

SAFTE Care Project

Falls Prevention Program

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Aim



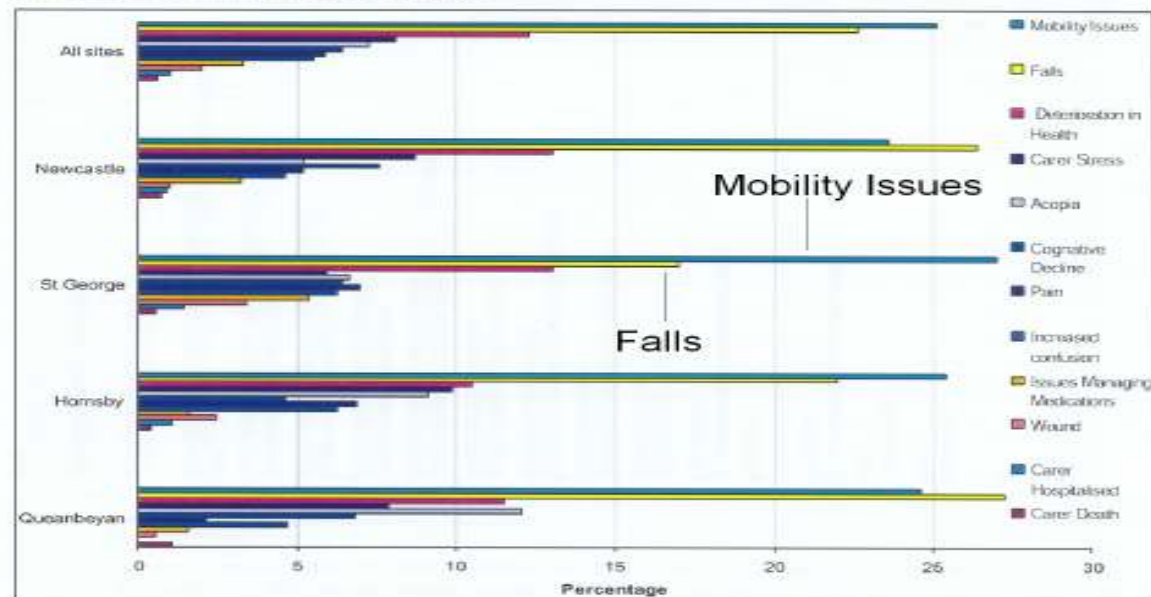
- Sub Acute Fast Track Elderly (SAFTE) Care Project
 - Provide an effective model of care that minimises the need for the older person to have inpatient care (ARCHI)

- Falls Prevention Program @ SAFTE
 - Provide intervention for clients during their 6 weeks in SAFTE

Nature and Extent of Falls

- SAFTE client population
 - 65 years of age and older
 - Identified as being at risk of an acute event (not just falls)

Figure 16 Presenting problems by site



Westera et al
(2007)

Strategic Importance of Falls in SAFTE

- 65.7% of SAFTE clients had fallen within the last six months (across all sites) ^{Westera et al (2007)}
- No established Falls Prevention Clinic for clients at St George Hospital



Planning & Implementation to Prevent Falls

- We started a Falls Prevention Clinic
 - Multifactorial assessment
 - Individual management
 - Group sessions

- Now developing a Falls Pathway
 - Falls Risk Screening (FRAT)
 - Housebound clients (FROP-Com)

Outcomes & Evaluation

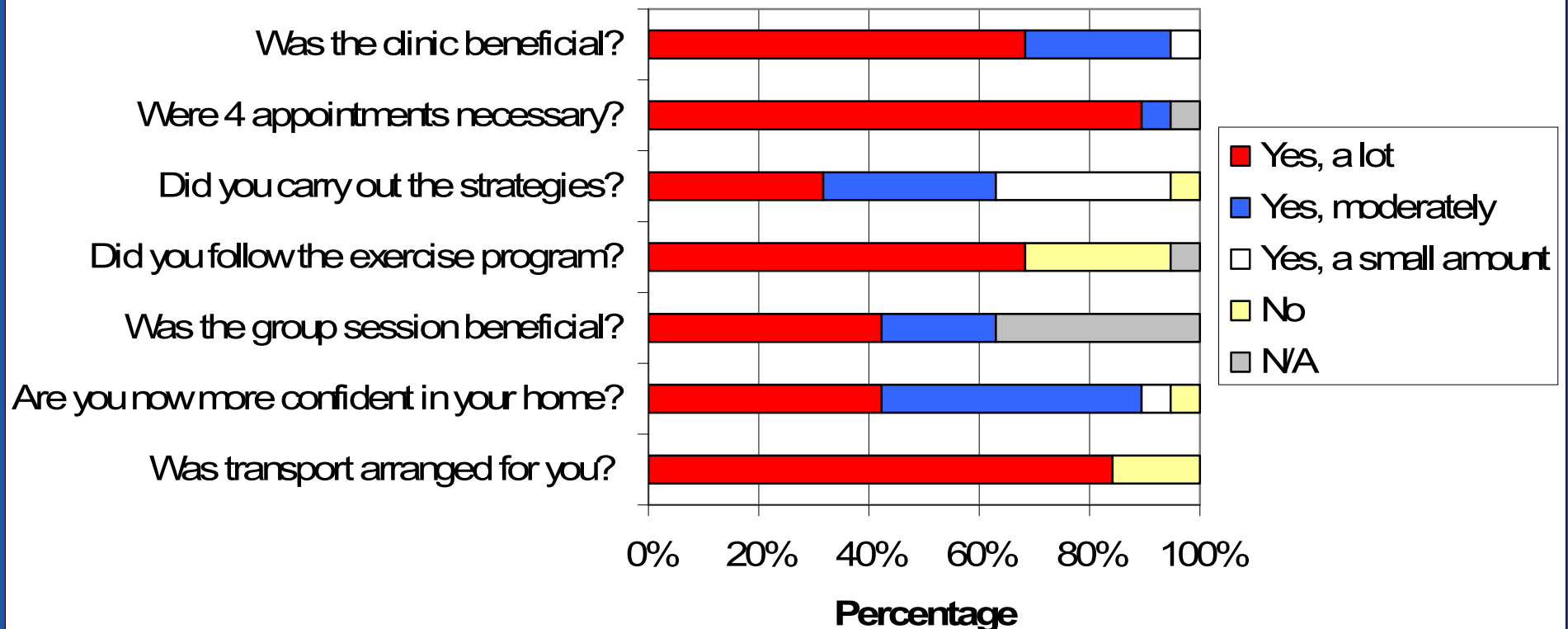
- SAFTE Care Project evaluation
 - 79% of the SAFTE client group would have presented to ED if SAFTE had not been available ^{Westera A et al (2007)}

- SAFTE Falls Prevention Clinic
 - 63 clients attended between September 06 and June 07
 - 50% of clients identified as a falls risk could not attend the clinic (eg poor mobility)

Falls Clinic: Client Survey

Client Evaluation Results

Source: SAFTE Falls Prevention Clinic (Sept 2006 - February 2007)



Sustaining Falls Prevention @ SAFTE

We need to:

- Continuously evaluate and develop the falls program
- Keep an eye on workload and staffing
- Maintain support from the medical team
- Involve other departments and community services

Lessons Learned

- Must be attractive to the client
 - Client's priorities (eg health, social)

- Must meet client needs
 - Client's level of function
 - Client's cognition (MMSE score not enough)

- The falls program needs to fit within the SAFTE framework

Future Scope for Falls Program

- Client progression from SAFTE to CRAGS (ACAT)
- Integrate with Quick Response Program (ASET)
- Longer term follow-up of clients (beyond six weeks)