Falls at home in the ageing population. The role of allied health professionals in preventative public health.

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FALLS AT HOME IN THE AGEING POPULATION

THE PROBLEM

Falls in the home, particularly repeat fallers, result in ambulances being called. A high number of these patients are taken to Emergency Departments by the attending paramedics.

THE EVIDENCE

52% of trauma & injury related call outs were for falls (North West Ambulance Service, 2013)

72% of these patients were transferred to Emergency Departments (North West Ambulance Service, 2013)

Falls cost the NHS £4.6 million each day and £1.7 billion per year (Age UK, 2010)

In a trial of a clinical decision making tool twice the number of fallers were referred to falls services and costs per patient reduced from £22K to £15K (Snooks et al, 2014)

East Midlands Ambulance are trialling a paramedic pathfinder and have 79% of staff currently trained.

THE INTERVENTION

Decision making tools such as ‘Paramedic Pathfinder’ are a range of consistent and clinically safe evidence based processes which allow clinicians to conduct accurate face to face assessment of individual patients’ care needs when they arrive on scene.

A&E

GP

FALLS SERVICES

TREAT ON SCENE

PROFESSION

Could also involve other AHPs who have access to patients in their own home

EFFECTIVENESS CRITERIA

Secondary prevention & risk management (priority 2)

IMPACT CRITERIA

Economic & social benefits (priority 3)
Managing risk (priority 4)