

EuGMS – Special Interest Group in Patient Safety

Tuesday, 12 October 2021

Minutes

1 Welcome

Professor Iqbal Singh welcomed all the attendees.

2 Apologies

Apologies were received from Jap Krudler and Nicholas Martinez.

3 Impact of Covid 19 on Care of Older People

- *Reports from Members and sharing and learning from experience*

Professor Sanjay Arya gave a presentation (enclosed for your reference) regarding the impact of Covid 19 on older people from the Wigan perspective. He shared WWL's experience of the three phases of the pandemic. This showed that the majority of deaths due to Covid 19 were in the elderly in all three phases. This was also true for admission to ICU. Though significantly a number of younger patients died of Covid in the third phase. The commonest co-morbidities noted amongst patients admitted with Covid 19 were Hypertension, COPD, Diabetes and Heart Disease.



European meeting
12.10.21.pptx

Dr Rizwan Ahmed, Consultant Physician and Clinical Lead for Respiratory Medicine at Bolton gave a presentation on the impact of Covid 19 on older people – significant increased frailty post Covid illness – the Bolton experience.

Bolton is a large town in Greater Manchester in Northwest UK with approximate population of just under 280,000, 17% of the population is above 65 years of age.

Bolton Hospital is a busy District General Hospital, it is a centre of excellence for health care and education and has one of the busiest Accident and Emergency departments in Greater Manchester.

We know that patient with increasing age, high frailty score and from ethnic minorities are at high risk of severe COVID disease. These patients can get acute respiratory symptoms such as:

- Pneumonitis with cough and hypoxia
- Thromboembolic disease
- Superimposed pulmonary bacterial infections
- Pneumo-mediastinum / Pneumothorax

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At the same time a lot of these patients can get acute, subacute and chronic non – Respiratory Symptoms such as:

- Gastrointestinal symptoms - Diarrhoea, Liver impairment
- Loss of smell / Taste
- Psychological & Mental Health
 - Depression, anxiety, delirium
- Cardio vascular
 - Palpitation, arrhythmias
- Medication side effects from
 - Steroids, anti-viral, anti IL6
- Muscle wasting / weight loss – Frailty

Post COVID Frailty is something we are seeing in our respiratory out patient's clinic very frequently in elderly population who were managed in community and in hospital for their COVID illness.

A central feature of physical frailty is Loss of skeletal muscle mass and function (sarcopenia), muscle weakness and deconditioning. We have seen patients losing a lot of muscle mass / weight even with mild to moderate COVID illness, and these patients are presenting to us in clinic with breathlessness and reduced exercise tolerance. Their radiology including chest x-rays and CT scans show normal lung structure and detail lung function test indicate likely underlying muscle weakness.

Management suggestion:

We have formulated personalised shared care and support plan for individual patients.

4 Plan of Work for the Next Year

- *Improving safety in care of older people in care homes through a programme of training and education of care home staff – Dr Arturo Vilches-Moraga to present*

Dr Arturo Vilches-Moraga suggested a project on improving safety in care of older people in care homes through a programme of training and education of care home staff. It was agreed that there would be a focus on three areas for older people in care homes:

- i) Chronic Respiratory Disease
- ii) Heart Failure
- iii) Diabetes

The group would produce an advisory document, and also agreed to present at the next EUG conference in London in September 2022. CESOP would be able to support with expenses in relation to speakers etc. If any of the members are interested in contributing to any of the above three areas or an overview of improving safety in care homes through a programme of training and education aimed at care home and hospital staff then please get in touch. You may send any comments to Professor Iqbal Singh iqbalsingh21@aol.com or Alison.jones@cesop.org.uk. We will share a draft of the document with members when ready.

Professor Iqbal Singh thanked all the members for their attendance and participation.

Meeting closed.

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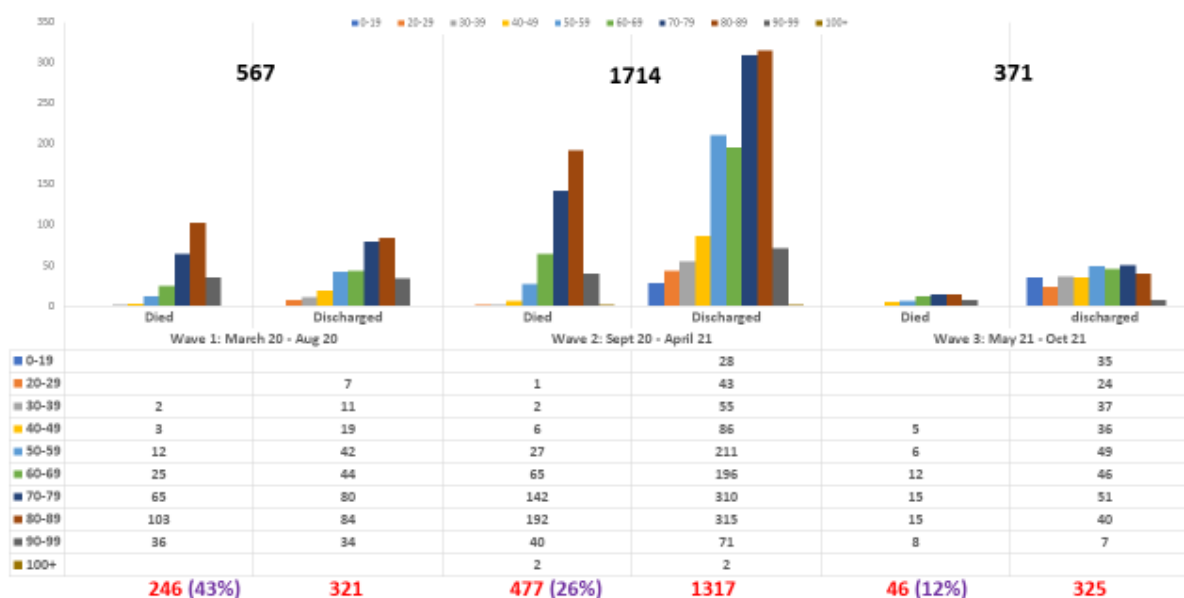
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Impact of Covid on the Elderly – Wigan (UK) experience

Dr Sanjay Arya
 Consultant Cardiologist
 Medical Director & Responsible Officer
 WWL Teaching Hospitals (UK)

Age Range and Outcome of Admitted COVID patients (Mar 20 – Oct 21)

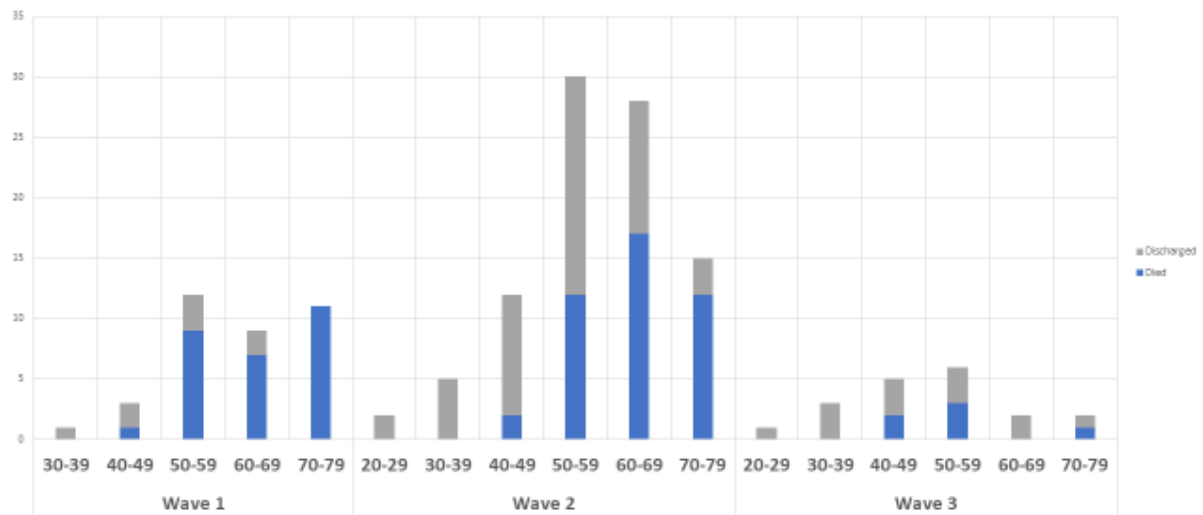


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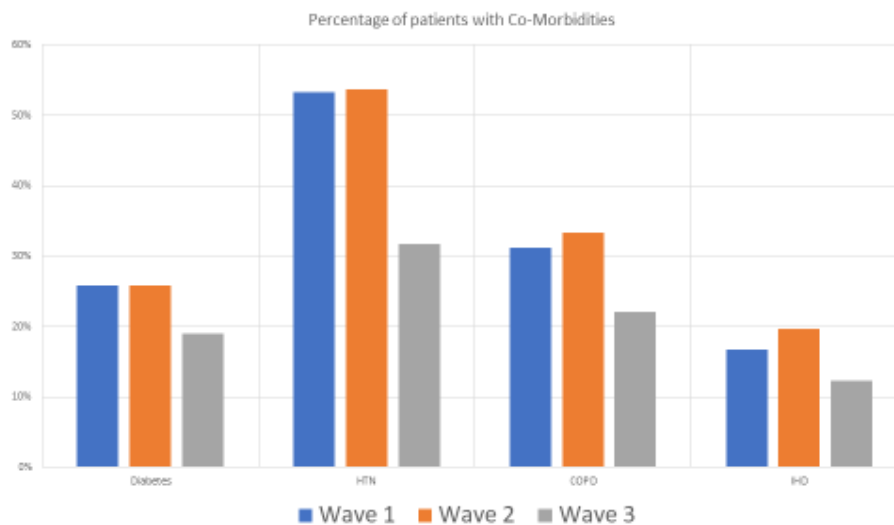
Patients on ICU per age range and wave

(NB: Current patients in ICU are excluded)



Patients with Diabetes, HTN, COPD, IHD

NB: Wave 3 data is to end of August



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