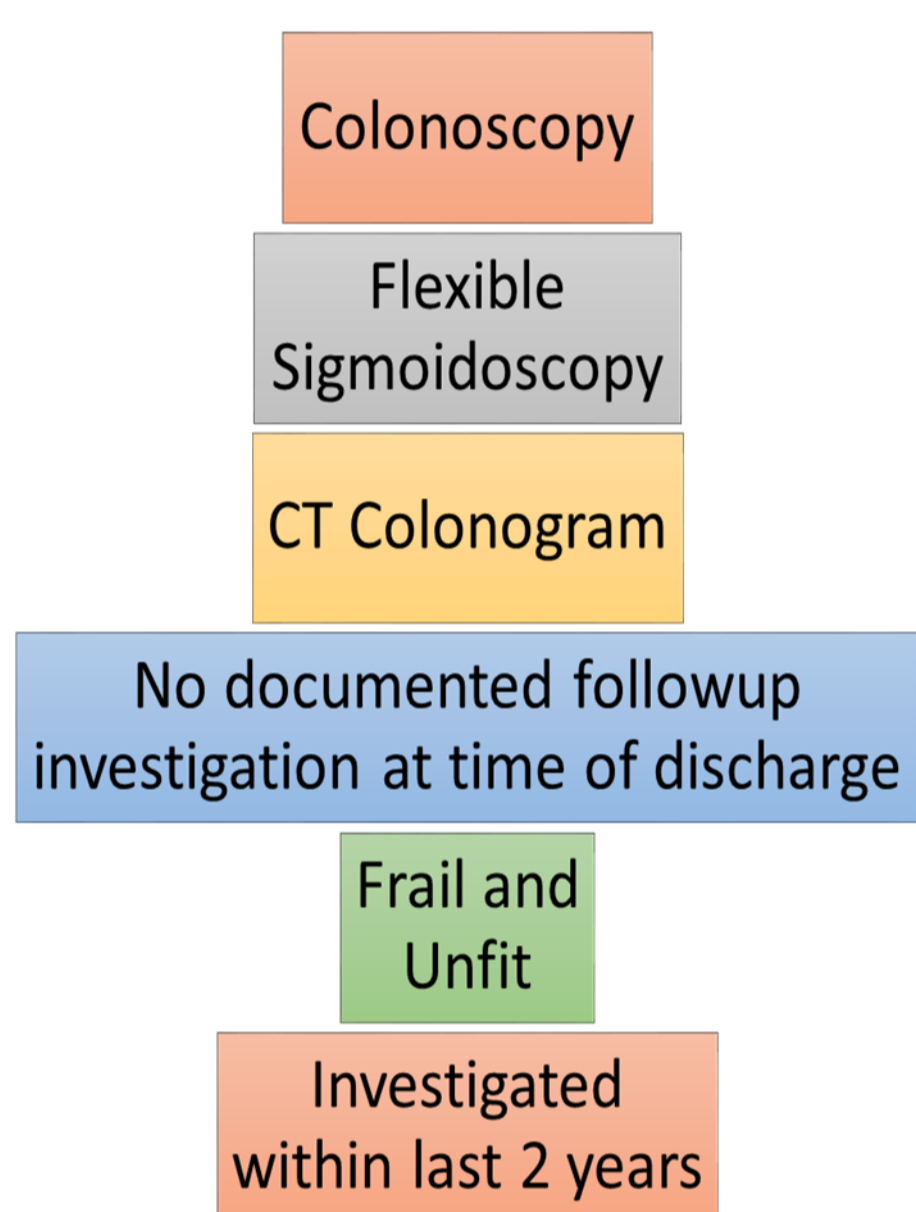


Mr Chaitanya Mehta  
Specialty Doctor Surgery  
Mr Paul Froggatt  
Consultant General and Emergency Surgeon

## Introduction

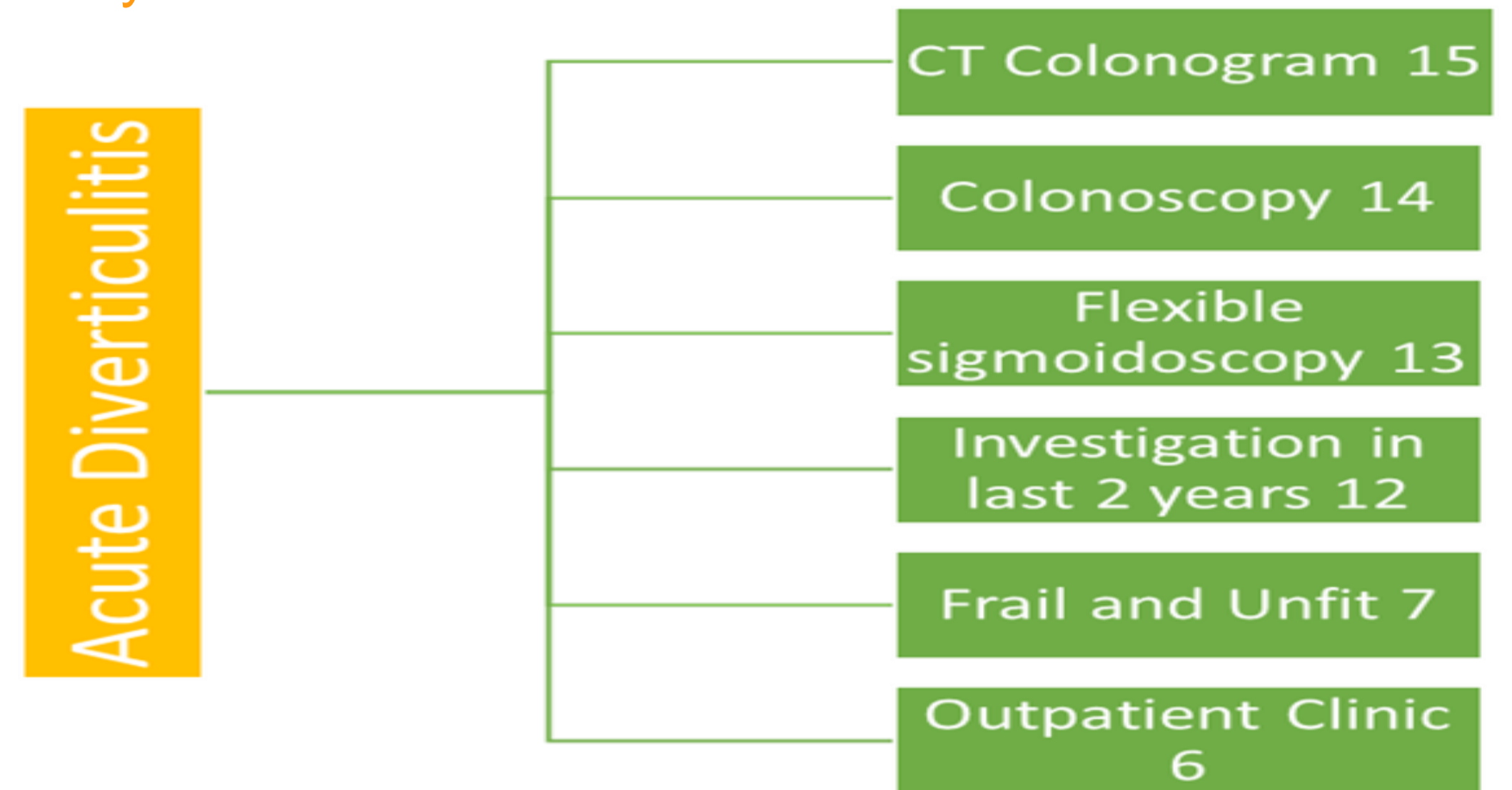
Patients admitted with uncomplicated Acute Diverticulitis form a sizable proportion of surgical take in our district general hospital. The follow up for these patients who are some times discharged without any inpatient investigations was variable.

## Follow-up Pattern Before QI Project



CT Colonogram done at 6 weeks after discharge would be least uncomfortable and safer as compared to colonoscopy and flexible sigmoidoscopy. It is also fall back investigation for a failed colonoscopy or flexible sigmoidoscopy. There are also financial advantages for a CT Colonogram. On discussion with the endoscopists diverticular disease was one of the major cause for failure of completion of colonoscopy or flexible sigmoidoscopy.

## Analysis

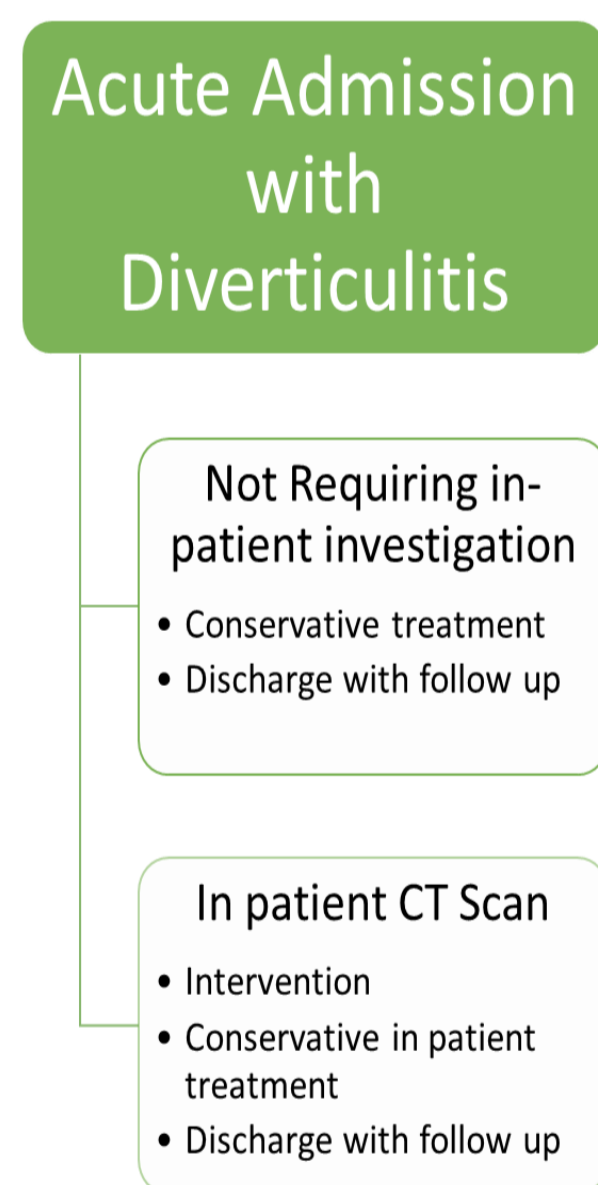


## Draft protocol discussed at Departmental Clinical Governance meeting

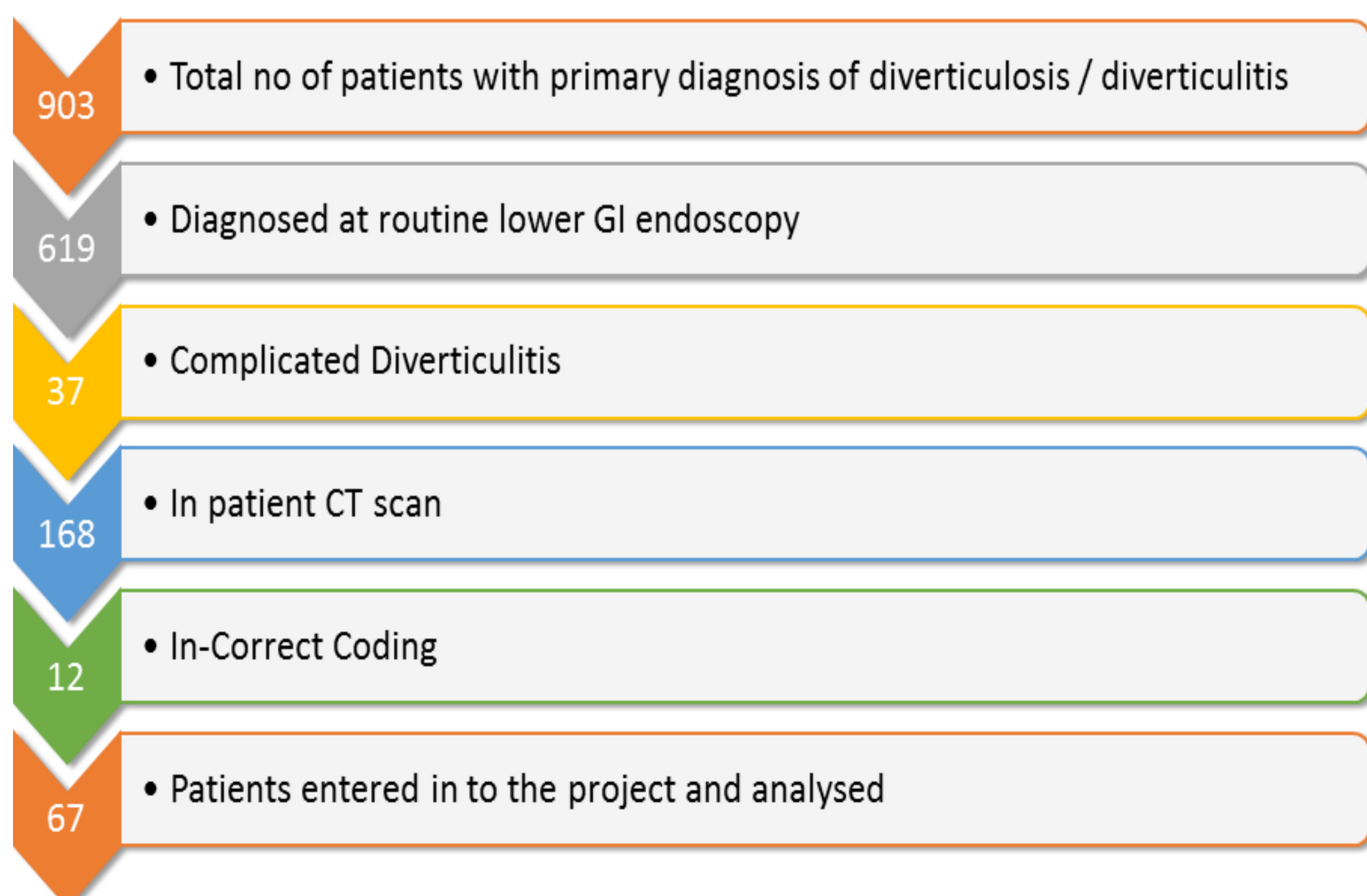


## Design and Methods

Department wide discussion to confirm that there was variation in follow up of patients with uncomplicated diverticulitis not needing in patient investigations or intervention was under taken. From the views obtained a patient pathway for all the patients with acute diverticulitis was drawn. The patients who did not have any inpatient investigation were shortlisted and pathways were mapped.



Data obtained from Audit department for patient coded as primary diagnosis of diverticulosis / diverticulitis in 2015.



## Outcomes from the consensus meeting



## Departmental Consensus Statement

To summarise we would like to investigate appropriate patients who didn't have any colonic investigation within last 24 months with an Outpatient CT Colonogram 6 weeks after discharge. All the patients needing a flexible sigmoidoscopy should have full bowel prep. The length of interval between discharge and investigation should be at least 6 weeks and should be clearly mentioned in the request forms and discharge summaries

## Future Plan

To re audit, analyse and present findings to the department one year post implementation of the new protocol.