**Carbon footprint from volatiles: How to guide**

1. Contact your peri-operative pharmacist.
   1. Explain project drawdown - reducing unnecessary use of environmentally high impact anaesthetic gases and potential for significant cost savings. This data will be essential for this Sustainability QI (SusQI) project.
   2. Ask them for the health boards data on inhalational anaesthetic agents (IAAs) Sevoflurane, Desflurane + Isoflurane (or if any other gases are still used enflurane or halothane then please ask for these too) This specific project isn’t looking at nitrous oxide data.
   3. Ask for units of each agent used each month for the last 2-3 years. Data may be annualised but data for April 2019 onwards can be collated monthly to track any changes in usage. Example; 1 unit sevoflurane = 250ml, 1 unit desflurane = 240ml
   4. Input the number of units into the data collection tool to calculate a total carbon footprint for each agent from the last year. The data collection tool will calculate your carbon footprint from the last 12 months and compare it to your first 12 months.
2. Inform your CD of the project proposed.
   1. Complete any QI application paperwork which is required in your health board.
3. Present to your department on audit/QUID day. There is a template presentation provided, feel free to use/amend/delete slides as you see fit.
4. Put up a Project Drawdown poster in each anaesthetic room, in the anaesthetic dept and coffee area (wherever best placed in your hospital)
5. Track and record monthly data on IAA usage. You can continue to enter data into the data collection tool. It will automatically update your latest carbon footprint and auto produce a graph which can be added to any presentation.
6. Send an email update to the department once the project has been underway a few months to demonstrate changes and encourage/remind people of the project.
7. Consider discussing with your CD whether any cost savings incurred in this project could be reinvested within the department to incentivise staff.
8. After 6 months to a year, represent your data to your department. This should be an ongoing monitoring process, regular audits will be easy to perform and ensure no return to bad habits.
9. Thank you + good luck!

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