



# Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment On A New Specialist Geriatric Ward In A Post-Acute Rehabilitation Setting: A Retrospective Review

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## Introduction

Older adults with complex care needs should receive a comprehensive geriatric assessment (CGA) in line with the National Clinical Programme for the Older Person recommendations<sup>1</sup>.

The aim of this review is to evaluate integrated multidisciplinary team (MDT) requirements for all admissions, over one-year period, on a new Specialist Geriatric Ward (SGW), in a post-acute rehab setting, with frailty screening on admission indicating complexity and MDT input.

## Methods

A retrospective analysis was conducted on all patients admitted onto a SGW in 2024. Outcome measures reviewed included:

- Barthel Index (BI)
- Functional Independence Measure (FIM) scale in eight activities of daily living
- Elderly Mobility Score (EMS)
- Functional Oral Intake Scale (FOIS)

Patients were cohorted by Clinical Frailty Scale (CFS).

Referrals to Medical Social Work (MSW), Dietetics and Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) were analysed.

## Results

Figure 1 Patient Profile

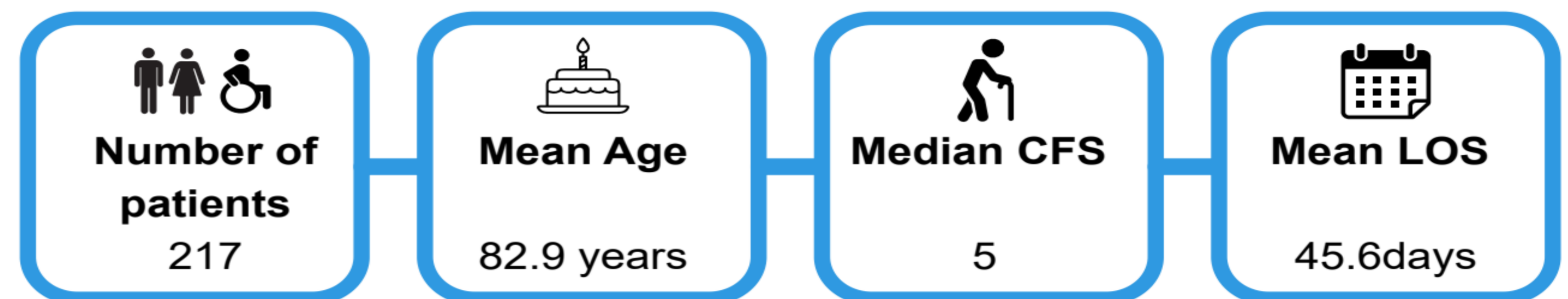


Figure 2 Multidisciplinary Team in a post-acute SGW

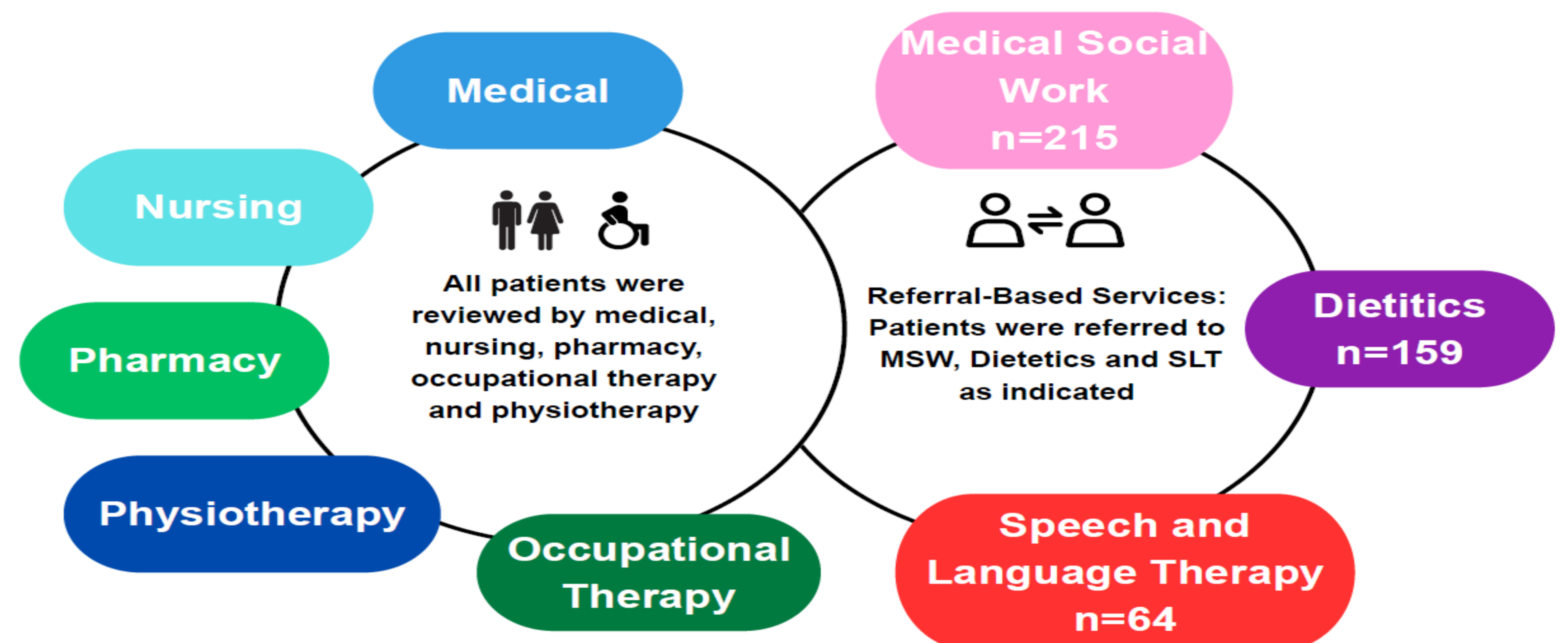


Figure 3 Reason for referral to referral-based services

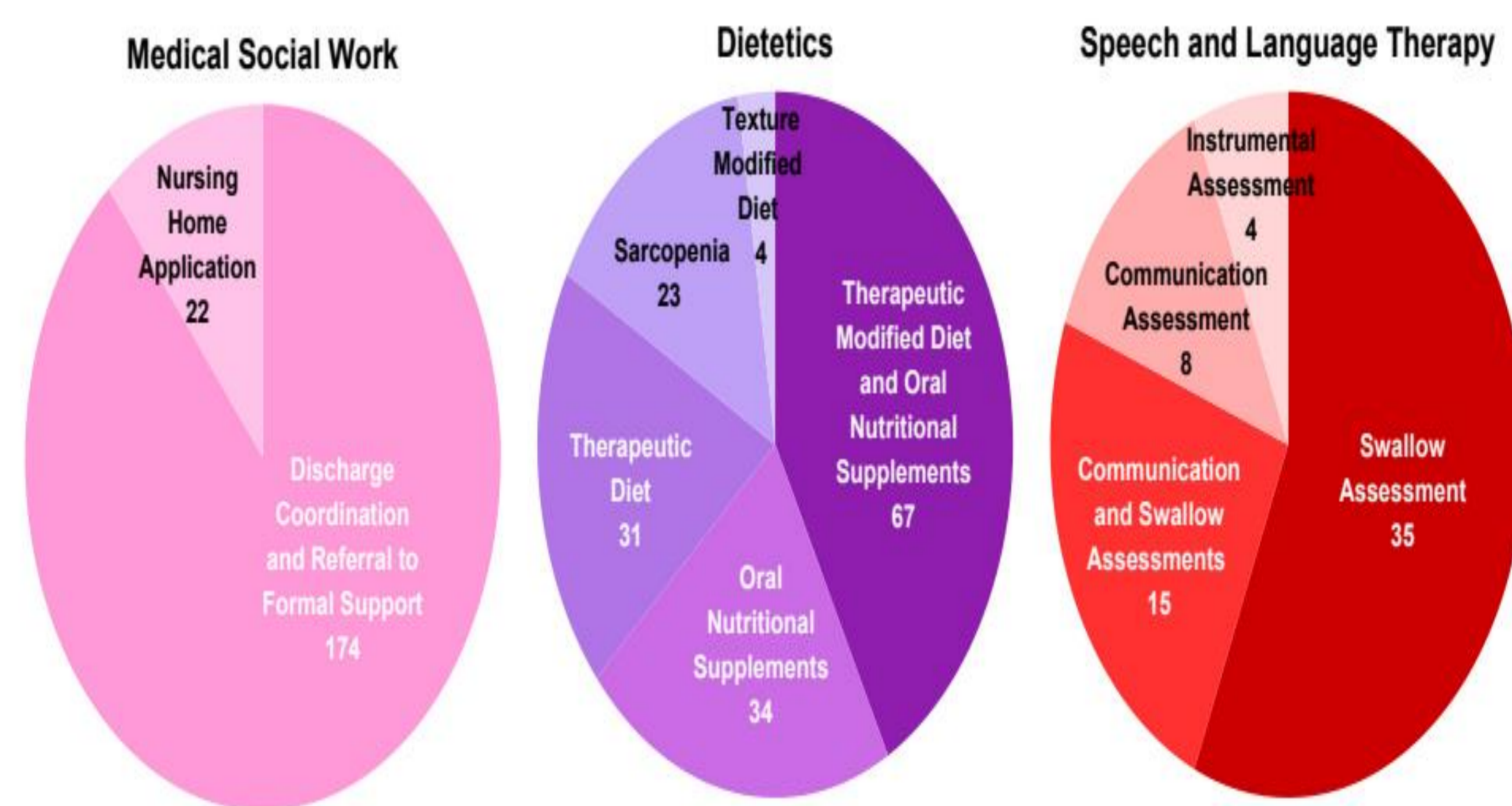
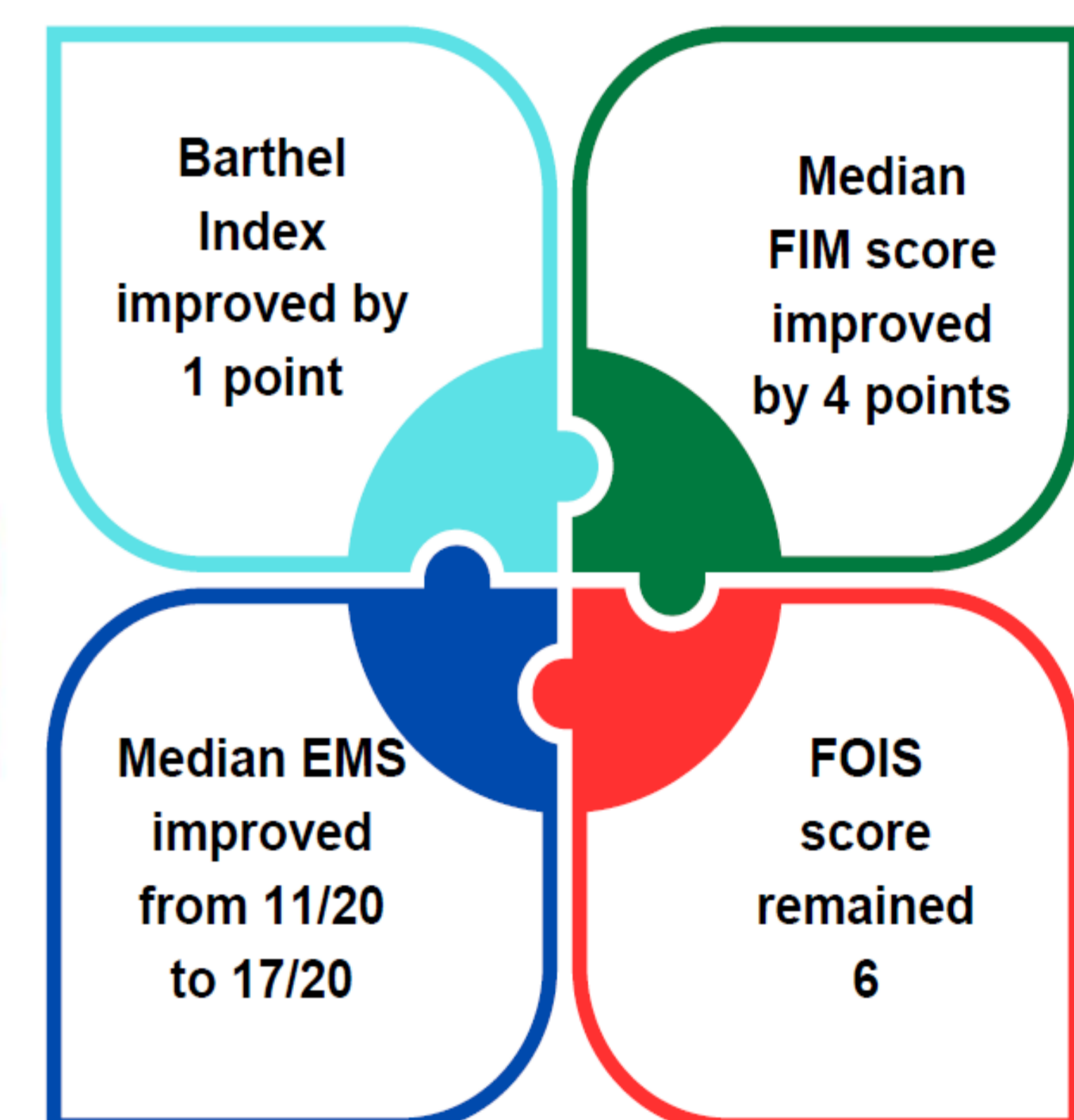


Figure 4 Patient Outcomes



## Discussion

Patient profile of those admitted to a post-acute SGW over a one-year period is shown in Figure 1. CGA ensured individualised and needs specific intervention from members of both blanket referral services and referral-based services (Figure 2 and Figure 3). This was shown to improve patient outcomes and facilitate discharge

Outcomes improved for all frailty cohorts despite the level of complexity of patients admitted to a post acute SGW (Figure 4).

## Conclusion

CGA on a post-acute SGW was associated with meaningful functional improvements across a spectrum of CFS scores. These findings highlight the value of an integrated MDT in enhancing recovery of older adults.

## References

1. National Clinical Programme for Older People Specialist Geriatric Team Guidance on Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment. (n.d.). [online] Available at: <https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/clinical-strategy-and-programmes/comprehensive-geriatric-assessment-document-.pdf>. [accessed on 19 September 2025]