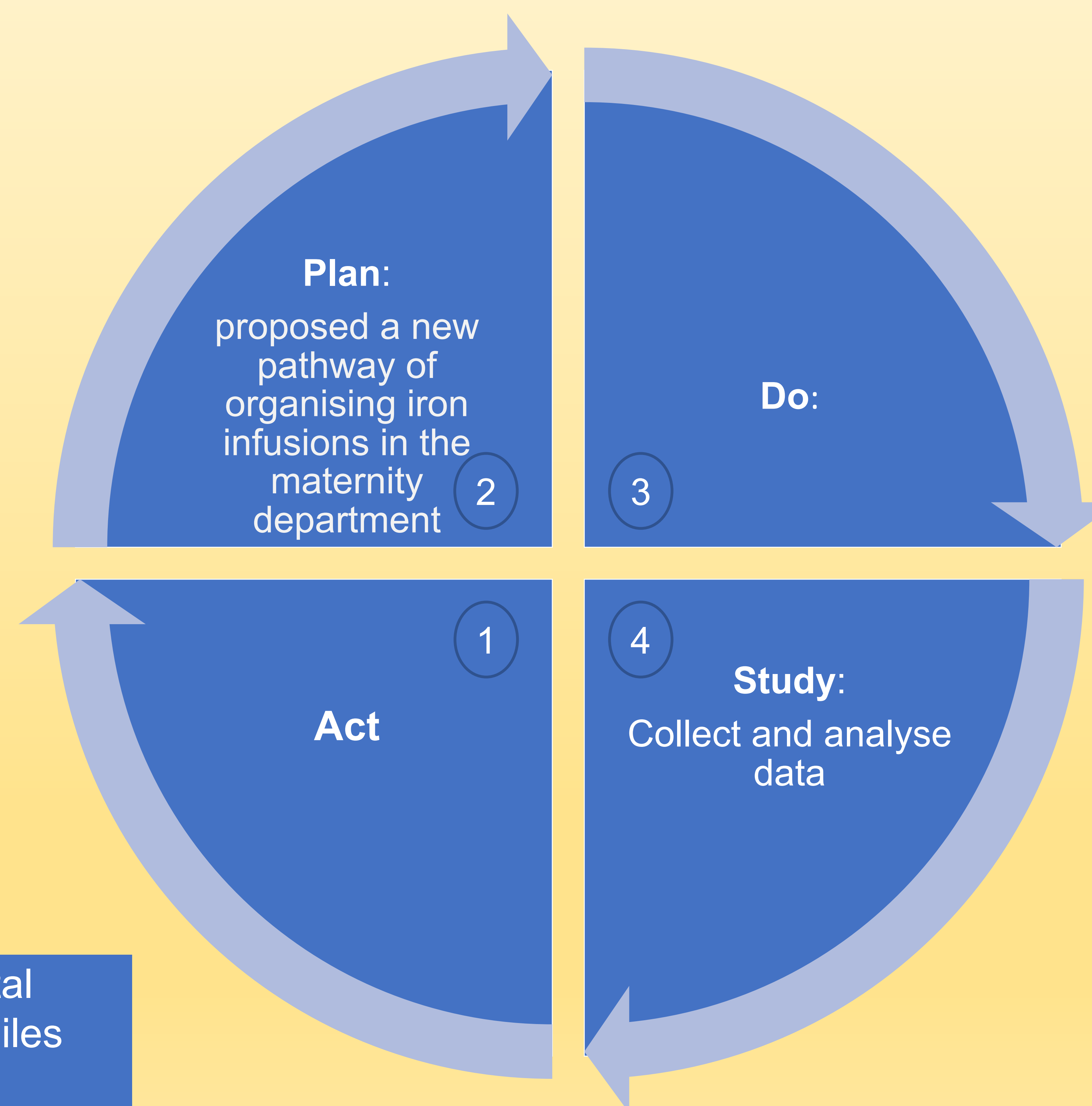
Objectives

Iron infusion is indicated for intolerance or nonresponse to oral iron supplements, contraindication to intramuscular iron and ensured increase of the haemoglobin in iron-deficient patients and is often used within obstetrics.

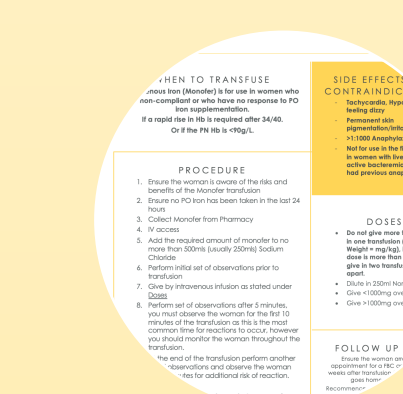
Given the importance of correcting anaemia in pregnancy and puerperium and the Trust's shortage on packed red blood cells, it is crucial to ensure that iron infusions are provided and running efficiently

1. Ambulatory care stopped arranging iron infusion for obstetric patients due to high activity.

2. No service was provided in our hospital for postnatal patients, who had to go to a neighbour hospital, 20 miles away, for the infusion



Organise training process for midwives for administering iron infusion



Create patient and staff information leaflets



Update the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)



Create a dedicated iron infusion box which is placed in the unit

Results and lessons learned

The proposed pathway was established and we measured on average five infusions per week which is covering almost all the infusion requests.

Multidisciplinary input and structured approach is essential in designing and executing a QUIP

Learning from the design and implementation of the Iron Infusion QUIP will inform subsequent obstetric QUIP and contribute to improved patient safety