CAREFul in Wellington

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Aoteaora: Health Context
Wellington DHB and Older Adults.

Population 301,000.
18.5% over 65.
2 Hospitals, acute services based in the main hospital, older adult inpatient services 20km down the road.
Extensive Older Adult community services.
Geriatricians have close links with Primary health Care Services.
Background to change

• No geriatric service in the acute hospital.
• Poor compliance with the ED 6 Hour target.
• 98-100+ % hospital occupation
• Separate Developments in the General medicine & Geriatric Model of Care
• Increasing international interest in involving geriatricians in ED and Medical Assessment and Planning Admission Units. [MAPU]
CAREFu1 development

• Co design methodology
• Required limited extra resources
• 6 months planning
• Service started July 14th 2014
CAREFUL service objectives

- Identify Frailty
- Early CGA.
- Ensure care is provided in an appropriate setting.
- Early communication and consultation with community health care providers.
- Patients will receive a medication history and reconciliation.
Evaluation

• Three cohorts of data were reviewed
  – 669 people who received a CAREful intervention,
  – 2331 people who received usual treatment in that period and
  – 2028 people who were a matched control group from the same period in 2013.

• Interviews of key stakeholders
Changes in Length of Stay

• Reduction in the LOS of 1.99 days (or 1.29 days if admissions with discharges on the same day are included) between the 2013 combined cohort and the 2014 control.

• LOS was higher in the CAREFUL cohort than the usual cohort but was still lower than the 2013 control group.
Findings

People who received a CAREful screen (ISAR) and CAREful intervention, had a lower re-presentation rate to the emergency department following their discharge than their counterparts.
Summary.

- Program is now permanent.
- Team has the addition of a Senior Registrar
- Delirium Project is underway.
- Overwhelming Positive Feedback from all members of other services.
- Building a new ward based on principles of good older adult care
- Improved engagement and increased satisfaction with Primary Care
- Still don’t have an inpatient presence in the Acute hospital
Thank you

Pull out the centre of the flax. Where is the bellbird, the song?
You ask me, what are the important things of the world?
I reply forcefully, it is people, it is people, it is people.
Case Study.

Mrs. B.
Advanced Dementia.
Admitted to ED with Syncope.
Discharged Home, Advanced Care Plan.
Community Follow Up, Immediate