Value of the Haemophilia Nurse Specialist

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Introduction
Specialist nurses consistently rate higher than other healthcare professionals due to understanding patients’ needs and being a key point of contact for all involved in a chronic disease patient pathway (RCN, 2010).
Yet UK specialist nurses face service cuts, downgrading of bands, confusion around titles and expansion of responsibilities with poor recognition of their value to service.

Aim
To establish the cost effectiveness of the UK Haemophilia Specialist Nurse.

Conclusions
The Apollo Nursing Resource tool assisted UK Haemophilia Specialist Nurses demonstrate they are value for money. Roles are complex and multifaceted, and the average possible income brought in by these nurses is purely based on activity which is recognised as codeable.
Response numbers were poor (only 10) but provided a spread of bands 6-8 and were spread across the UK.
Many activities performed are not recognised as bringing financial value but are core within the role.
Management work, research, education and coordination of care are essential for patient safety and development of services.

Cost savings of min. £83,000 pa per nurse through patients saved from seeking care in Emergency Department

Cost savings of £50-100,000 pa in consultant clinic slots, now conducted by nurses

Methodology
UK Haemophilia Nurses were emailed the link to the Apollo Nursing Resource Job Planner (Leary et al, 2018) and asked to build their job plan, sending the downloaded version to myself for decoding with NHS coding lists. This information was added to feedback from national survey regarding resources, roles, banding and responsibilities.
Activity was matched to NHS coding within the Sheffield Teaching Hospitals Tariff with help from directorate operations manager to enable a financial value to be put to some of the activity performed by haemophilia nurses.

Other conditions cared for in 28 Centres

- Thrombophilia
- TTP
- Coagulation abnormalities
- Haemolytic anaemia
- Rare disorders
- Pregnancy & Thrombosis
- Malignant haematology
- General oncology
- Immunology