

ADAPTING ENDOSCOPY TRAINING DURING A PANDEMIC

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1. Background

- COVID-19 has affected all aspects of endoscopic management, in particular training.
- We need to find practical solutions to continue training and ensure trainees receive senior support, both in mentored lists as well as independent practice for newly signed off endoscopists who may require advice.
- Here we evaluate a novel means of utilising technology for second opinions whilst maintaining PPE-stocks and safety measures.

2. Methods

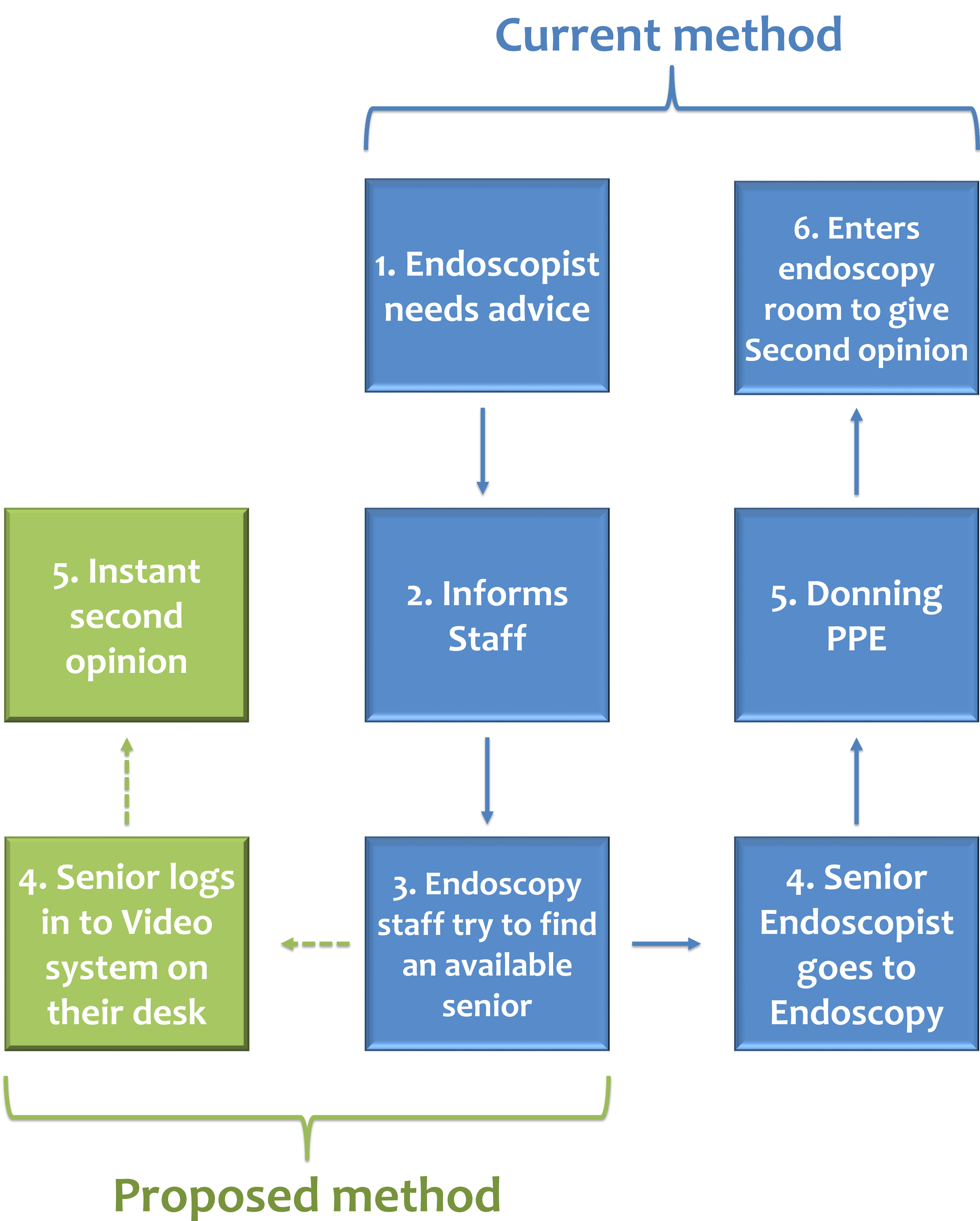
- Using approved NHS outpatient video consultation software, Attend Anywhere and AccuRx, we evaluated an easily available method of seeking a second opinion within the University Hospital Llandough endoscopy unit that doesn't add pressure on nursing staff, that saves procedure time, patient time and PPE.

3. Results

- At baseline, we found an average time of 8-12 minutes for second opinion to be given once called for. This process involved: informing nursing staff, finding an available senior in the department, donning PPE and finally entering the endoscopy room.
- This was deemed to be inefficient use of time and PPE resources, and also prolonged the procedure (and discomfort) for the patient.
- Additional risk was identified in terms of opening the endoscopy room door and potentially releasing aerosols to the outside endoscopy environment.
- We found that using Video consultation software was much welcomed by our department including nursing staff, nursing assistants, trainees, clinical endoscopists and consultants.
- We are currently working to implement this for wide usage within our department.

4. Conclusion

- We describe a novel and Covid-safe means to tackle the evolving challenges with endoscopy training in a Covid era.



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