

Poster Presentations

181 FIGHTING BACK AGAINST FRAILTY—THE INTRODUCTION OF A DEDICATED FRAILTY HUB

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Background: Quarantine, lockdowns and mandatory isolation have slowed the transmission of Covid-19. However, these public health measures have amplified frailty in our vulnerable older person population by increasing social disconnection, reducing exercise and access to early interventions. In response to this increasingly dependent older population we introduced a ‘frailty hub’ in our hospital. This hub allowed early access to a geriatric review as well as a broader multidisciplinary team intervention.

Methods: We performed a cross sectional review of our new hub which was introduced in our tertiary centre to prioritise care of the older person. We analysed attendees from February to June 2021 (20 weeks of data).

Results: There were 121 new patient reviews and 127 follow up consultations. Commonly requested reason for referral was medical assessment (30%), cognitive assessments (30%) and falls (28%). Referral sources were analysed and included consultant referrals (11% n = 13), GP referrals (55% n = 67), multidisciplinary team referrals (6% n = 7) and emergency department referrals (26% n = 32). The average age of those review was 79 years (range 59 years to 99 years). Of all patients 65% were reviewed by physiotherapist, 45% were seen by an occupational therapist, 10% were seen by a speech and language therapist or dietician. 85% had a medication changes. 95% had a follow up review with either a geriatrician or advanced nurse practitioner.

Conclusion: Innovation is required to appropriately target our most vulnerable frail adults. The pandemic has had a detrimental effect on some older adult’s function. Our hub is targeting this group and optimising their care. These are our preliminary findings, we plan on doing further analysis.