

INTEGRATED CARE HSE & NON HSE AGENCIES DELIVERING OLDER PERSONS CARE

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INTRODUCTION

The **Sláintecare** model of integrated healthcare aims to deliver health care closer to home, allowing users to access services in their own geographical area. The Integrated Care Framework outlines **10 essential steps** to enable integrated care by engaging with existing services to evaluate demand, then taking a collaborative integrated approach in delivering older persons care. One of the key steps is **Support to live well in the community** to enable older persons to live well in the community / at home. Taking into consideration Transport, Social Activities, Medication Management, Shopping, Technology, Support Carers, information & Advice and Home modifications.

During discussions at our ICPOP meeting it identified there were long delays discharging older persons from the acute hospital. The group reviewed each concern one by one, to ensure the correct individual(s) to solve it, were on a working group. A working group was then established from ICPOP members, to look at options in problem solving to assist the acute hospital with older persons discharged.

OVERVIEW

The **older persons service model** seeks to change how current health and social care is delivered, by designing and delivering integrated care across local communities and hospitals between providers, older people and carers, with a strong focus on older people, aimed at keeping older people living well in their communities and providing timely access to services close to home. The HSE's **Enhanced Community Care (ECC)** programme is enhancing and increasing community health services and reducing pressure on hospital services. This means more services closer to where people live. Especially for older people and people with chronic disease

The **aim** of the group is to identified concerns and a collective approach in problem solving. The main concerns from the acute hospital seem to be "care and repair" works in the home not completed, leading to an unsafe environment for the older person if discharged home, causing safety issues. Like bathroom assessments not completed, furniture moved to accommodate living area, hand rails fitted, befriending service where persons living on their own, light electrical, plumbing, painting, gardening works not completed, transport to and from hospital.

OBJECTIVES

- Informed the acute hospital nursing staff and management on services available to older person in the community, to assist older persons discharged.
- Give presentations to nursing staff and management by each service provider.
- Single referral pathway for consistency (one stop shop) and data analysis for monthly figured.

The increasing aging population is having a significant effect on the healthcare system. Such a trend is resulting in a greater health and social care consumption. This section of the population represents a "high need, high cost" patient group within which 5% occupy between 27% and 50% of hospital beds.

It is important to understand demographic trends when estimating the need for health services. The Department of Health (Health in Ireland, Key Trends December 2015) has highlighted that the over 65s are increasing at a faster rate in Ireland compared to most other EU countries.

The sustainability of these health and social care strategies are clearly under stress. The life expectancy of females and males have grown significantly over the past few decades particularly for those aged 75 and above (29% and 39% respectively). There is an expected growth of 60% more people aged over 65 in the next ten years, with the population over 85 to double. In order to meet the needs of the later, a 15% increase in resources will needed by 2021, in order to meet this demand. People aged over 65 generally occupy 50% of acute hospital inpatient bed days, this is projected to increase greatly in the coming years; at this rate a required increase in beds is needed, at a rate equivalent to building a new midsize hospital every day for the next ten years.

Group Members

Members: Operational Lead ICPOP Westmeath - Longford. Bed manager acute hospital. ALONE Manager CHO8. Social Prescriber Westmeath & Longford. Age friendly coordinators home modifications Westmeath & Longford local authorities. Age Action Ireland coordinator. Westmeath community development manager. Advanced nurse practitioner older person acute hospital. Clinical nurse managers. Later life mediation service.



County Westmeath - Longford Figures Jan – June 2023

