

The Older Patient living with Frailty in the Acute Surgical Unit (ASU) Audit and Introduction of Pilot POPS Scheme 2022 Craigavon Area Hospital

Dr Samantha Leung, Ms Susan Cull, Dr Michael Magee, Dr Fiona Griffin

Guideline for Perioperative Care for People Living with Frailty Undergoing Elective and Emergency Surgery CPOC/BGS Sept 2021

Audit will focus on;

1. All patients aged over 65 years, and younger patients at risk of frailty, referred for elective or emergency surgery, should have frailty status documented at referral, preoperative assessment and admission using the Clinical Frailty Scale (CFS).
2. All patients living with frailty (CFS \geq 5) should undergo Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment and optimisation (CGA) prior to surgery, tailored to the time available.
3. All patients living with frailty (CFS \geq 5) should have an assessment of cognition documented using a validated tool prior to surgery.

197



Patients aged \geq 65
Admitted over 3 months
(May – July 2021)

- Only 26% proceed to a surgical procedure.
- 11 patients died.
- Longest length of stay – 49 days
- Average LOS – 6 days
- 84% discharged to usual residence.

44% of patients \geq 65 (15/34)

7th October 2021

0/15
CFS screening

1/15 had 4AT

1/15
Referred to Geriatrician

EDUCATE

- Regular teaching sessions particularly around junior changeover.
- Signposting of online CFS training

SUPPORT

- Allocation of 4 Consultant Geriatrician sessions on ASU.
- Dedicated email for ease of accessibility.

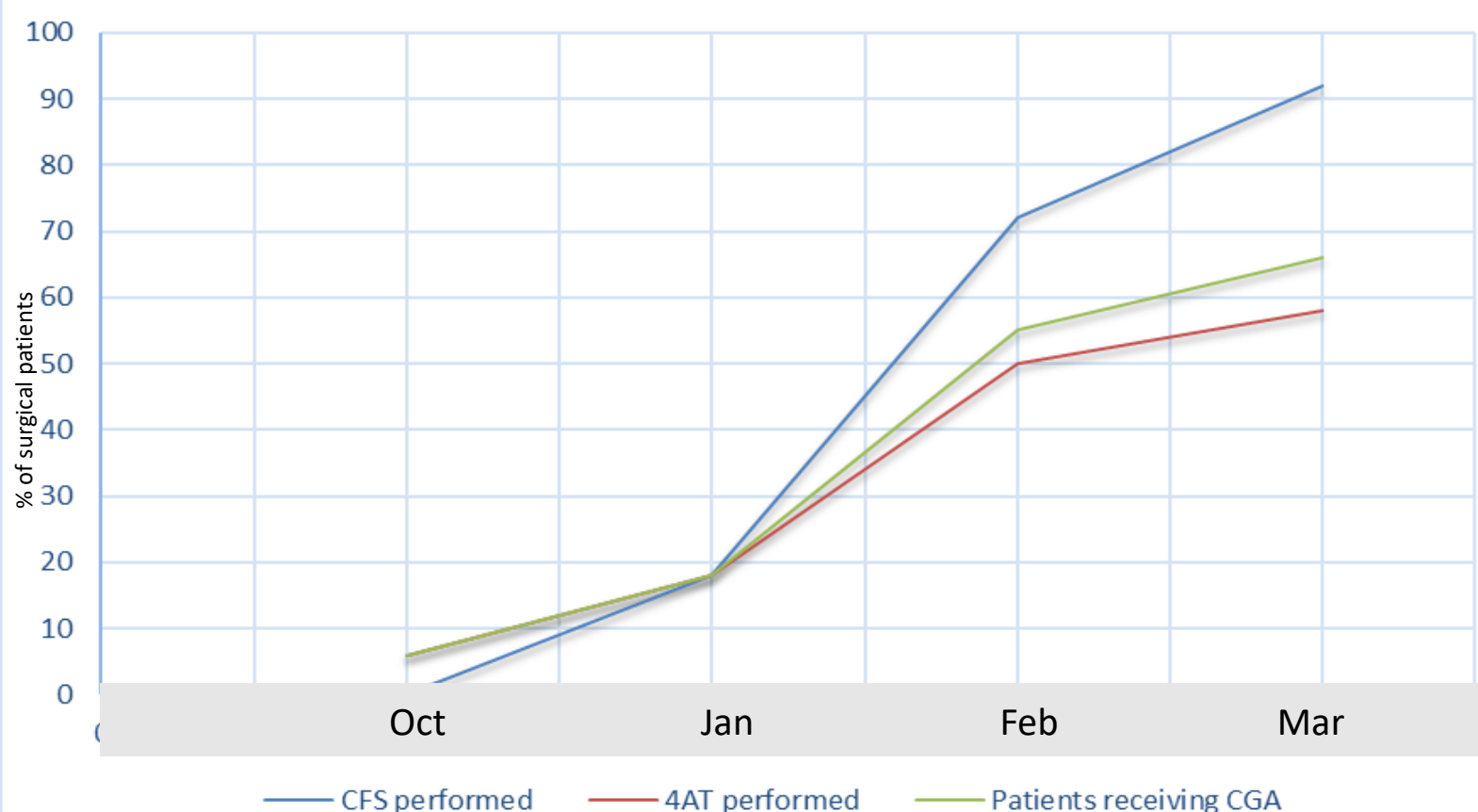
MOTIVATE

- Increased signage.
- CFS added to admission doc and handover.
- Offer to review ALL patient with CFS \geq 5

GOALS

- Pilot Goals
- Ensure all patients \geq 65 have CFS and 4AT.
 - To perform a CGA on those with CFS \geq 5

PILOT POPS scheme on Acute Surgical Unit



Recognising limitations

Clear improvement however of the 55 patients seen since the Pilot began, only 42% of them were referred by the surgical team.

Time spent screening limits our service expansion.

Going forward, our Pilot POPS scheme has demonstrated the need for care of older surgical patients who are living with frailty to be recognised as a wider, trans-disciplinary Trust objective.



Southern Health and Social Care Trust