

Standard 8: Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment must be commenced within 3 days following admission by a clinician with specialist training in care of older patients.

Background	In the absence of an Ortho Geriatrician, NHS Western Isles have struggled to achieve all the Hip fracture audit standards, in particular the Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment (CGA).
The problem	NHS Western Isles were noted as an outlier for Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment (CGA) in the Scottish Hip Fracture Audit for both 2019 and 2020. Such notifications are taken seriously and fed back to our local MSK group which meets each month.
The solution	<p>To address and to improve on this standard, a phantom Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment 'clinic' has been created. The ward communicates details of any patient admitted with a hip fracture to the medical secretaries, who add the patient onto this CGA 'clinic'.</p> <p>The General Physician reviews the CGA clinic daily to check for any new admissions and will complete the CGA within 3 days of the patients' admission. A CGA pro-forma has also been developed to record and document the assessment.</p>

	<p>The establishment of this process creates a pathway to communicate information between the Orthopaedic team and the General Medicine team regarding patients admitted with hip fractures in a consistent and timely way.</p> <p>Furthermore, in order to more closely monitor performance across all 12 standards, an 'MSK Tracker' was also implemented to record monthly audit scores. This tracker also allows the group to manage action points for each standard as we seek to make continuous improvement.</p>
The outcome	<p>It is early days and the process was only introduced in mid-February 2021. We are however encouraged to note from our MSK Tracker that five out of nine patients in February admitted with a hip fracture did have a Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment within 3 days, compared to zero patients in January 2021.</p>
Author	<p>Ronnie Murray Performance and Planning Manager, NHS Western Isles</p>