Description of Service:

The NALHN Geriatric Medicine Service accepts referrals for a full range of Geriatric Conditions. The main service is provided through Modbury Hospital at SpARC (Specialist Ambulatory Rehabilitation Centre). Satellite Multi-disciplinary Falls Assessment Clinics are held at GP Plus Health Care Centre Elizabeth.

Conditions Seen Include:

- General Geriatrics Assessment
- Memory loss/cognitive impairment
- Functional decline and/or frailty
- Older patients with multiple medical problems or polypharmacy
- Falls
- Patients requiring Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment including complex decision making

Exclusions:

- Referral where the primary question is medicolegal (eg. testamentary capacity)
- Primary psychiatric illness or traumatic brain injury

Referral Criteria:

- Please include copies of all reports and results
- Patients are seen based on the urgency, as judged from the referral, so referring doctors are urged to give a full and detailed referral to ensure that this is equitably managed
- Please provide alternative contact for patients in the event of cognitive impairment
- Patient/carer is aware of referral and willing to attend clinic (consider Community GEM if clinic attendance not suitable)

NALHN prefers all referrals to be named to a clinician providing the service (see list below)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>URGENT</th>
<th>SEMI-URGENT</th>
<th>NON-URGENT/ROUTINE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target &lt; 1month</td>
<td>Target &lt;3months</td>
<td>General geriatrics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapid cognitive decline</td>
<td>Progressive frailty</td>
<td>Cognitive assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Progressive functional decline</td>
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Consultants

- Dr John Maddison (Division Director)
- Dr Peter Bastian (Head of Unit)
- Dr Adeleen Eng
- Dr Kylie Gardner
- Dr Clare Haylock
- Dr Tam Ho
- Dr Sally Johns
- Dr Angeline Khoo
- Dr Xiang Loh
- Dr Tanaya Singh
- Dr Bianca Wong

Acknowledgement: Content for this document was primarily sourced through the SALHN Specialty Outpatient Guidelines 2014/15

<table>
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<th>Date to</th>
<th>Amendment</th>
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<td>May 2016</td>
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Condition

- **Definition:** Cognitive Impairment

- **Differential diagnoses include:** Dementia; mild cognitive impairment

### Information Required

- Symptoms
- Duration of symptoms
- Impact on functional ability

### Investigations Required

- Blood tests: CBE, Biochemistry, TFT’s, B12, Folate
- Previous imaging

### Red Flags

- Rapid progression of symptoms
- Carer stress
- Patient/carer at risk because of behavioural symptoms
- Recurrent hospitalisation