

## Case Example - Real World Validation

Testing of the MDT (Multi- Disciplinary Team) **Checklist and supporting guidance** in the development of MDTs supporting those living with moderate or severe frailty in the community

### Acknowledgements

We would like to thank James Lee, Nurse Consultant Older Persons and Frailty Salisbury Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, for his work in testing the suggested MDT approach May 2021.

### Background

The MDT framework developed by Wessex AHSN Healthy Ageing team (including a checklist and accompanying guidance November 2020 – May 2021) was tested within two MDT teams within the Wilton and Sarum West PCN areas. Both MDT's cover semi-rural areas with older than average age populations incorporating some pockets of deprivation but also relative wealth. Purpose of the testing was to determine the following:

1. Value of the approach in supporting an established MDT to develop further
2. Value of the approach in the set- up of a new MDT

Discussion below highlights the key area's being developed in these two MDT's because of using this approach.

### 1. Value in supporting an established MDT

*“This MDT approach enabled identification of areas for development within an existing MDT with clear ‘how to’ suggestions to help progress development of the MDT. The approach is being used to facilitate growth of best practice principles*



**Using the checklist highlighted three areas of effective MDT working, identifying nine areas for development.** The checklist and accompanying guidance gave clear and easy suggestions of a plan of action for the MDT to adopt and adapt. **As a result the MDT is developing in the following areas:**

- **To ensure virtual working and technology is enhanced to deliver exemplar MDTs:**
  - Screen share function on Microsoft teams now being used to share and update SystemOne information during MDT discussions with plans in place to consider an integrated care record system (Graphnet)
  - SBAR (Situation, Background, Assessment and Recommendation) is now being used as an electronic discussion template with admin support for recording outcomes
  - The team is developing common principles for their MDT using national guidance referred to in the guide and using the eFI (Electronic frailty index) on SystemOne to support identification of patients suitable for discussion (Testing of approach in a newly developing MDT is being undertaken with lessons learnt relayed to MDTs in need of development)
  - Frailty e-Learning tools are now being added to the local intranet training portal

- **How best to share MDT information with other health and social care organisations:**
  - Longer term consideration of an integrated care record system (Graphnet) is being discussed with Bath and Northeast Somerset Swindon and Wiltshire Partnership, with a pilot in Banes
  - As an interim measure and because of using the guidance the team is reviewing the Dorset Care plan approach as a potential model to adopt and adapt as their integrated care record
  
- **How best to ensure both the patient, their family/ carers are included in MDT discussions:**
  - As a result of using the checklist the team is reviewing current care records to audit recording of patient / carers perspectives and wishes in records
  - The MDT care co-ordinator role is being developed to ensure liaison with both the patient and family including involvement in virtual wards for family / carer members and or patients as appropriate
  
- **How best to standardise who attends MDT sessions?**
  - The team is now developing its own terms of reference for the MDT and acknowledges the need to invite social care representatives to MDT meetings
  - Lack of GP engagement is to be followed up with discussions at PCN level
  - The team has considered segmenting the case discussion list enabling discussion of patients requiring Geriatrician / GP discussion in one segment. Dedicated admin support is being discussed with management

## 2. Value of approach in the set-up of a new MDT

*“An excellent resource, practical and realistic for teams to use, a succinct checklist in a 1-page format and guidance that easily connects development points on the checklist with ‘how to’ advice.”*



### **Using the checklist and guidance has:**

- Connected an emerging MDT with the Dorset approach of using eFI to identify patients for MDT discussion enabling a framework to be put in place for those living with increasing levels of frailty who may have previously not been offered the benefit of MDT intervention and support. The aim of MDT discussion will be to offer the right support to these individuals, preventing unnecessary hospital admissions.
- Signposted the MDT to Excel tools and methods available to further assist in the identification of those living with frailty in need of MDT discussions