

25724 – IMPLEMENTATION OF A MULTIDISCIPLINARY CLINICAL PATHWAY FOR URINARY AND BOWEL DYSFUNCTION IN MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS PATIENTS

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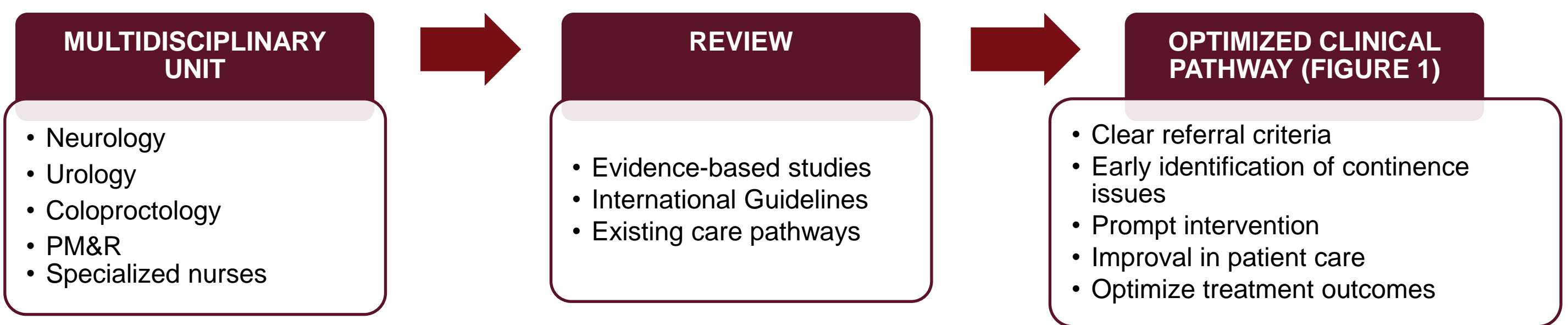
HYPOTHESIS / AIMS OF STUDY

Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is a chronic, inflammatory, degenerative disorder of the central nervous system affecting more than 2 million individuals. While primarily known for its neurological symptoms, its systemic effects are extensive, significantly impacting the **quality of life** of affected individuals. Among the prevalent yet often overlooked complications in these patients are **alterations in continence**, which can range from **urinary incontinence to fecal control issues**.

Despite the **high prevalence** of these symptoms in MS patients, **appropriate referral to specialized care remains challenging**. Thus, it's crucial for healthcare professionals to understand **when, how, and to which specialist to refer** patients to ensure comprehensive care and optimize symptom management.

The aim of this study is to assess the implementation of a **coordinated clinical pathway for MS patients with urinary or bowel dysfunction**, developed by a **multidisciplinary team** in our center to **standardize patient management**.

STUDY DESIGN, MATERIALS AND METHODS



Care Pathway for Patients diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis and Urinary-Faecal Dysfunction

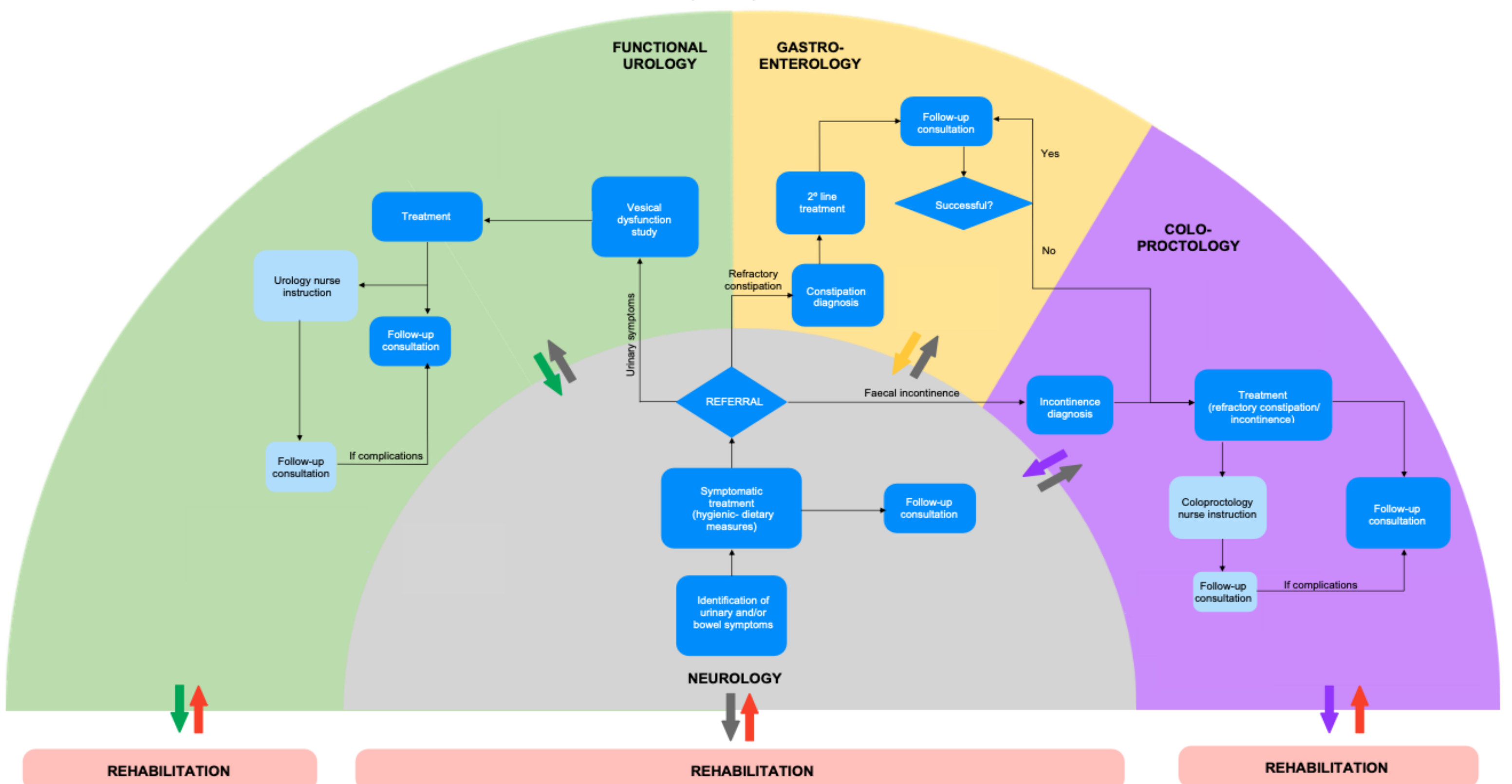


Figure 1. Care Pathway for Patients diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis and Urinary-Faecal Dysfunction

RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION

AUDIT PROCESS

- Evaluate **adherence to pathway**
- September 2023 – February 2024

POPULATION SAMPLE

- 79 referrals** within pathway (Figure 2)
- Random sample of 167 patients** from MS Neurology consultations

PATHWAY REFERRALS

- Urology main receptor** (urge urinary incontinence)
- PM&R 2nd highest (mild OAB symptoms)
- Coloproctology and Gastroenterology less common (fecal incontinence and chronic constipation)
- Increase of referrals** during study period

ADEQUACY

- All referrals met established criteria**
- No patients with symptoms who were not referred in random sample

CONCLUSIONS

Multidisciplinary management of bladder and bowel disorders in MS patients is crucial. This **standardized clinical pathway can enhance the care** of patients with this complex neurological disorder.

REFERENCES

Medina-Polo J, Adot JM, Allué M, Arlandis S, Blasco P, Casanova B, et al. Consensus document on the multidisciplinary management of neurogenic lower urinary tract dysfunction in patients with multiple sclerosis. *NeuroUrol Urodyn.* febrero de 2020;39(2):762-70.

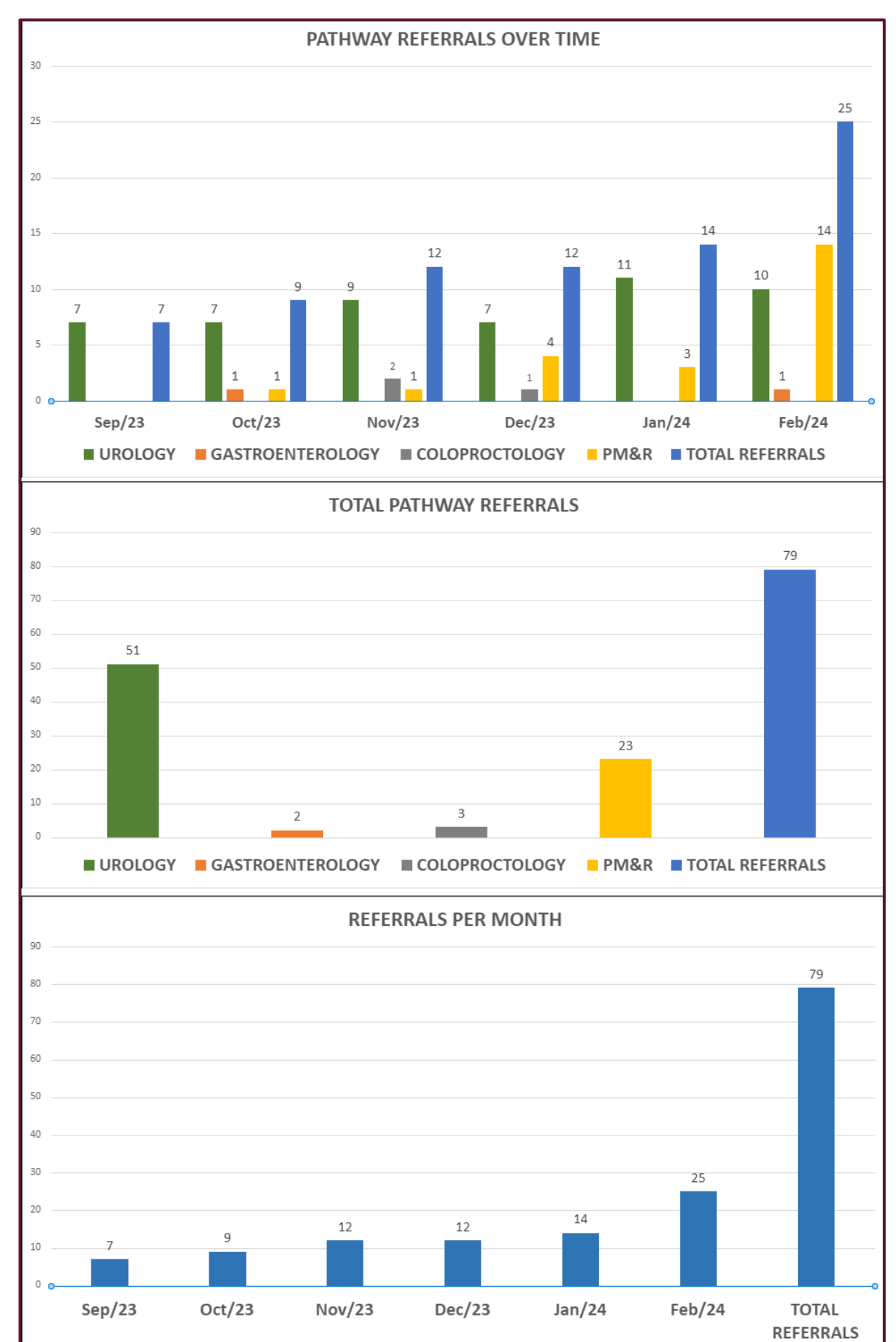


Figure 2. Summary of Referrals