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The general surgical care practitioner improves surgical outpatient streamlining and the delivery of elective surgical care
In this paper by Rohan Kumar, Lisa DeBono, Paritosh Sharma and Sanjoy Basu the feasibility of implementing a surgical care practitioner (SCP) role for the delivery of secondary care within the general surgery department of a district general hospital was evaluated. Streamlining patients into an SCP-led ‘one-stop’ gallbladder clinic for symptomatic uncomplicated cholelithiasis led to a reduction in follow-up clinic workload for major elective laparoscopic work and more appropriate triaging of primary care referrals. Each of these improvements contributed to an efficient service model

142 CLINICAL FEATURE
Has the introduction of an admissions lounge affected theatre start times in a busy teaching hospital environment?
The Admissions Lounge (AL) was introduced with the aims of reducing the number of late starts, improving the patient experience and reducing preoperative length of stay to save bed days. To determine whether a reduction in number of late starts was achieved, 237 start times from pre and post introduction of the AL were collected and analysed by H Wardell and Martyn E Lovell. There was no statistically significant difference (p>0.05) between the percentage of lists delayed or the mean delay between pre and post introduction of the AL (mean delay for post AL was 10.17 minutes compared to 9.85 minutes pre AL). The AL had no impact on theatre start times, neither improving nor reducing the operating theatre efficiency in this respect

147 THE NAME BEHIND THE DISEASE
René Leriche: the Leriche syndrome
Professor Harold Ellis continues this series with René Leriche

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