



# Developing hospital front door frailty services

Tuesday 20 August 2024

Supporting better quality health and social care for everyone in Scotland



# Welcome

## **Dr Lara Mitchell**

National Clinical Lead for Acute Care,  
Healthcare Improvement Scotland

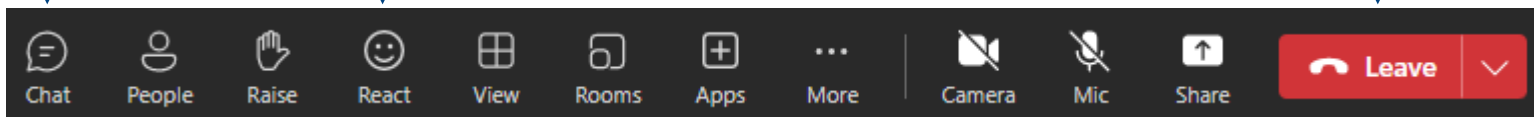


# Housekeeping

Use **Chat** to introduce yourself, raise any questions you may have for the speakers and also post comments.

**React** to others contributions with emojis.

Press **leave** at the end of the webinar.



Your camera and mic have been automatically switched off for this webinar

# Troubleshooting

Any technical issues please contact:

**Gemma Rehill**

MS Teams chat @GemmaRehill

Email: [gemma.rehill@nhs.scot](mailto:gemma.rehill@nhs.scot)





## **This webinar will be recorded.**

The webinar recording and outputs will be shared on our [webpage](#) following the session.

# Agenda

Time	Topic	Lead
13:00	Welcome and introductions	Dr Lara Mitchell, National Clinical Lead for Acute Care, Healthcare Improvement Scotland
13:05	British Geriatric Society principles for establishing front door frailty services	Dr Elinor Burn, Senior Geriatric Medicine Registrar, Leicester Royal Infirmary
13:35	Identification and assessment of frailty and comprehensive geriatric assessment huddles	Dr Laura Duffy, Consultant Geriatrician, and Erin Walker, Advanced Practice Physiotherapist in Frailty, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Glasgow Royal Infirmary
13:45	Multidisciplinary team working, leadership and community connections	Hazel Gilmour, Frailty NMAHP Consultant, NHS Lanarkshire and North Lanarkshire HSCP
13:55	Q&A	All
14:10	Evaluation and close	Dr Lara Mitchell, National Clinical Lead for Acute Care, Healthcare Improvement Scotland

## **Dr Elinor Burn**

Senior Geriatric Medicine Registrar

Leicester Royal Infirmary



# Developing front door frailty services

Dr Elinor Burn

Geriatric Medicine Registrar  
Flexible Portfolio Trainee – QI Theme  
University Hospitals of Leicester

Contributions from Dr Amy Armstrong  
Emergency Medicine Consultant, Edinburgh

Supporting better quality health and social care for everyone in Scotland



# What we will cover

- BGS Mapping the UK landscape survey
- BGS fellow role
- BGS Advice on setting up services principles
  - Prioritise development
  - Prove your need
  - Map your organisation and consider intervention points
  - Identify frailty and trigger CGA
  - Build relationships and plan the workforce

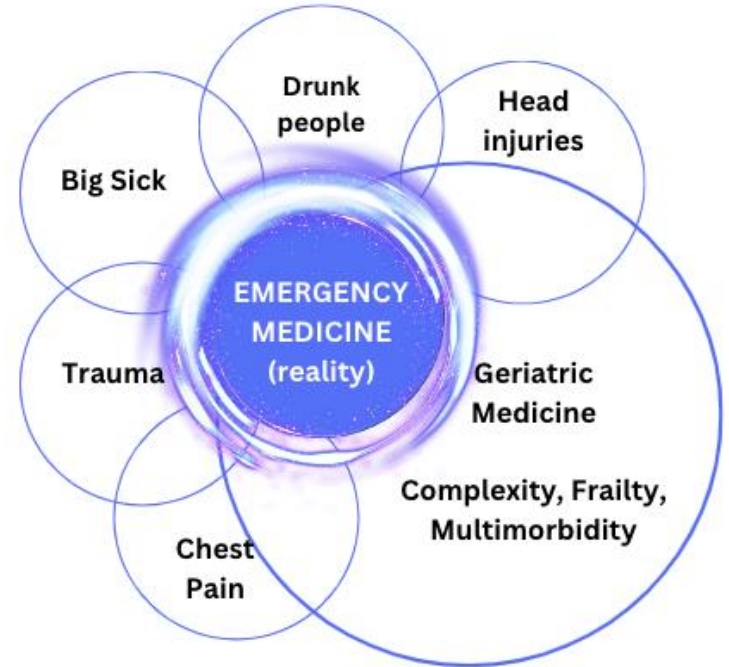
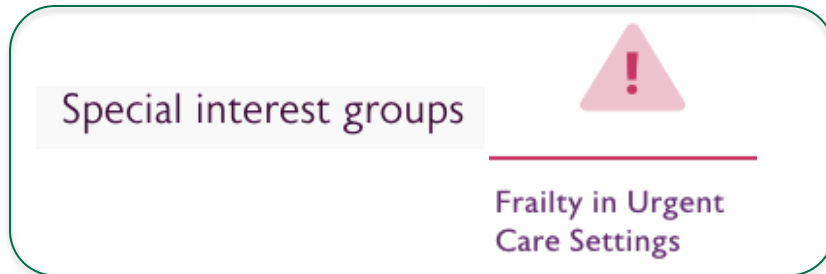
## Front door frailty: Advice on setting up services



Use one word to describe  
your frailty service

# How did this work start?

- Frailty, multi-morbidity and complexity is a huge part of ED take
- Recognise harms of hospitalisation and long ED waits. Is there an alternative?
- Lack of practical advice available for setting up these services

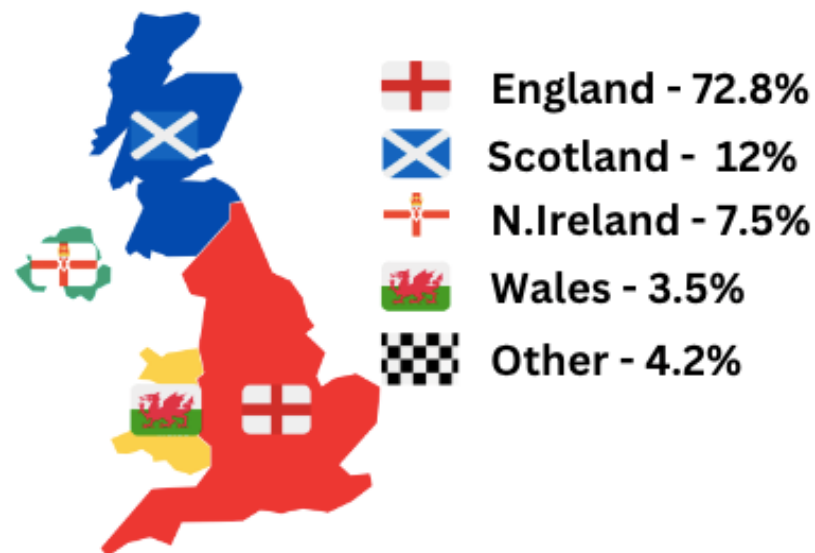
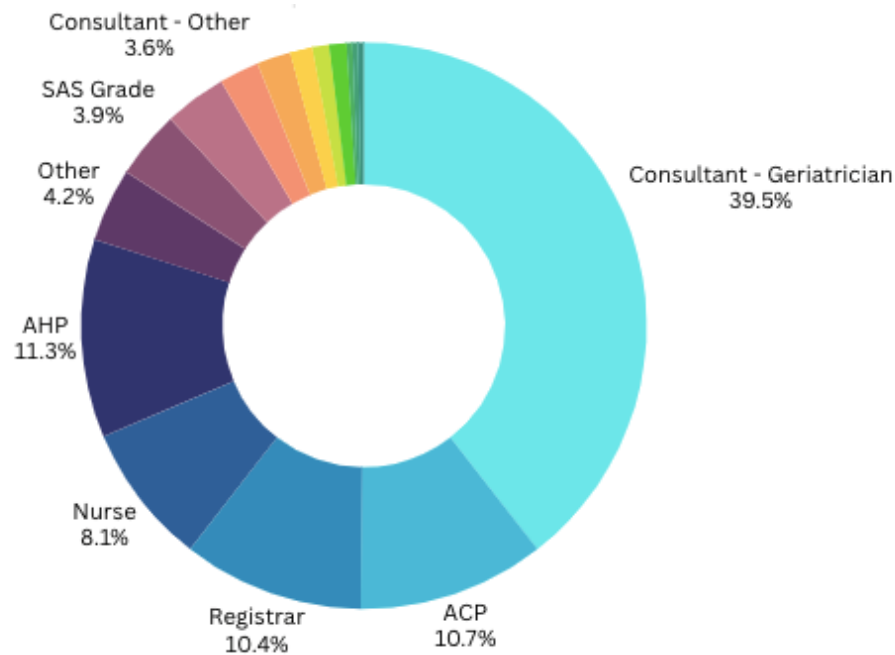


# BGS Survey



- “Help the Frailty in Urgent Care Settings SIG understand the existing front door frailty systems in the UK”
- 8 questions
- Emailed to SIG members
- 309 responses, 200 datasets

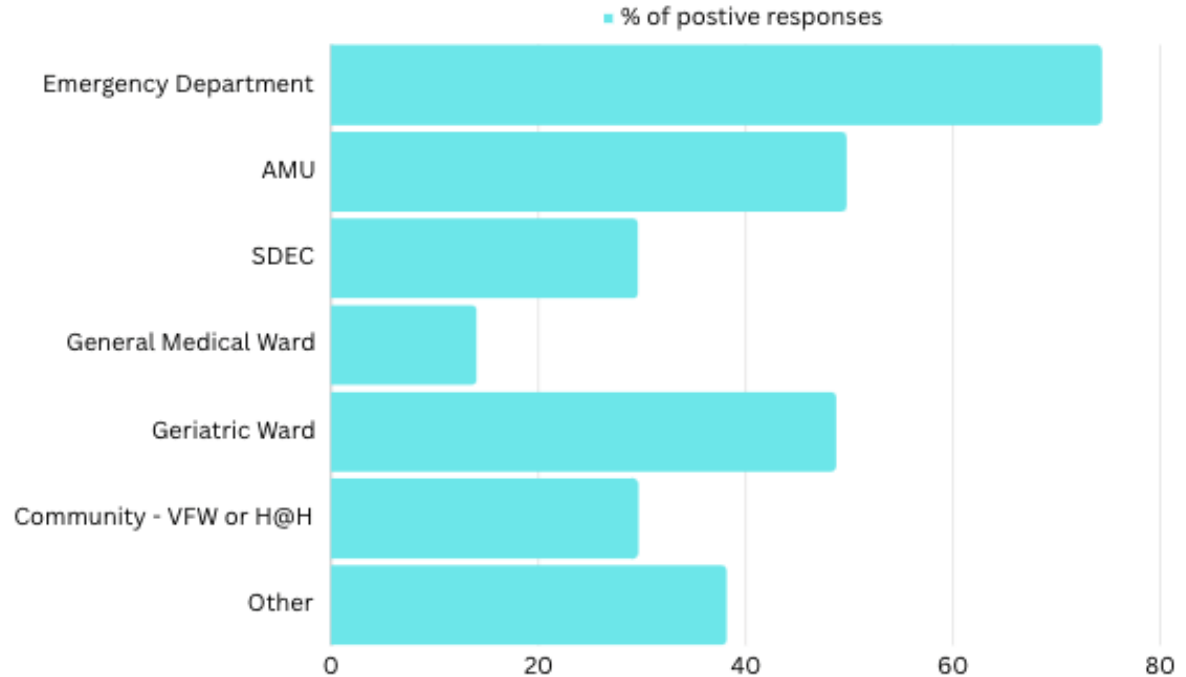
# Demographics



# Where is frailty identified/screened for routinely in your hospital?

(tick all that apply)

- Early identification key...if it results in a change to patient journey!
- New frailty CQUIN 23/24 encouraging screening in NHSE
- 'Inconsistently' was free text impression!



Other: GP practices, surgical wards/POPS services, orthogeriatric settings and major trauma wards, acute frailty assessment/admission units, care homes, Day Hospital, ambulance services and stroke wards

# England targets

## CQUIN05: Identification and response to frailty in emergency departments

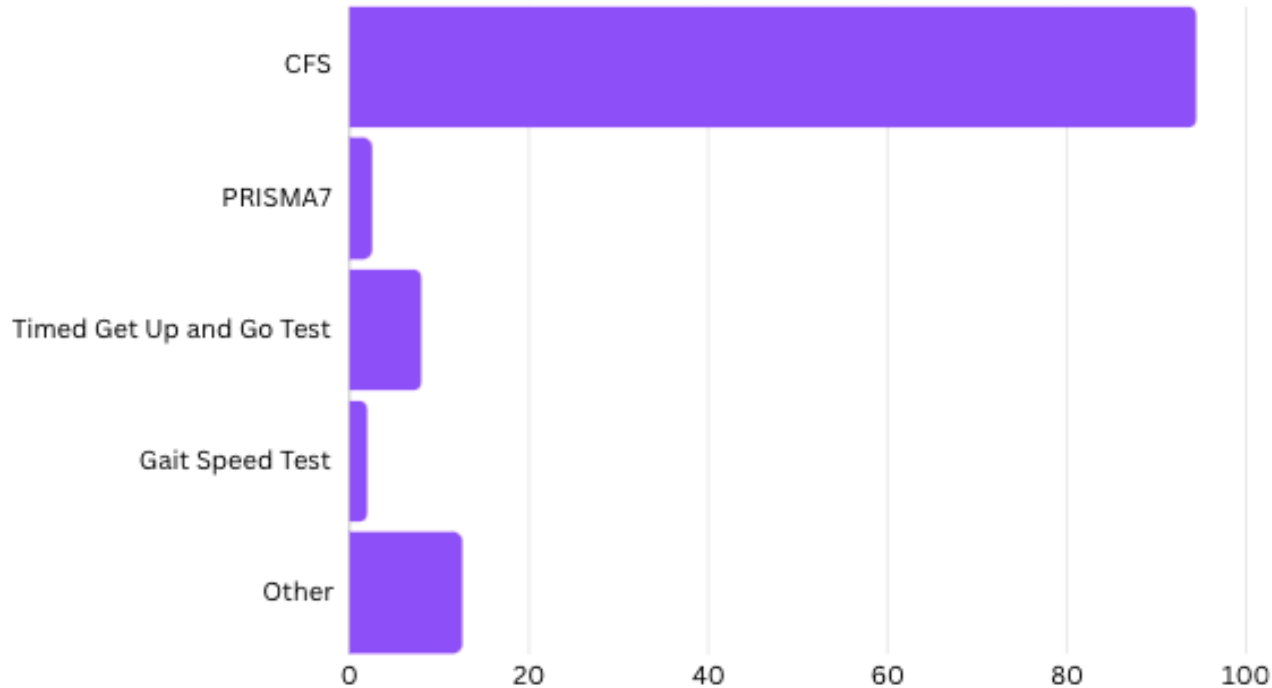
### Description

Achieving 30% of patients aged 65 and over attending A&E or same-day emergency care (SDEC) receiving a clinical frailty assessment and appropriate follow up.

FRAIL is a mnemonic for the 5 key principles of an acute frailty service:

- **Focus on the acute problem:**
  - assess patients on arrival and treat the acute condition they have presented with
  - complete a clinical frailty assessment within 30 minutes of arrival
- **Refer:**
  - refer to the multidisciplinary acute frailty service if needed
  - liaise with other key services to support same day discharge
- **Assess:**
  - initiate a Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment (CGA) to further assess the patient
- **Identify needs:**
  - aim to personalise needs and support a patient-centred approach
- **Leave:**
  - discharge the patient on the same day, with a discharge summary that links the patient into other key services for ongoing care

# Please describe which tool(s) are used for frailty screening in your receiving area



Others: EFI, HIS THINK frailty tool, Edmonton or Fried's models (lots of people naming Rockwood)



Android



Apple app store

[Clinical frailty scale app](#)



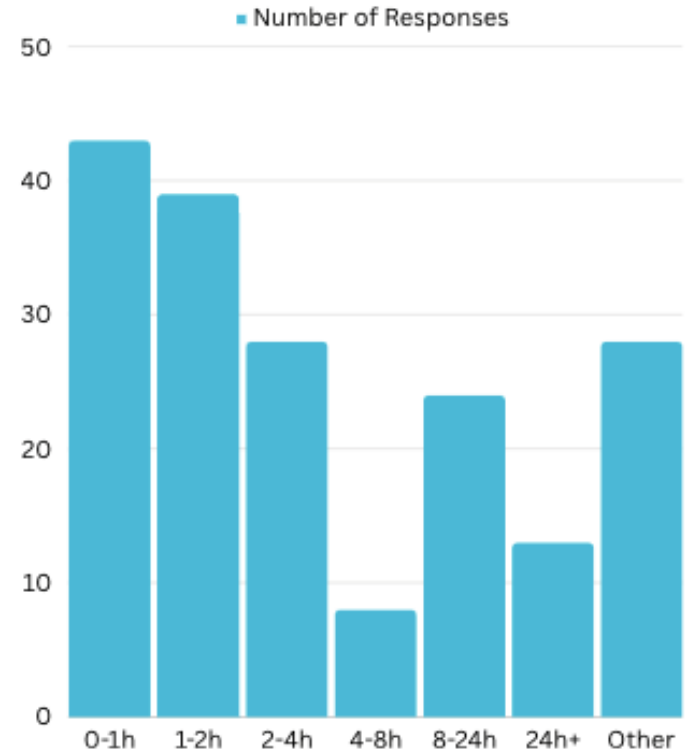
# How long on average does it take for a patient to receive clinical frailty screening following their arrival to hospital or care setting ?

## VARIABLE

- Probably early peak in EDs/AMU in first 4 hours (or frailty specific equivalent)

## THEN

- Later peak >8 hours e.g. in-hours when on geriatric ward or reviewed by geriatric wider MDT team member

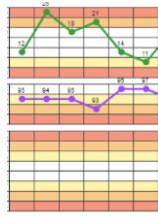


Please describe the main patient cohorts or referral guidelines/criteria that the Acute Frailty Service in your organisation sees.

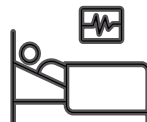
**AGE**



**NEWS**



**CARE HOME RESIDENTS**



**DISCUSSED WITH TEAM**



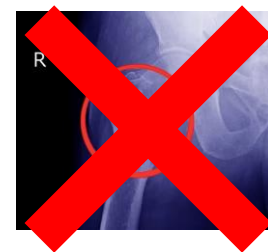
**FRAILTY SYNDROMES/ 'GERIATRIC GIANTS'**



**CLINICAL FRAILTY SCALE**



**ESTIMATED LOS < 72H**



**NEEDS OTHER SPECIALTY INPUT**

# Survey conclusions

1. Frailty identification and screening is increasing
2. Clinical Frailty Score is the most widely used tool
3. Time to screening and frailty identification is variable
4. Criteria for what 'Front Door Frailty' is varies widely



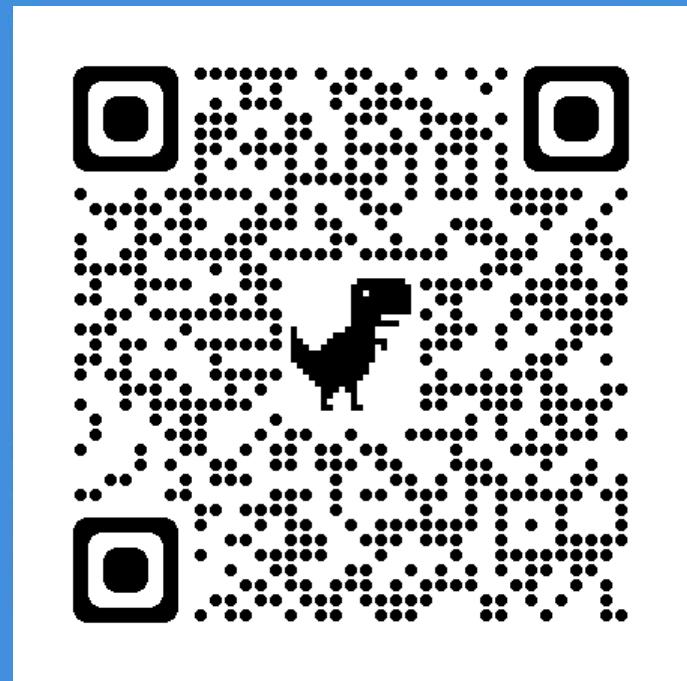
# British Geriatrics Society Fellowship

- Part time
- Two months
- Supervision from BGS Policy Manager
- Virtual working post
- Concept defined, but the final piece of work was developed organically



# BS FRONT DOOR FRAILTY

Advice on setting  
up services



## Front door frailty: Advice on setting up services



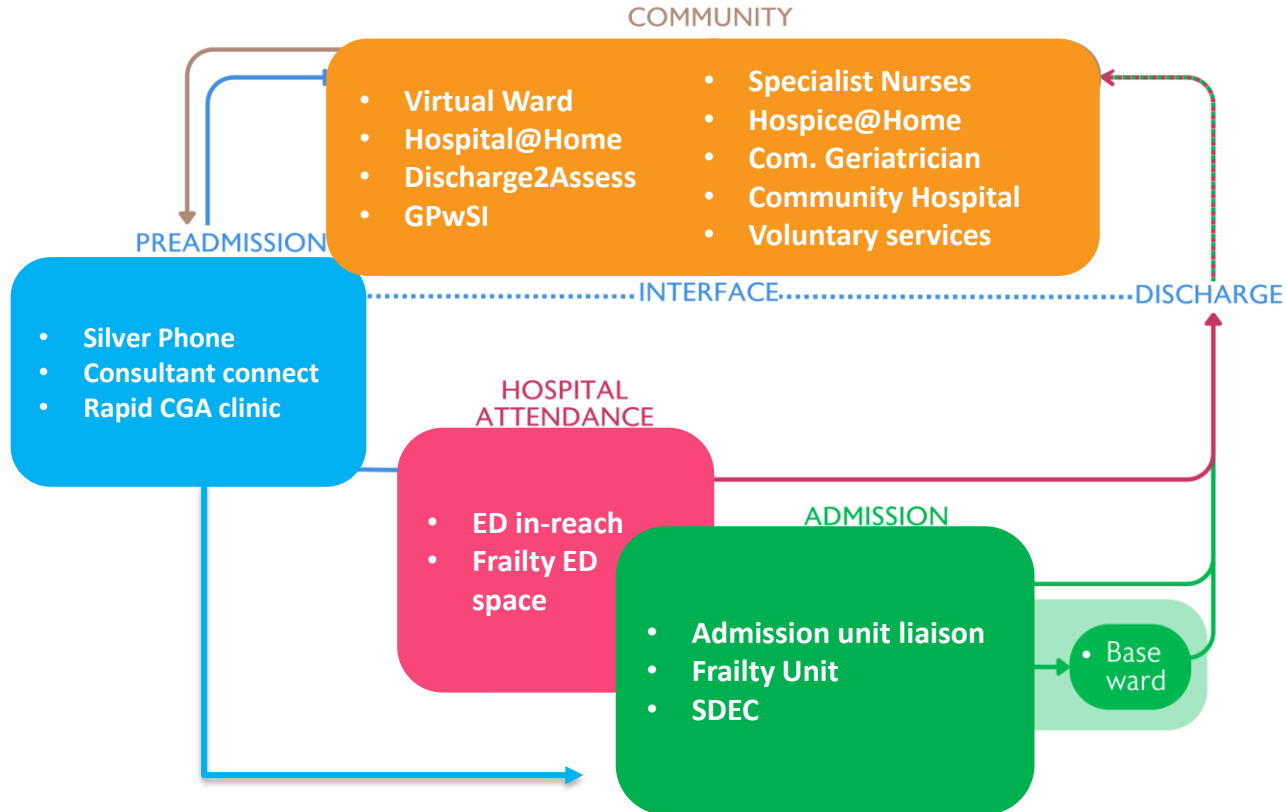
- FDF services have a positive impact everywhere that they have been implemented effectively
- There is no perfect recipe to create a FDF service
- Here is a compendium of advice and experiences from established services

**1. Prioritise the development of the service**

**2. Prove your need**



### 3. Map your organisation and consider intervention points





**4. Identify frailty and trigger the start of CGA**

**5. Build relationships and plan the workforce**

***CFS***

# Conclusions

- Start somewhere, start small
- Perfection is the enemy of progress
- Find your tribe
- Person dependant processes may be needed initially
  
- Raised many questions and scope for further work
  - National dataset for FDF work
  - How to share resources with emerging FDF sites
  - How to facilitate full collaboration with healthcare services across all sectors
    - BGS networks
    - Future NHS Collaboration Platform

**Frailty is everyone's business**



**FutureNHS**

Collaboration Platform

**BGS**

**British Geriatrics Society**  
Improving healthcare  
for older people

# BGS FRONT DOOR FRAILTY

Advice on setting  
up services

British Geriatrics Society  
Improving healthcare for older people

BGS

Front door frailty: Advice  
on setting up services





## **Dr Laura Duffy**

Consultant Geriatrician

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Glasgow  
Royal Infirmary



## **Erin Walker**

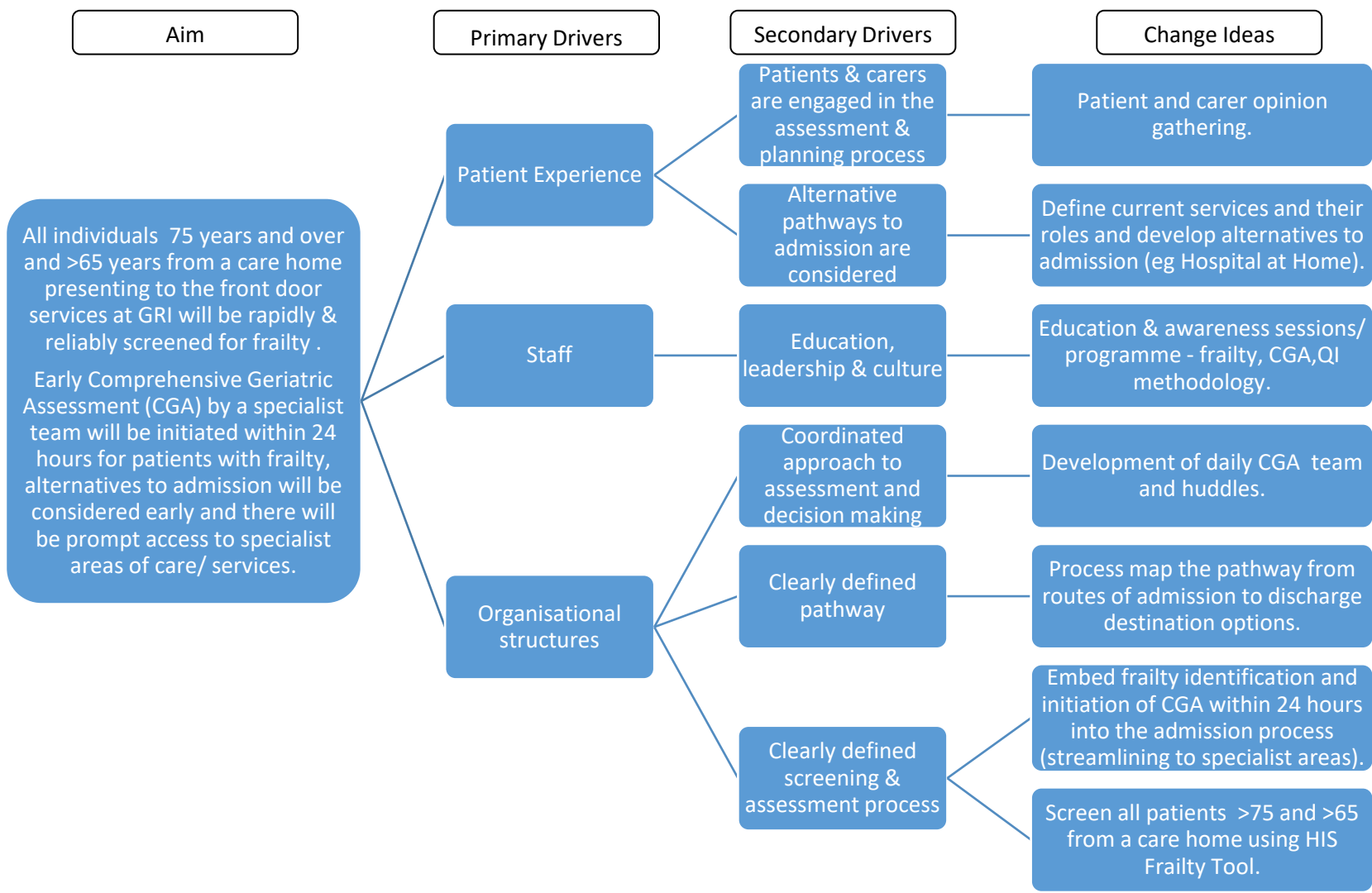
Advanced Practice Physiotherapist in Frailty

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Glasgow  
Royal Infirmary

# Focus on Frailty GRI

August 2024





# Building blocks for change

Frailty services identified as key departmental priority.

Frailty session with Senior Leadership Team (review of previous work).

Member of national collaborative (HIS Focus on Frailty).

Education sessions with key groups (e.g. AHPs, ECANs, ED, bed management).

Key stakeholder group established.  
Meetings schedule and MS Teams page.

Process mapping of the identification of the patients with frailty within ED & AAU.

Process mapping of the patient journey through ED/ AAU and the initiation of CGA.

# Key phases

## 1. Frailty identification

- patients 75 years and over (and 65 years and over from care home) screened for frailty
- electronic version of HIS Frailty Assessment tool.

## 2. Streamlining to initiate early CGA

- OPS receiving area (ward 53)
- specialty downstream wards.

## 3. CGA huddles

- Frailty Assessment Proforma.

## 4. Frailty Assessment Area (or similarly named) and development of alternatives to admission.



# Themes

1. Patient identification

2. Signposting of patients with frailty to specialist area(s)

3. Co-ordination of care  
- joining up front door and downstream teams.

4. Frailty Assessment Unit (or similarly named).

**DEVELOPING  
THE TEAM**

# Themes

1. Patient Identification

2. Streamlining of patient pathway to specialist area(s)

3. Co-ordination of services

4. Patient Assessment Unit (initially named).

## DEVELOPING THE TEAM

- joining up front door and downstream teams.

## INTEGRATION

- between internal teams and acute and community.

# Themes

1. Patient identification

2. Streamlining of patient flow to specialist(s)

3. Co-ordination of services

4. Patient Assessment Unit similarly named

**DEVELOPING  
THE TEAM**

- joining up  
front door  
and  
downstream  
teams.

**INTEGRATION**

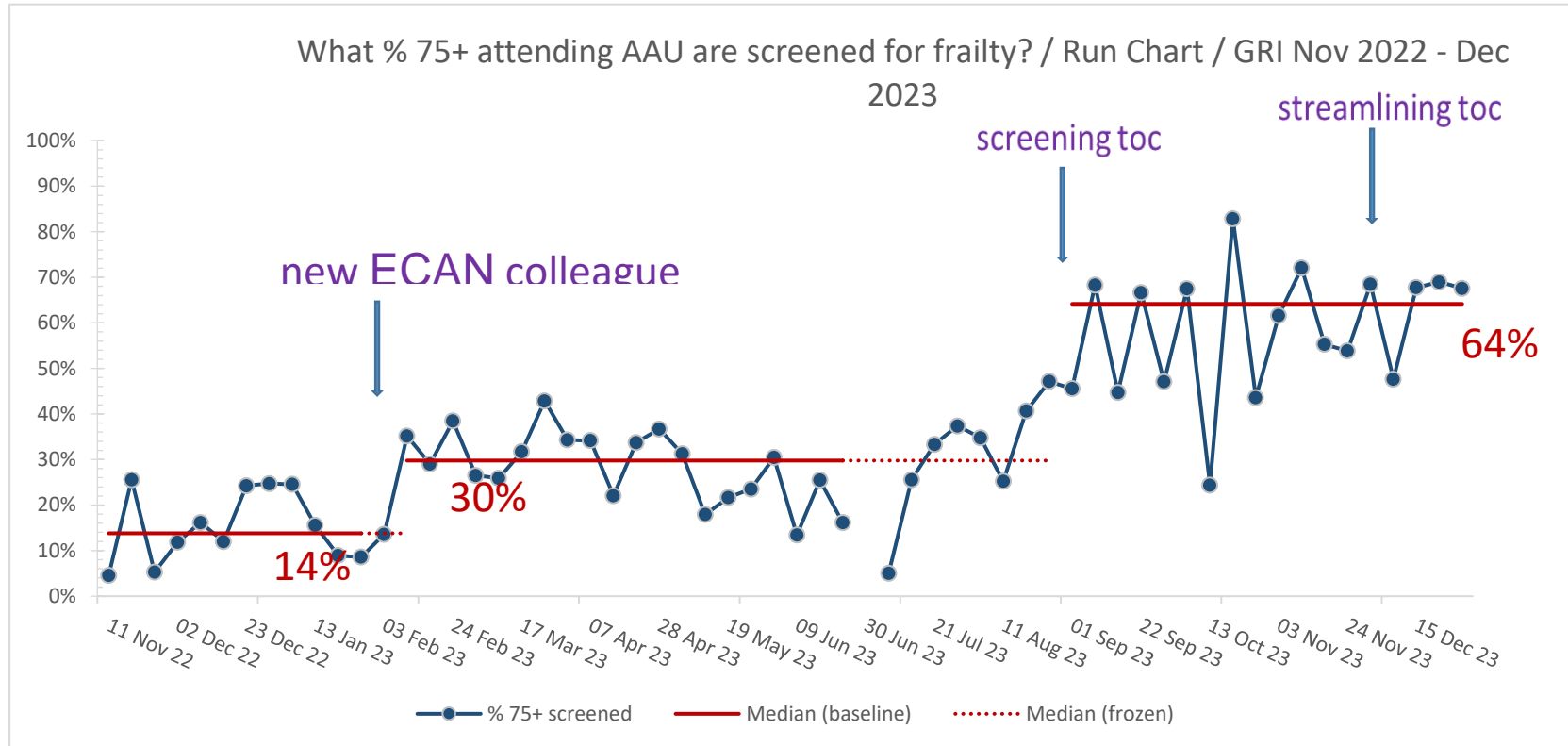
- between  
internal  
teams and  
acute and  
community.

**EDUCATION**

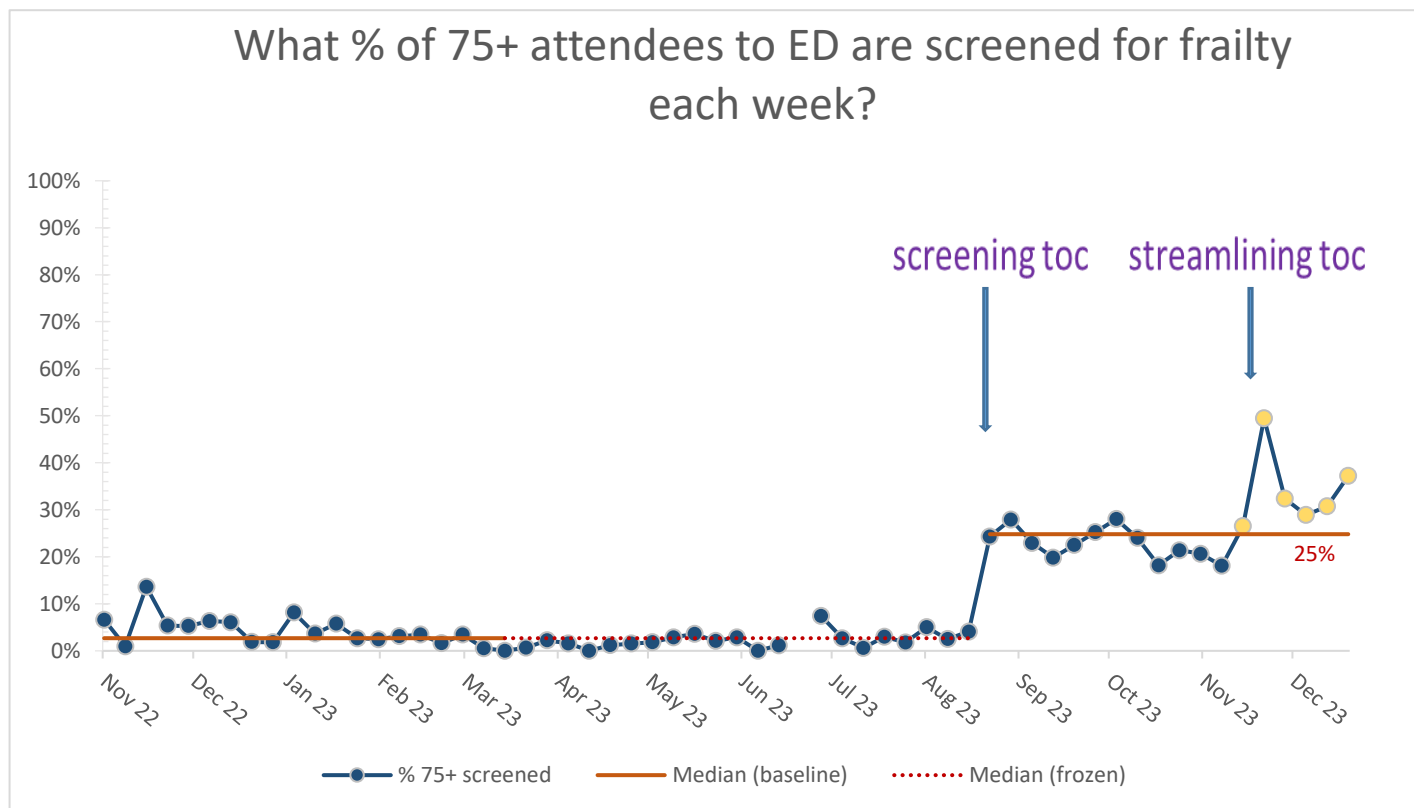
# Testing change – frailty identification

- 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023
  - Patients 75 and over who were being admitted screened for frailty in AAU and ED at the point of the SBAR completion.
    - HIS Frailty Assessment Tool completed at point of SBAR completion (medics in ED, nurses in AAU).
    - ECANs began doing ‘sweep’ of AMRU and AAU at 7am and 3pm.

# Frailty identification - AAU

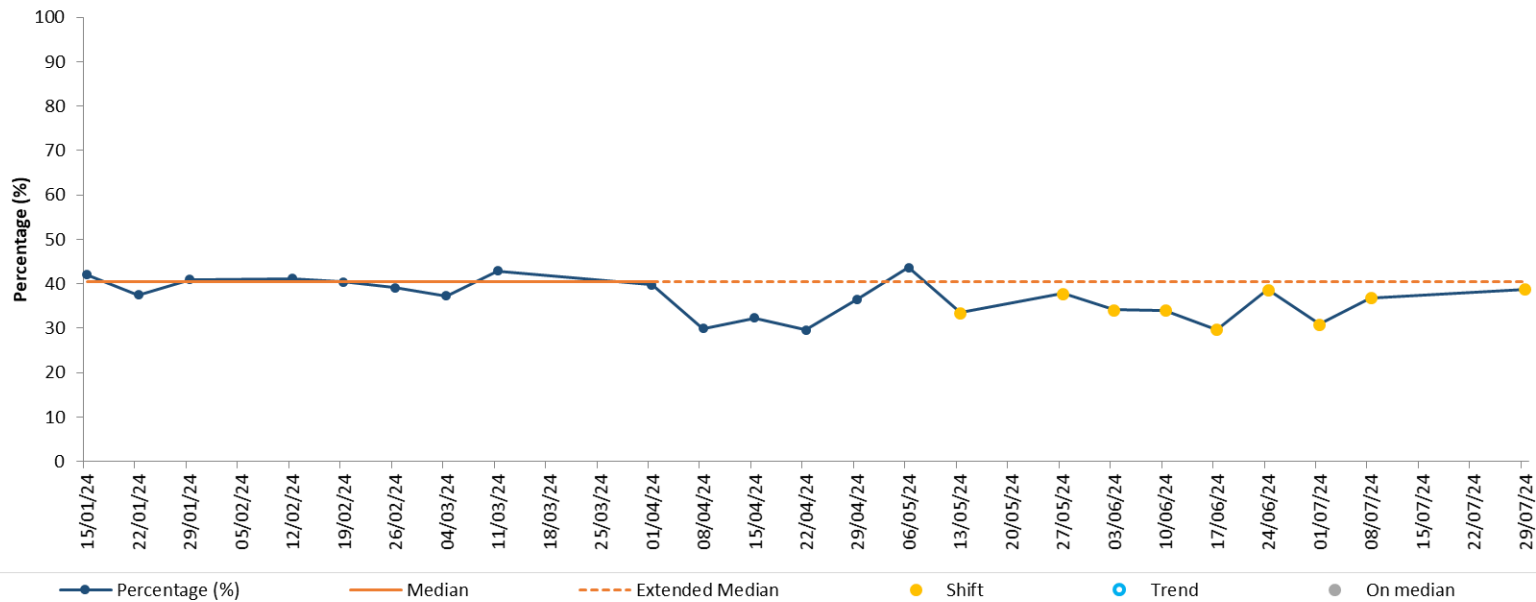


# Frailty identification - ED

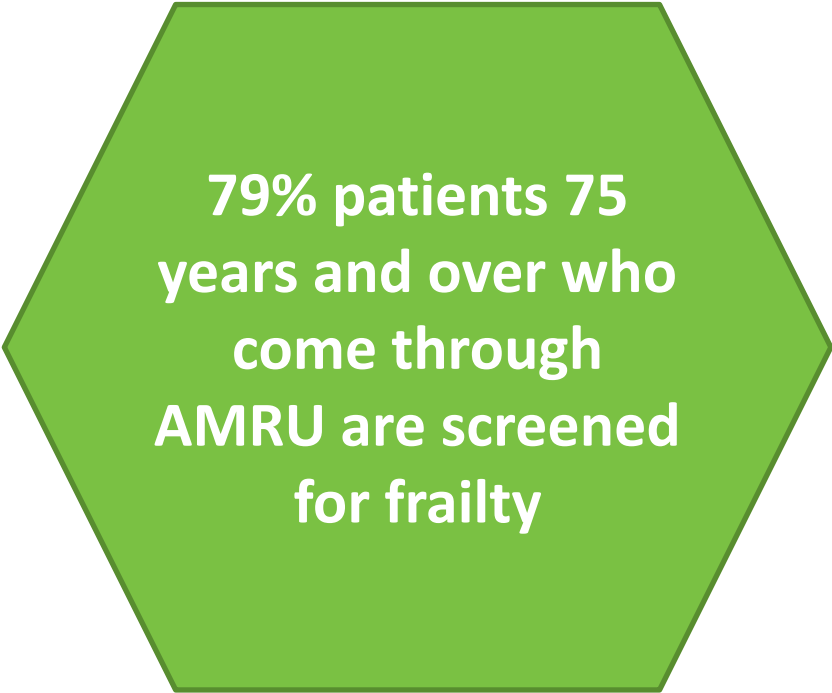


# Frailty identification – ED/AAU

% frailty screening - AAU / ED combined



# Frailty identification – AMRU



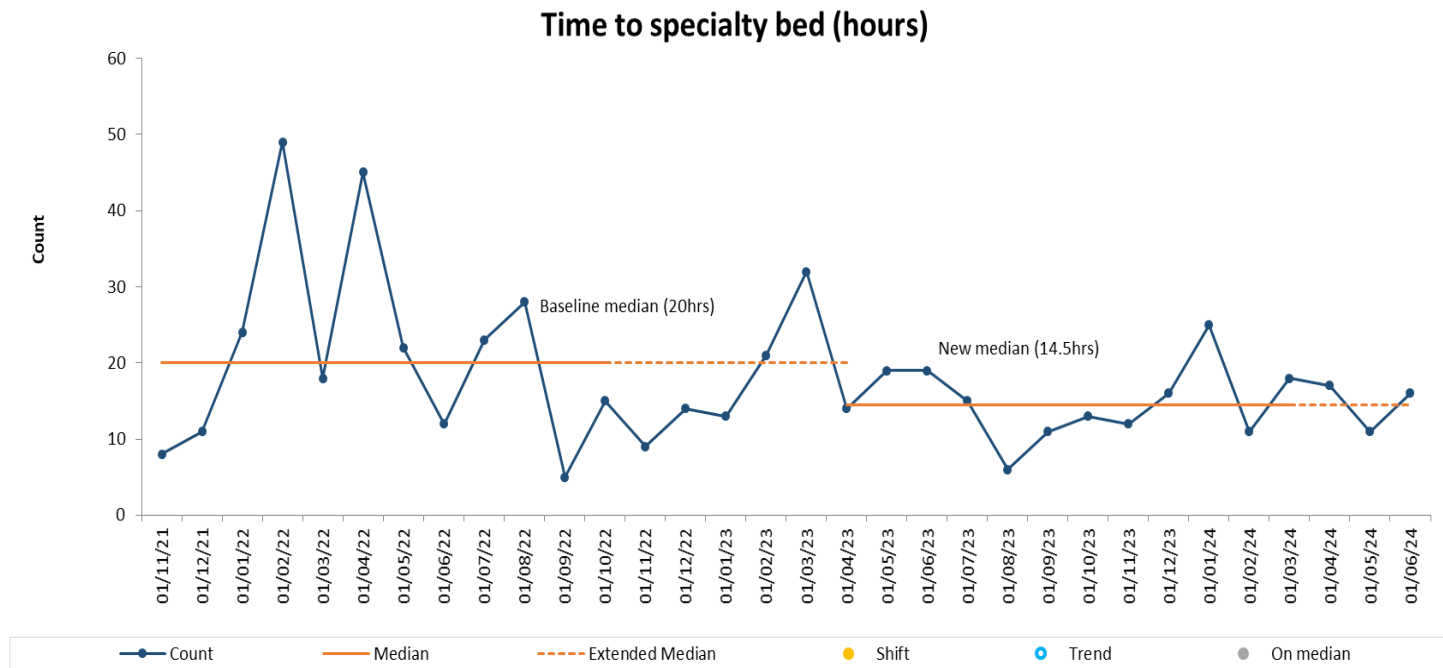
**79% patients 75  
years and over who  
come through  
AMRU are screened  
for frailty**



# Testing change – streamlining to specialty area(s)

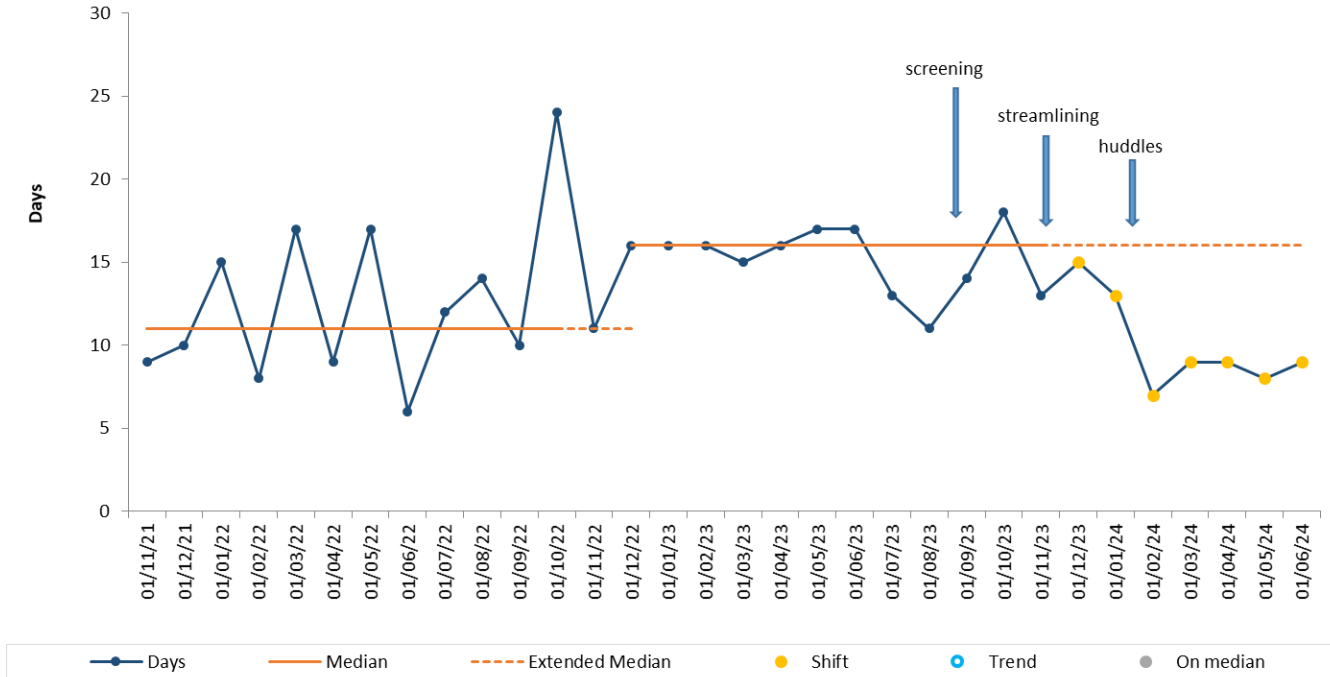
- 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023
  - Test of change to streamline patients with frailty to specialty beds/  
specialty receiving area (ward 53)
    - operational guide developed.

# Prompt specialty care



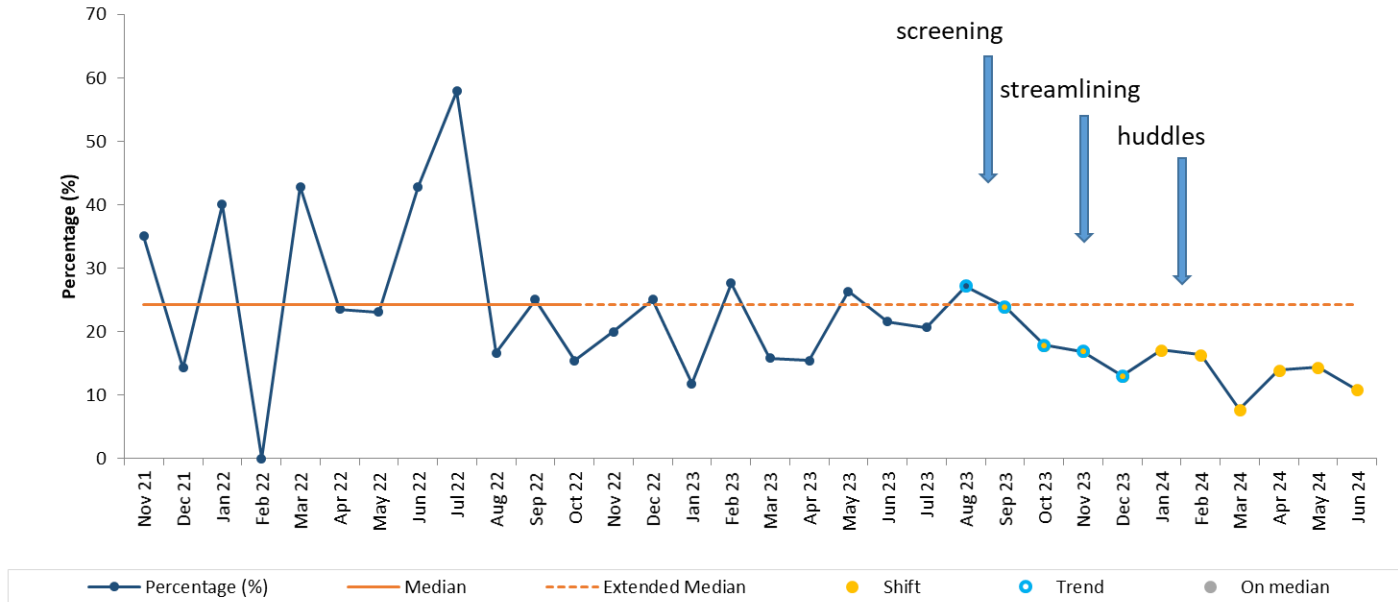
# Worth getting it right!

## Average Length of Stay OPS (days)



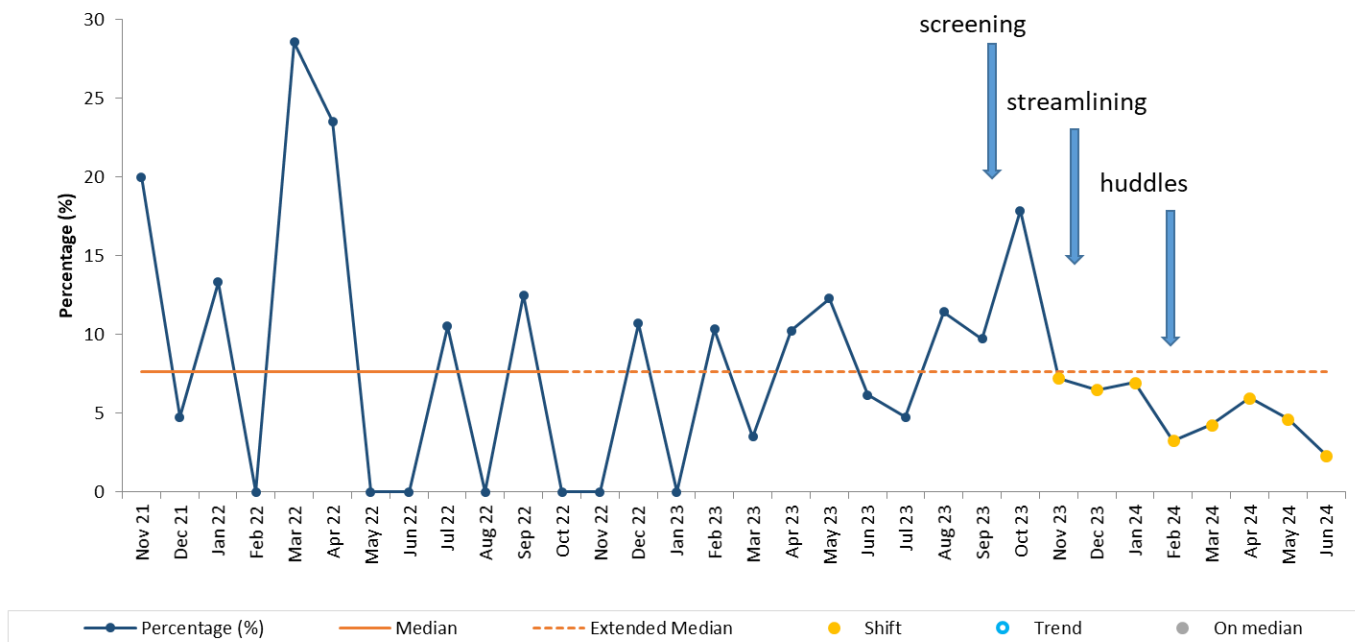
# Worth getting it right!

## % OPS Readmissions (frail) <30 days



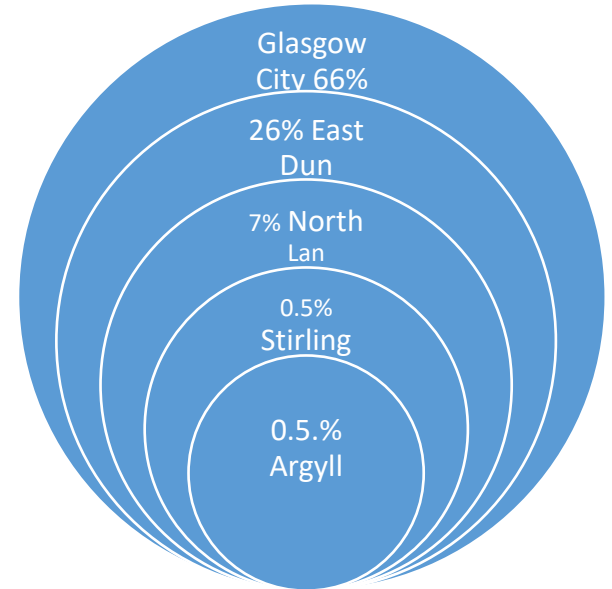
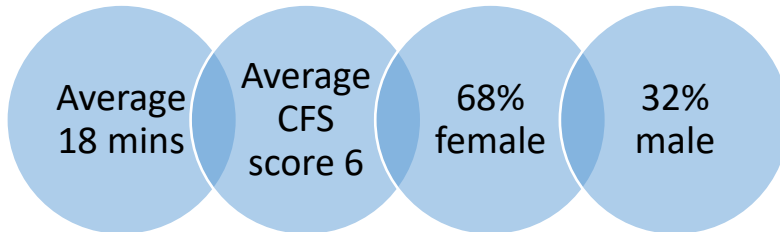
# Worth getting it right!

## % OPS Readmissions (frail) <7 days



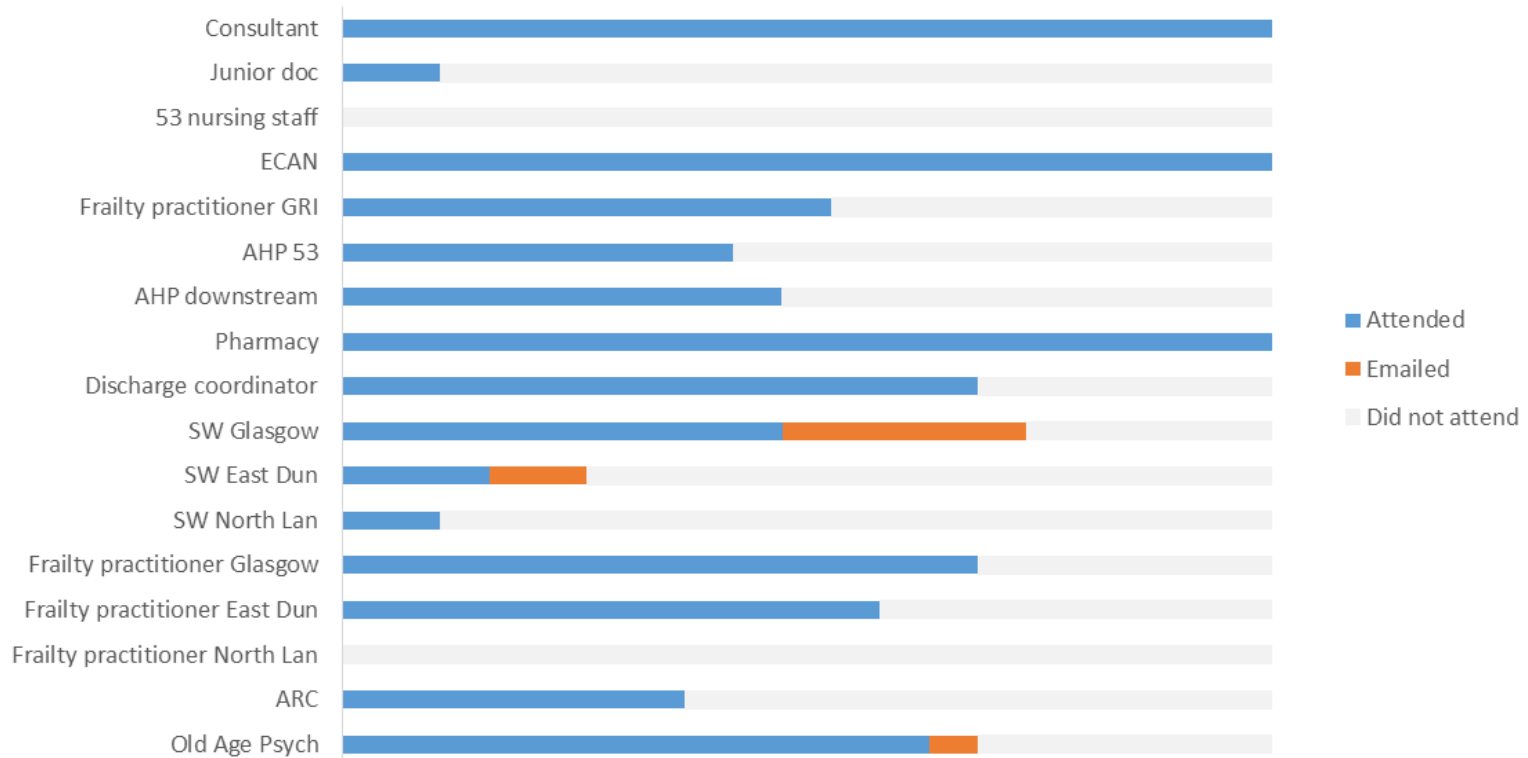
# Testing change – CGA huddles

- First 10 patients with frailty.
- List e-mailed out at 9am.
- After post take ward round at 12 midday (in-person and on MS Teams)
- Increase in the number of discharges from 53
- Key relationships building.



## What % of huddles are team members able to attend? Feb - Mar 2024

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%



# What has changed for the patients?

Increased numbers of AHP assessments and discharges from ward 53

Increased numbers of AHP assessments and steady numbers of patients discharged from ward 53 over recent months



Proactive Early Onward Referral/Signposting

Where required early onward referral can be made e.g. social work, orthotics, podiatry, homecare

Improved communication/team working

- within ward 53 team i.e. between medical staff, AHPs, ECANs and nursing staff
- between hospital and community



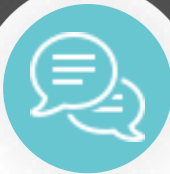
Timely CGA/Proactive AHP and ECAN Ax

In ward 53 mean time to AHP assessment is 1.3 days compared with 2.3 days in downstream OPS wards and 6.5 days for frail patients in medical wards



Early Carer/Relative Communication

Where appropriate contact is made with carers/relatives to establish collateral Hx and identify issues early and offer support where necessary



Expedited Homecare Access and Equipment Provision

Largely due to our proactive input and improved communication with community rehab teams





# Ward 53 - Patient Story



## SO WHAT?



- 1 Timely CGA and AHP assessment Early identification of issues relating to the patient and allowed the team to establish plan and ultimately expedite discharge home rather than requiring transfer to a downstream ward.
- 2 Proactive onward referral and signposting The patient was able to be referred to social work and homecare services for additional support and was signposted to other community services such as carer support to help to support her discharge from hospital. She was also able to be referred for urgent medical follow up for her remaining medical investigations.
- 3 Expedited homecare access and equipment provision The ward team were able to order homecare and provide equipment to support function at home



## WHAT HAPPENED?

The patient was assessed by the AHP team in ward 53 following assessment by the geriatrician and stroke team.

She underwent a Dix-Hallpike procedure to assess for BPPV and had an assessment of her mobility and function.

She was slightly off her normal functional level and a POC was discussed and agreed on to assist in the short term.

She was provided with a walking aid and a commode for use overnight.

On discussion she was desperate to return home to look after her husband but it was clear she was experiencing carer stress from looking after her husband so a social work referral was made and she was also signposted to some carer support resources. With her consent this was all discussed with her son. She was able to be discharged home that day with follow-up at the syncope clinic to complete her medical investigations as an outpatient.

## BACKGROUND

Patient: June McIntosh\*

Age: 80

Presenting Condition: admitted with dizziness of unknown cause

Social History: Mary lived with her husband - she is his main carer. She had distant support from extended family. She had recently felt that she was requiring additional support with extended ADLs. She was normally independently mobile.



Timely CGA and AHP assessment



Proactive onward referral and signposting



Expedited homecare access and equipment provision

# Learning along the way

Hard  
graft.

Build (and  
join) your  
team(s).

Planning  
makes  
perfect.

Beware  
the bumps  
(but jump).

Small things  
can make a  
big  
difference.

It's worth  
it!

Don't  
forget  
data.

Don't tire  
trying to do  
the right  
thing.

# Hazel Gilmour

Frailty NMAHP Consultant

NHS Lanarkshire and North  
Lanarkshire HSCP



# Whole System Approach to Frailty

Hazel Gilmour

*Frailty NMAHP Consultant*

20/08/2024

*HIS Frailty Learning System Webinar  
Developing Front Door Services*



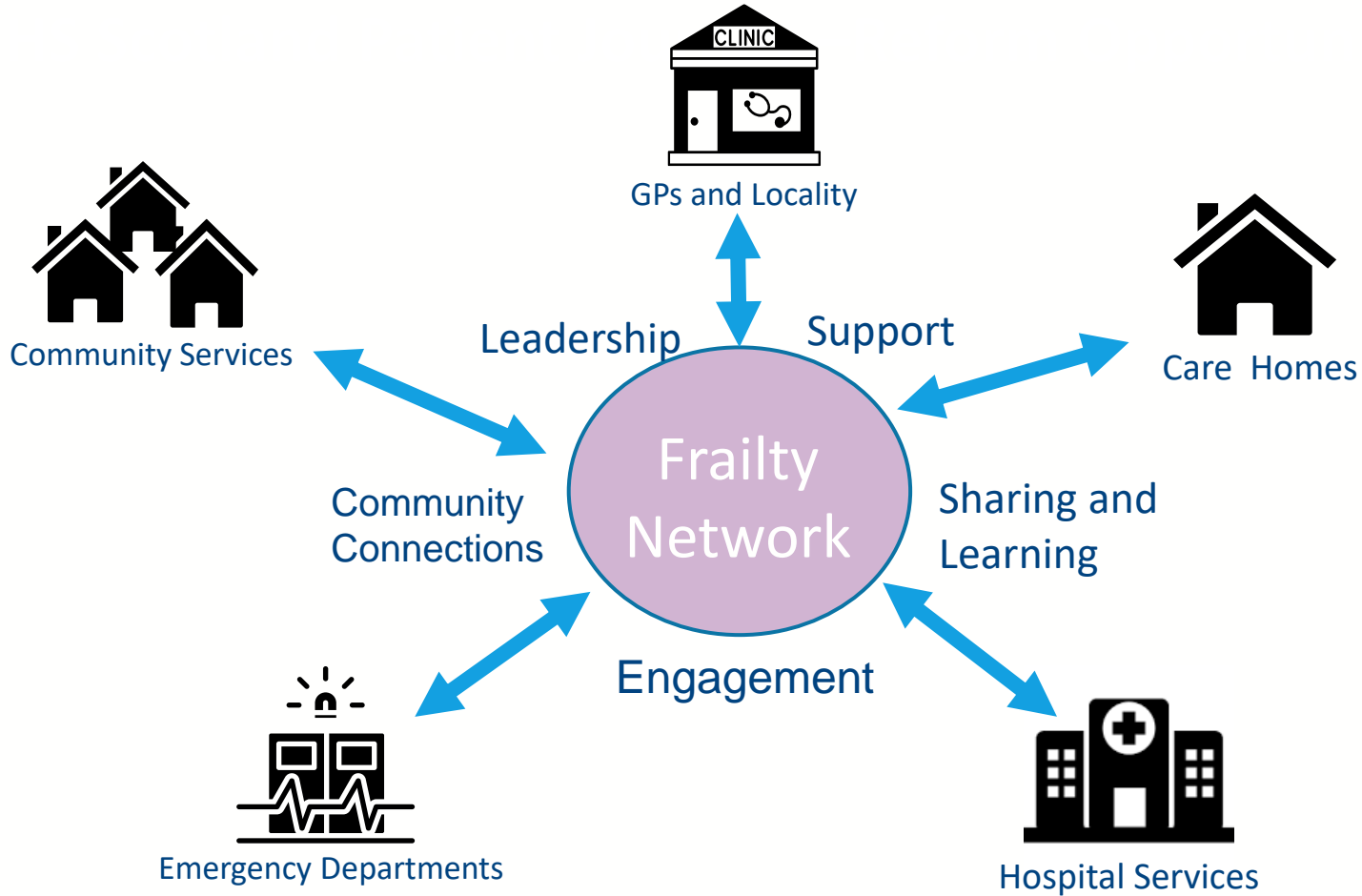
Our Health  
Together

# What is the Frailty Network?

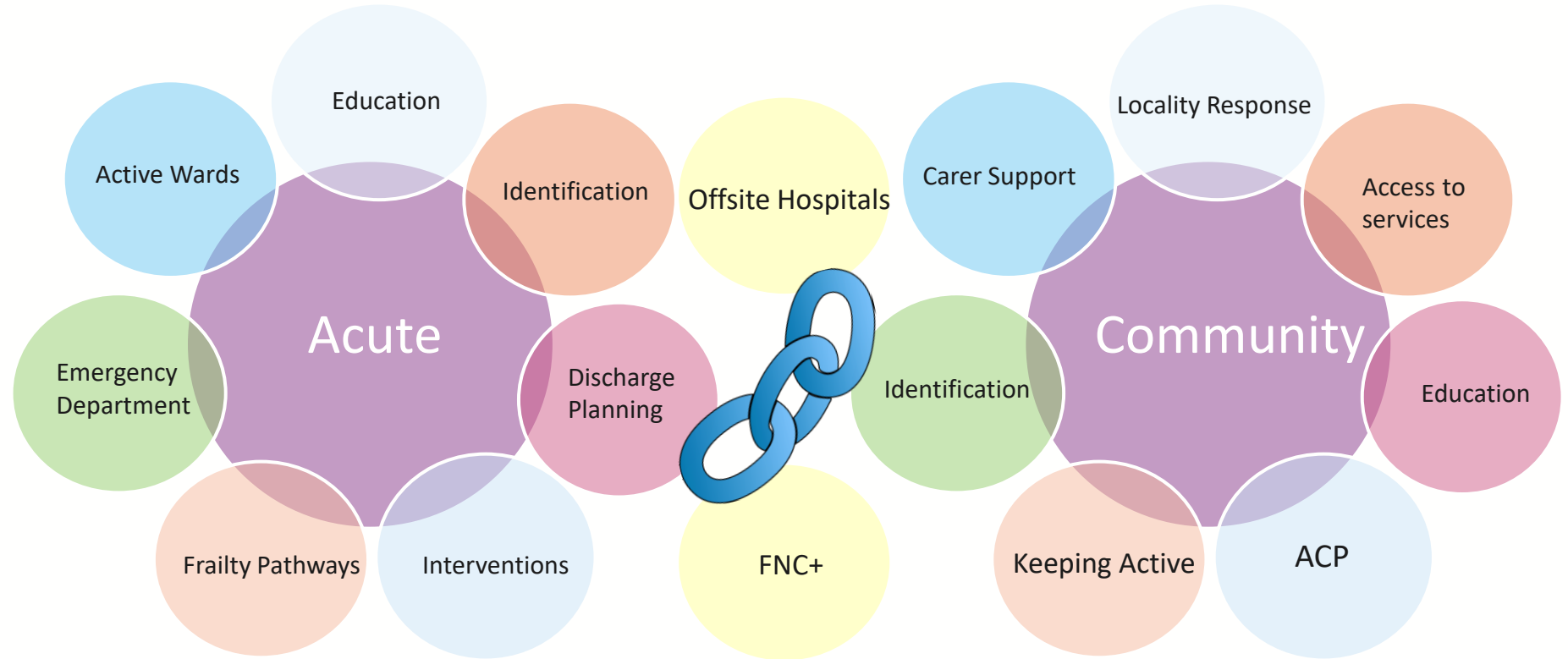
## The Frailty Network was established in November 2023

### Aims-

- Enhance care for frail patients through multidisciplinary collaboration across acute and community settings.
- Create partnerships with Health and Social Care teams, GPs, district nurses, and third sector organisations.
- Strive to provide realistic and patient-centric improvements in Lanarkshire.
- Proactive, personalised, and coordinated support to help frail older adults maintain independence and well-being.
- Encourage, Engage and Empower teams to improve our systems together.



# Whole System Approach to Frailty



# Ongoing New Ways of Working

## Highlighted Areas for Improvement

- Improving Identification Systems
- Understanding our data and Measurements
- Discharge Planning
- Anticipatory Care Planning
- Right Care, Right Place
- Increasing CGA Access
- Reducing Deconditioning
- Access to Services

## Ongoing New Ways of Working

- Interface Division
- FNC+
- Virtual Bed Capacity
- Rehabilitation Coordinators
- Offsite Bed Pharmacist
- Advanced AHP ED
- Frailty Units & Pathways
- Increasing CGA at the front door
- Active Wards
- ReSPECT documentation in NH
- Hospice Frailty Coordinator
- DN Frailty Scoring
- Locality Response

## Understanding our Systems

- Hospices
- District Nurses
- Carers Academy
- Mental Health
- Front door pathways
- Medical Pathways
- Offsite Pathways
- Surgical Pathways
- Orthopaedics
- Frailty Pathways
- GPs
- Pharmacy
- 3<sup>rd</sup> sector
- Home Care Teams





# Strategy for Preventing and Managing Frailty

2023 – 2028



getting  
it right  
for everyone

 HSCPs: Heads of Health, medical, nursing and AHP representation

 Acute: Clinical Leads COTE, Hospital at Home, operational and nursing leads;

 Corporate: Public Health, Health Improvement, planning leads, staff-side, EDI lead

 Community & Third sector representatives including older people and carer advocacy

 Local Authority representatives

 Community Representatives



- Place and Wellbeing - prevention and proactive support
- Integrated planned care
- Integrated Unscheduled care
- My Health, My Care, My Home framework for adults living in care homes
- Education and training

*It will help different parts of the health and social care system to **work together** and **share information**. We have invited people from our communities to **share their experiences** through group discussions and activities to guide our pathfinder project(s).*

# Delivery of the Frailty Strategy

## Promoting Health and Wellbeing

- Build social capital, community assets and create inclusive, compassionate age and dementia-friendly communities.
- Public messaging on healthy ageing and wellbeing in later life.
- Systematic identification of frailty in all care settings.
- Enhance digital inclusion and use technology to support older people to remain independent, at home.

## Tackling Inequalities

- All people experiencing frailty can access the right care, at the right time, in the right place.
- Co-design services with older people and families.
- Involve carers as equal partners, and support carers to remain well.
- Comprehensive person centred assessment relevant in all care settings.

## Delivering Sustainable Healthcare

- Scale up proactive future care planning and support for people with frailty in each locality.
- High-quality emergency care attuned to the needs of older people with frailty – specific focus on first 72 hours.
- Urgent community response in all localities will be well aligned with goal oriented reablement, intermediate care and rehab.
- All hospitals will plan for discharge from admission, reduce deconditioning/delirium and work with community partners to reduce LOS and improve transition of care.

# What are our challenges?

- Resource & Staffing
- Technology
- Expectation
- Burn out
- Data & Measurement



# Thank You

# Questions



# Evaluation form

[Webinar evaluation form](#)



# Next frailty learning system webinar

Medication reviews for older adults living with frailty

03 October 2024, 13:00 - 14:00

Via MS Teams

[Register here](#)

# Keep in touch

Email: [his.frailty@nhs.scot](mailto:his.frailty@nhs.scot)

Frailty learning system: [MS teams channel](#)

Twitter: [@online\\_his](#)

Web: [healthcareimprovementscotland.org](http://healthcareimprovementscotland.org)

Blog: [blog.healthcareimprovementscotland.org](http://blog.healthcareimprovementscotland.org)