

Royal College of General Practitioners and Warwick Medical School
Annual Education, Research and Innovation Symposium
16th June 2016 - Abstract Submission Form

PRESENTER'S DETAILS Session A. Older People		
Title (Prof, Dr, Mr, Mrs) Ms	First Name Sarah	Surname Ribbands (Hollington)
Department or organisation Warwick Medical School – Student E-mail s.l.hollington@warwick.ac.uk		
Category Research		
Authors Sarah Ribbands, Year 3 Medical Student; Dr Kate Owen, GP, Hastings House Practice, Wellesbourne, Warwickshire		Title of Study Improving medical care to elderly people in residential care homes in Wellesbourne: some recommendations for practice
What's the problem you are tackling? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People over 65 account for 70% of hospital emergency bed days, tending to stay longer and are more likely to be readmitted. • Some of those at highest risk of unplanned emergency admission are the elderly in care homes with and without nursing. • Hospital admissions have long been used as an indicator that care outside hospitals could be improved • It is estimated that over 50% of older people in care homes do not have access to all support they require from the NHS. 		
How did/will you do it? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retrospective cohort study of episodes of care with urgent care by residents of three residential homes, served by Wellesbourne Practice. • Analysis was undertaken on primary care records for the financial year 2014/15, to ascertain factors that led to admission, and whether this was clinician, family or residential home led. 		
What did you find? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Of 129 patients, 50 patients had contact with urgent care, accounting for 89 episodes of care. • 38 episodes of care involved an admission (42.7%), accounting for 343 bed days. • 20.2% of all episodes of care related to falls; of these, 50% were admitted. • Diagnostic imaging featured in 43.8% of episodes of care; 33% were not admitted. • Verbal guidance accounted for the majority of primary treatment outcomes. • The highest instigator for contacting urgent care services was from care homes (55%) 		

Why does this matter?

- Analysis of the home-mediated contacts showed medical concerns were the main drivers for seeking help. This may point to a lack of confidence or knowledge by residential home staff. Improvement to care would have to involve education and support to residential homes.
- Falls prevention should be addressed, and within that the educational role that physiotherapists.
- Currently there is no dedicated nursing support to residential homes. Locally, a pilot project of having a dedicated GP and nurse team in regular contact with residential homes, has seen a reduction of admissions by 54%.