

## Posters

### CQ - Clinical Quality - CQ - Efficiency and value for Money

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#### OLDER PERSON'S ASSESSMENT SERVICE (OPAS): DELIVERING COMPREHENSIVE GERIATRIC ASSESSMENT (CGA) IN THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT (ED)

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**Introduction:** Innovative models of service delivery are required to provide Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment for older patients presenting to the Emergency Department with frailty syndromes.

**Method:** In 2018, the Older Person's Assessment Service began a liaison service to the ED, taking referrals from the medical and ED teams for patients who presented with frailty

syndromes (falls, cognitive impairment, care dependence, polypharmacy). The service saw 437 patients April–August 2018. 76% of the patients assessed were discharged by utilising available community services, rapid access outpatient follow up and inpatient readmission off the acute site. The service was estimated to avoid 50–80 admissions per month to medicine (saving 17–23 beds a year) and was commissioned as a permanent service. Phase 2 In 2020, a dedicated unit within ED was allocated to OPAS, enabling the acceptance of patients directly from triage and from the Ambulance Service by direct referral. This provided rapid access to specialist assessment, continued access to Elderly Care services, avoided exposure to coronavirus related admissions and the risks of nosocomial infection associated with admission. The service operates from 8 am–4 pm on weekdays.

**Results:** Between June 2020 and October 2021, the service saw 1,173 new patients. 988 patients (84.5%) were discharged off the acute site on the day of assessment. 68 (5.79%) patients were admitted to other facilities run by the Health Board (e.g Inpatient Readmission). The average age of an OPAS patient was 83 yrs and had a CFS > 5. Readmission rate at 14 days was 4% (47). Of the 253 patients who were admitted to an inpatient setting, 13.5% (35) contracted nosocomial covid-19.

**Conclusion:** The service has been supported and funded to expand into extended weekday hours as a result of this success and there are plans for future 7 day working.