

# Supporting older adults with cancer: The Senior Adult Oncology Service



Farrington N, Ward A, Chadwick Z, Stephenson E, Penn S, Bowker H, Ng, C, Athwal M, Chapman S, Gomes F

## Background

Older adults with cancer have poorer cancer outcomes, and higher levels of multimorbidity and frailty than their younger counterparts. They can have specific needs and goals. The Senior Adult Oncology Service was developed from pilot project with the Specialised Clinical Frailty Network that addressed frailty at The Christie. The team started work in July 2022, and started clinics in September 2022. We aim to utilise the quality improvement methodology of Plan-do-Study-Act (PDSA) to aid implementation.



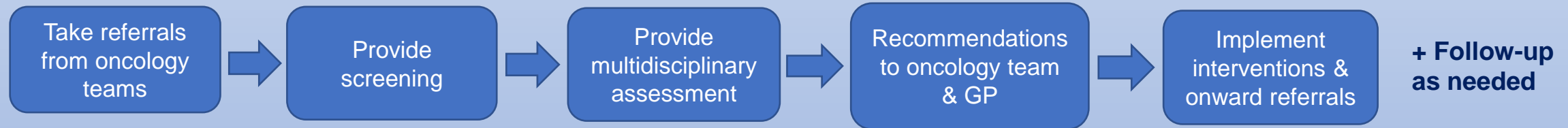
## Aims

1. Support patients, caregivers and clinicians to make decisions regarding cancer treatment.
2. Support patients through treatment.

## Eligibility criteria

- ✓ Aged  $\geq 70$  years (younger patients with complex needs considered)
- ✓ Rockwood Clinical Frailty Score  $\geq 4$
- ✓ Clinical concern
- ✓ Due to start/started SACT/radiotherapy

## Proposed process



## Team

- Geriatrician & GP
- Oncologist
- Physiotherapist
- Occupational Therapist
- Dietician
- Pharmacist
- Clinical Nurse Specialist



## Partnerships

- Parent oncology team
- GP
- Supportive and palliative care
- Community service
- Prehab4Rehab

## Intended Outcomes (reporting August 2023)

↓ Unplanned admissions	↑ Completion of treatment regimens
↓ Length of stay	↑ Patient experience/satisfaction
↓ Polypharmacy	↑ Shared decision making