

# BAFHT: ELDER CARE REGISTERED NURSE SUPPORTING AGING COMPLEXITIES

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# FOCUS

- Population-based approach with cohort of 85+
- Improve health outcomes, quality of life and aging at home, early identification of needs and support for palliative care, care coordination and improved documentation in the EMR.
- Falls prevention program for minority and remote Francophone communities.

# SUCCESSSES

- Community Linkages/Networking with Partners
- Improved knowledge and awareness in team through education and consultation
- Improved early identification needs and documentation
- Improved patient readiness to discuss care goals through promotion
- Trust through continuity of consultations with patient and primary care provider
- Improved access to patients for these discussions
- Improved support for palliative care, care coordination and communication

## **NEXT STEPS**

- Continued education to providers, residents, patients and families.
- Continue to use existing resources within our team and collaborating to coordinate care.
- Continue to strengthen community relationships and services
- Continue to improve awareness and accessibility
- Continue to support physician/nurse practitioners
- Establishing a standardized documentation of advance care planning in our EMR
- Promote falls prevention group sessions for our FHT frail elders aged 75+
- Work with Bruyère Research Institute to improve quality improvement plan
- Strategic scheduling to introduce concept to plan for a visit after chronic illness diagnosis, or a hospital discharge to discuss understanding of their illness, trajectory and introduce an initial discussion around advance care planning.

# CLINIC OVERVIEW

In July 2006, the Bruy re Academic Family Health Team was formed with two distinct clinic sites: Primrose and Bruy re. We have a tripartite governance agreement with the University of Ottawa, Department of Family Medicine, Bruy re Continuing Care and the Bruy re FHO physicians. We have 23 physicians, many of whom are part time with a combined of 10 FTE clinical time. We typically also have about 50 family medicine residents as well as other learners (medical students, allied health students, nursing etc).

## DATA

Feb 2022 to Jul 2023	Numbers
Charts audited	452
Patients who meet criteria to be contacted/seen	410
Internal referrals & Community linkages	181
MoCa completed	42
Advanced care planning & goals of care discussions initiated	98
Do Not Resuscitate forms completed	7
Housecalls	33

## STRUCTURE

- Referral based and chart audits
- Individualized visits with clinician to assess needs by performing complete geriatric assessment
- Facilitate linkages with existing community resources.
- Screening and assessments provided
- Generate frailty score as reference and guidance for follow ups
- Early care planning discussions and advocacy.
- Clear and appropriate documentation of patient's goals, values and wishes to help current individualized needs and any future health care decisions

## PATIENT STORY

## Patient Background

- 85-year-old multiple chronic conditions. Known mild cognitive impairment. Lives on own in same place x30 yrs. No family, few friends, little community support. No known substitute decision maker
- Very proud, autonomous, active man, making own decisions and wanting to remain independent.
- Pandemic contributed to functional and cognitive decline due to social isolation, changes noted with (I)ADL's.
- When questioned pt always reported to be "doing ok" with no specific need, however, had repeated visits in ER for falls, weakness, and malnutrition

## Referred to Elder care program RN:

- Chart audit revealed health trajectory changes showing functional and cognitive decline between Jan 2021-Feb 2023
- Client in need of support, no initial discussion about goals of care and advance care planning

## Interventions:

- Since summer 2022 initially met every 4 months with a focus on building trust. Initial contact q4months, with time patient agreed monthly
- Shift to monthly wellness check in and home visits
- Patient education provided, care goals identified, and collaborative care plan developed including internal and external referrals
- Frequent visits and discussions about values and wishes along with changes to own health trajectory has led to acknowledgement of move to a retirement home setting adapted to his needs.
- Currently at the planning stages for the move.