NSW management policy to reduce fall injury among older people

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NSW Health Projected Costs 2050

Graph showing projected costs for falls, road trauma, violence, and self-harm from 1994 to 2050.
Projected bed day demand
Policy and Guidelines

NSW Health

Management Policy to Reduce Fall Injury Among Older People

• To reduce the burden of fall injury among older people in NSW

Australian Council for Safety and Quality in Health Care

Preventing falls and harm from falls in older people. Best practice guidelines for Australian hospitals and residential aged care facilities

Department of Health and Ageing

National Falls Prevention for Older People Plan: 2004 onwards

• To support a nationally consistent approach to effectively preventing falls
Generate a low risk population

Goal 1. Increase resistance across all ages

Reducing fall injury among older people

Goal 2. Community
Goal 3. Residential
Goal 4. Acute care

Improving outcomes through partnerships

Goal 5. Local needs
Goal 5. Delivery Systems

Improve outcomes

Develop & manage knowledge

Goal 7. Research
Goal 8. Evaluation
Goal 9. Training
Goal 10. Workplace safety
Goals

- Develop pro-active approaches to fall injury
- Address the environments in which people live
- Optimise the mix of preventive and treatment responses
- Improve service systems for people at risk of falling
- Conduct research on which to base interventions
- Monitor and evaluate fall injury prevention and intervention strategies
Area Health Service implementation

- Clinical Governance Unit
- Population, Planning and Performance Unit
- Clinical Operations

Consumer Groups, NGOs and LGOs

Area Sub working groups
- Acute, Community, Residential Care

Area Falls Coordinator

Area Falls Management Committee
Key Partnerships

- Senior health executives
- Clinical governance units
- Population, Planning and Performance units
- Clinical services – hospitals, rehab, ACAT, community health
- NSW Ambulance Service
- General Practitioners
- Consumer groups
- Organisations (including NGOs) which deliver services to older people
- Local governments
- Aged Care residential care industry members
- Fitness industry members
Monitoring and Evaluation

NSW Injury Risk Management Research Centre (IRMRC)

Monitor
- Falls injury performance indicators

Evaluation
- Contracted to develop an evaluation framework and to conduct evaluation of the implementation of falls policy

NSW Health (Quality and Safety Unit) and CEC

Monitor and Reporting
- Incident Information Management System (IIMS)
- Reportable Incident Review Committee (RIRC)
Fall Injury reporting and monitoring Indicators

- Admissions to hospital for fall event by AHS, SLA, LGA (dashboard indicator)
- Deaths caused by falls (ABS) by AHS
- Falls related hospitalisations resulting in death
- Hospitalisation for falls related hip fractures by AHS
- Hospitalisation for falls related pelvic fractures by AHS
- Adverse event (fall) by AHS, health facility - Individual facilities IIMS records
Accountability

Area Health Chief Executive

- Develop a Area Falls Implementation plan
- Appoint Area Falls Coordinator and Area Falls Management Committee
- Falls funding directed to appropriate services

Performance Agreements

- AHS Specific Population Health Falls Dashboard Indicator Targets (05/06)
Acute care: Drivers

- Quality and Safety Branch - clinical governance
  - IIMS
- Accreditation Standards - EQuiP
- Safety and Quality Council best evidence guidelines
  - Rural Telehealth initiative
  - Acute care education and implementation
Acute Care: Issues

Issues

• Falls risk assessment
  • link with other assessments - admission of the confused older person
  • validated
  • standardised ?
  • on admission to ED and targeted wards

• Falls management plans - implemented
• Good models - translation across the State
  eg sitters program
### Falls Risk Identification by Colour

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area Health Service</th>
<th>Colours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>HNEAHS Hunter New England</strong></td>
<td>Public Hospitals and Residential care facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NSCCAHS Northern Sydney</strong></td>
<td>Public and Private Hospitals Baptist Community Services</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SESIAHS South Eastern Sydney</strong></td>
<td>Sutherland</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NCAHS North Coast</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SWAHS Sydney West</strong></td>
<td>All hospitals</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SSWAHS Sydney South West</strong></td>
<td>Balmain</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GWAHS Greater Western</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GSAHS Greater Southern</strong></td>
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**Community**

- Engaging GPs
- Engaging with the community providers
- Health links - referral pathways
- Network of exercise programs - that include a focus on falls prevention activities
- Falls prevention information
- Partnerships and collaboration
Residential care

- Implementation of best practice guidelines
  - DOHA education initiative
- NSW Ambulance Service data - transfers to hospital
- Local networks with residential care
- Accreditation Agency - Falls monitoring
State focus – so far

- Translating research into practice - how to?
- National meeting - what’s going on
- Senior Executive Advisory Board & CEC Board
- DATA - IRMC: IIMS (local/state) & research
- Education and workforce development - acute care
- NSW Ambulance Service
- Links with Chronic care program
State....

- HACC/ACAT/ASET forums
- GMCT (Greater Metro Clinical Taskforce)
- DADHC – Healthy Older People framework
- Health Promotion Workforce development
- Exercise: Fitness Industry.... frail older person
- Sub Acute Fast Track Elderly Care (SAFTE)
  - Newcastle, Queanbeyan, Hornsby, St George
- .......and more
What matters is what works

Late 20th century saying!