Heart Failure Virtual Consultation Service

Joe Gallagher



May sees further rise in hospital waiting lists

Updated / Saturday, 11 Jun 2022 07:55







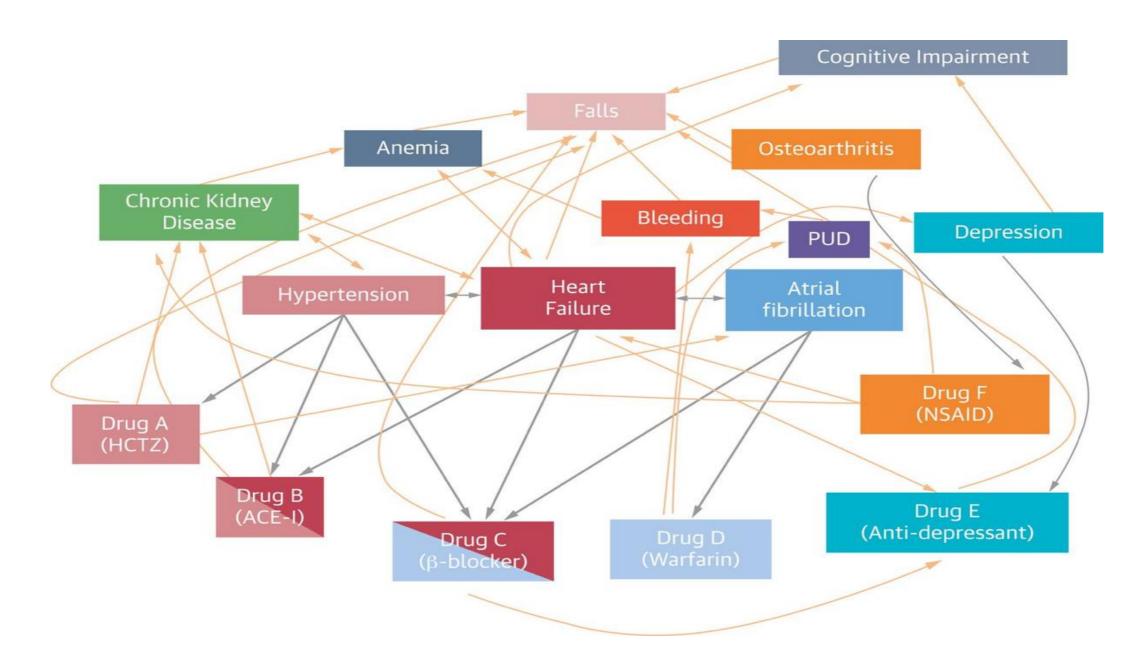




In May there were over 851,700 people waiting for treatment or a first meeting with a consultant for an outpatient appointment



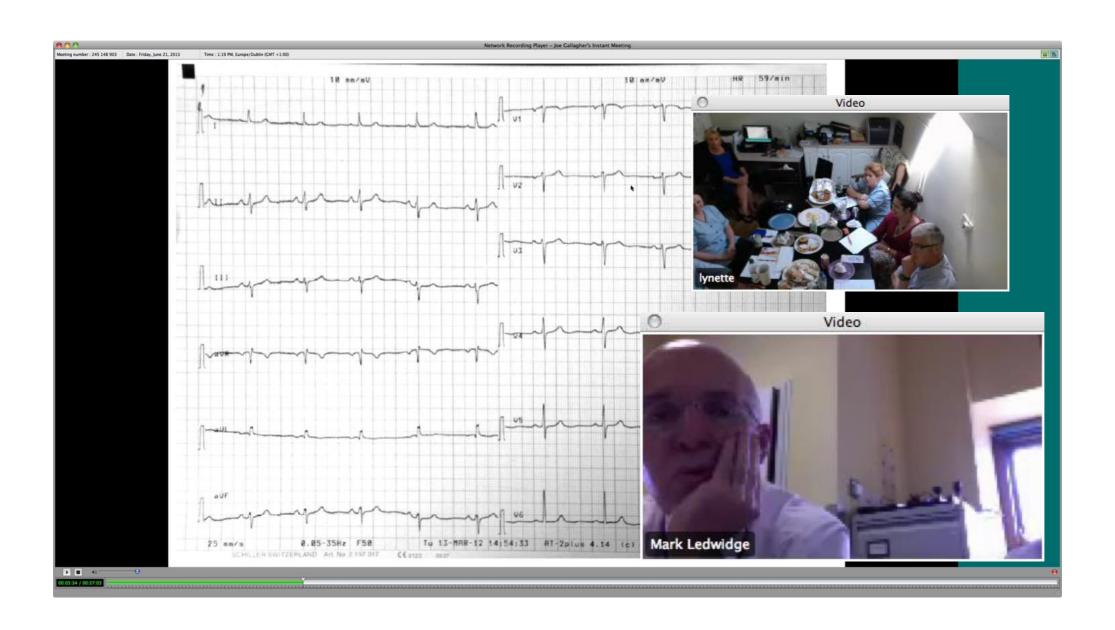
'Weakness was mainly what I suffered from. I would just sit in the arm chair and I wouldn't be able to move. I just stayed quiet and I didn't go rushing to the doctor.... I have enough tablets to take and I have no way to get to the hospital"





postcode clearly Your man Henderson That boy with the glasses who is doing the PhD up three at Queen in Belfort. Buncrana Co. Done gold reland

Virtual Consultation



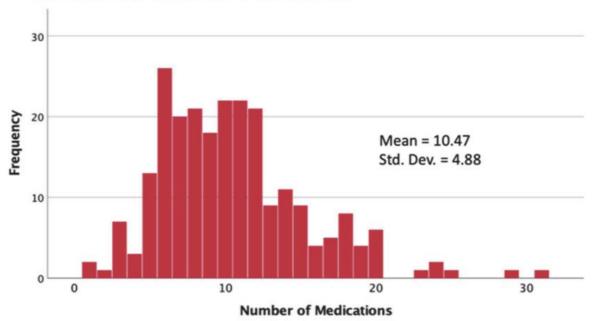
2015-2021

- 1,681 cases discussed
- 75% outside Dublin
- 87% did not need to be "seen" in person in specialist services

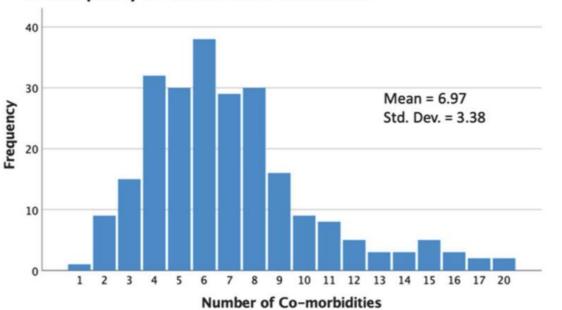
What would the GP have done without the virtual consult?

93% would refer to OPD or ED or MAU

1.C Frequency of Number of Medications



1.D Frequency of Number of Co-morbidities



Wong B et al A year in the life of virtual clinic for heart failure management; a valuable aid during the COVID-19 pandemic
•Heart (British Cardiac Society) 107(Suppl 2):A32-A34





Accreditation

KNOW YOUR PATIENTS' FRAILTY

Use the Canadian Study of Health and Aging Clinical Frailty Scale to assess the patient's current condition.

The nine-point **Clinical Frailty**

Scale can help determine if a patient is at risk for poor outcomes and can guide communication between clinicians and patients.

Scoring Frailty in **People With Dementia**

The degree of frailty corresponds to the degree of dementia.



Common symptoms in mild dementia include forgetting the details of a recent event, though still remembering the event itself, repeating the same question/story and social withdrawal.



In moderate dementia, recent memory is very impaired, even though they seemingly can remembe their past life events well.



In severe dementia, they without help.

>> HOW TO MEASURE FRAILTY IN YOUR PATIENTS

VERY FIT

People who are robust, active, energetic and motivated. These people commonly exercise regularly They are among the fittest for their age.



MANAGING WELL

People whose medical problems are well controlled, but are not regularly active beyond routine walking.



People who have no active disease symptoms but are less fit than those in category 1. Often, they exercise or are very active occasionally, e.g. seasonally.

MODERATELY

FRAIL _

WELL

VULNERABLE While not dependent on others

These people often have

more evident slowing.

for daily help, often symptoms limit activities. A common complaint is being "slowed up," and/or being tired during the day.



People need help with

all outside activities and need help in high order and with keeping house. IADLs (finances, transportation, heavy Inside, they often have housework, medications). Typically, mild problems with stairs and need frailty progressively impairs shopping and help with bathing and might walking outside alone, meal preparation need minimal assistance (cuing, and housework. standby) with dressing.



SEVERELY FRAIL

FRAIL .

VERY

SEVERELY

Completely dependent, approaching the end of life. Typically, they could not recover even from a minor illness.

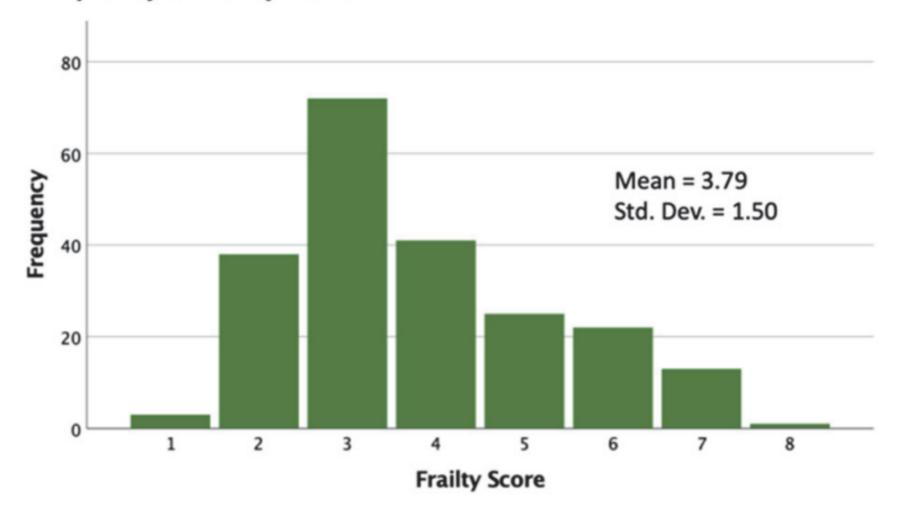
Completely dependent for personal care, from whatever cause (physical or cognitive). Even so, they seem stable and not at high risk of dying (within ~ 6 months).

TERMINALLY ILL

Approaching the end of life. This category applies to people with a life expectancy < 6 months, who are not otherwise evidently frail.



1.B Frequency of Frailty Score



Wong B et al A year in the life of virtual clinic for heart failure management; a valuable aid during the COVID-19 pandemic

•Heart (British Cardiac Society) 107(Suppl 2):A32-

The Heart Failure Virtual Consultation



Caters for the older and frailer patient



Reduces hospital referrals



Real-Time Virtual
Consultation (VC)
discussion between
family doctor and HF
specialist



Easy access to specialists for those in rural areas



Flexible, and facilitates continuity of shared care

I feel that if I needed to see someone I wouldn't have a problem. That gives me great peace of mind. I would come to the practice first. It's first class. My symptoms have improved so much.'

