

Integrated Care for Frailty: Lessons from ADVANTAGE JA

Professor Anne HENDRY

University of the West of Scotland

Work Package 7 Leader, ADVANTAGE JA

Senior Associate, International Foundation for Integrated Care

Frailty is a public health priority due to the associated demand for acute and long term health and social care support, and the impact of frailty on the lives of individuals, caregivers and families. It is increasingly considered as a chronic condition with potential to benefit from integrated care to improve health and wellbeing outcomes and reduce costs. ADVANTAGE Joint Action (www.advantageja.eu), co-funded by the European Union and 22 Member States, aims to develop a common approach to the prevention and management of frailty in Europe. Partners from Sciensano in Belgium are supporting Advantage JA Work Package 7 task leaders from Scotland, Spain, France, Finland and Ireland to study the evidence for effective models of care for frailty.

The presentation will outline current evidence that views frailty as a chronic condition / syndrome that requires early intervention with education, enablement and rehabilitation to optimise function, particularly at times of a sudden deterioration in health, or when moving between home, hospital or care home. In all care settings, these approaches should be holistic and person centred, supported by comprehensive assessment and multidimensional interventions tailored to modifiable physical, psychological, cognitive and social factors and appropriate to the goals and circumstances of the individual.

The presentation will discuss global policy and practice in integrated care and illustrate good practice examples of integrated care for frailty in Europe. It will also explore evidence for improved experience and outcomes through system wide redesign of care and support for older people.