

**LIVE STRONGER  
FOR LONGER**

**PREVENT FALLS & FRACTURES**

**Working together to improve outcomes  
for older people; prevention and  
rehabilitation**

**Gerontology Nurses Conference 2017**



# Meet Muriel

- Independent; loves her kids and grandkids
- Lives in her own home
- Wants to stay that way for as long as possible
- Why its been important to talk about Muriel



# Working together- making a difference for Muriel



- Changing demographics
- Fall is an injury & more....
- Evidence @ population level
- Sustainable approach to funding Health & ACC



**Common goal**

# A new way of working for ACC



Falls are the most common cause of serious injury, and occasionally death, in our public hospitals.

The Commission's **reducing harm from falls** programme has introduced a number of simple interventions to help address falls-related harm. This programme works alongside and supports existing programmes in the sector.



Every week in 2010–12, on average, **2 patients fell** and broke their hips in New Zealand hospitals. This rate has now almost halved.



Having a fall can add a month to someone's hospital stay, and is very costly.

ACC is committed to:

- **creating alliances** across key stakeholders to support a population level approach
- making a **contribution** as a partner in the health system
- **building on the previous work** by the Health Quality & Safety Commission and DHBs which focuses on in-hospital falls
- **aligning reporting** with the Ministry's PP23

# Cross-agency collaboration

Recognising that most falls occur in the community ACC has supported the expanded focus to preventing community-based falls.

ACC's contribution supports:

- Fracture Liaison Services
- In-home Strength and Balance
- Community Group Strength and Balance

HQSC's ongoing focus:

- Leadership and guidance, including annual April Falls 'campaign' and establishing regional clinical leadership network  
*(lead, engage and sustain the gains)*
- Continue to be the 'go-to' for evidence-based resources, such as the 10 Topics *(maintain the evidence base)*
- Ongoing measurement for improvement – i.e. QSMs and outcome framework (with ACC)  
*(measure and monitor)*

# What are the key components of the falls and fracture system?

- **Wellness - Community Strength & Balance**, Safer Homes, consumer information, support older people to stay well and independent in their own homes.
- **Fracture Liaison Services (FLS)** - coordinator-based, secondary fracture prevention services implemented by health care systems that identify those with or at risk of fragility fractures
- **In-home Strength and Balance programmes**, support older people not able to attend community group-based classes
- **Early supported discharge** - service delivery models that enable flexibility in the place of rehabilitation for older people
- **Integration effort** – enables the ability to build partnerships, pathways and an outcomes framework to support the falls & fracture system

# Why does the new approach matter?

Aligned Investment



Joint outcomes



Partner benefits

DHB \$s



ACC \$s



- less falls (7163)
- less fractures (2523)
- less hip-fractures (443)
- fewer premature deaths (89)
- independent and well at home
- better quality of life
- active part of their communities

Muriel achieves the outcomes she wants

DHB:

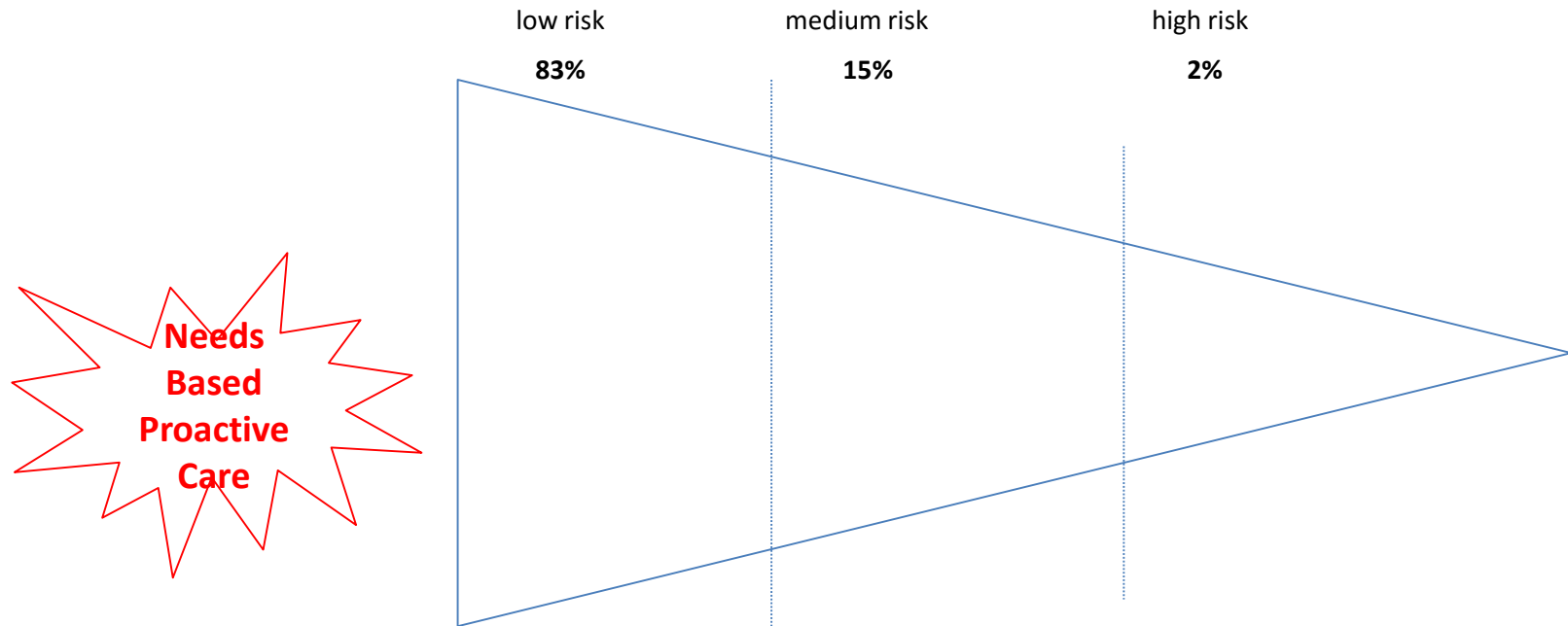
- Reduced hospital demand (4,786 bed days)
- Reduced ARC demand (146 less admitted)
- Higher efficiencies

*Note: Figures above are very conservative, just based on prevented hip fractures*

ACC:

- Less claims cost
- Effective prevention
- Increased value to case management, clients and partners

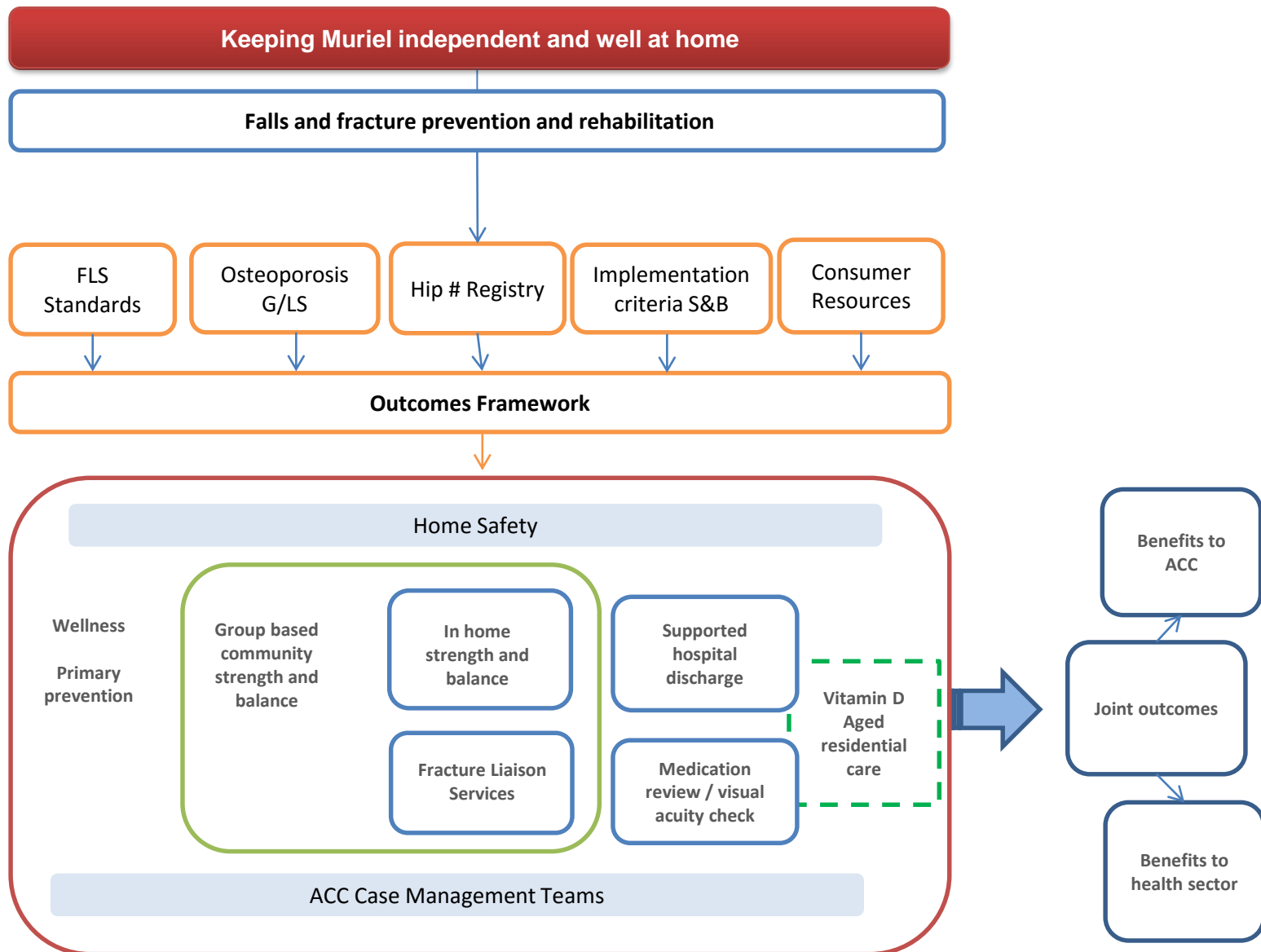
# Taking a Population Approach



- 83% - keeping the 'well old' well at home
- 15% - identifying and targeting those at risk (<65 if appropriate)
- 2% - modernisation of services to ensure effectiveness – rehab and prevention



# Falls and Fracture System Blueprint



# LIVE STRONGER FOR LONGER

PREVENT FALLS & FRACTURES

## OUTCOMES AND BEST PRACTICE FRAMEWORK

# POSITIVE AGEING

### 1 INDEPENDENT & WELL AT HOME MEASURES

*Patient Reported Outcome Measures.*

### 2 FEWER FALL INJURIES MEASURES

Falls 65+ ACC Claims.  
Falls 65+ Fracture vs Non Fracture.  
*Falls 65+ Total/Medical fees/Entitlement.  
Ambulance Fall Incidents 65+.*

### 3 FEWER SERIOUS HARM FALLS & FRACTURES MEASURES

Falls Hosp Admissions (Source).  
Falls Hosp Admissions (Type).  
*New ACC entitlement claims – fracture vs non-fracture.  
Bisphosphonate on discharge for #NOF.*

### 4 IMPROVED RECOVERY (HOSPITAL & HOME) MEASURES

#### Hospital

Falls Hosp Bed Days (Type).  
% #NOF Operated on same or next day.  
*Falls Hosp ALOS.  
Acute readmissions for #NOF.*

#### Home

% of people living in ARC dispensed Vitamin D.  
*ACC length of claim.  
Home care support (ACC/InterRA).  
Entitlement services (ACC clients).*

### 5 INTEGRATED FALLS & FRACTURE CARE ACROSS THE SYSTEM MEASURES

*Older people that have received in home strength and balance services.  
Older people that have received community group strength and balance services.  
Older people seen by Fracture liaison services.*

Social services

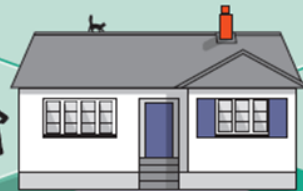
1 Independent & well at home

Home care support

Supported discharge

Healthy bones

Restorative care



Community nursing

Safer homes

2 Fewer fall injuries

3 Fewer serious harm falls & fractures

4 Improved recovery (hospital & home)

5 Integrated falls & fracture care across the system

## BEST PRACTICE FRAMEWORK

Consumer Resources

FLS Standards

Osteoporosis Guidance

Implementation Criteria strength & balance

Implementation Criteria Supported Discharge

Hip Fracture Registry & Clinical care standards

NB: Measures in regular denote indicators currently live. Measures in italics denote indicators under development.

\* Work in progress (Draft)

# Fracture Liaison Service

- Older people who have sustained a fragility fracture in the past are much more likely to have another fracture – potentially hip.
- The **Fracture Liaison Service** identifies those with or at risk of fragility fractures and:
  - prescribes/recommends bisphosphonates
  - refers to an evidenced based strength and balance programme.



# Early Supported Discharge

Evidence shows that hospital is not the best place to rehab older people

ACC is working with **Auckland, Waikato and Canterbury** DHBs to pilot a new funding model for the Non Acute Rehabilitation (NAR) event that enables flexibility in the place of rehabilitation for older people.





# In-Home Strength and Balance

- **There is strong evidence that in-home strength and balance and strength programmes such as the OEP can reduce the rate of falls by 32%.**
- Most appropriate for those who have poor strength & balance and are too frail for or have no access to community group-based falls prevention exercise programmes.
- This programme is not suitable for people in rest home or hospital care.
- ACC has partnered with DHBs to support the expansion of in-home strength and balance programmes in their regions.
- A Technical Advisory Group (TAG) was set up by ACC, to provide criteria based on evidenced best practice for an in home strength and balance programme.

# Community Group Strength and Balance

- There is evidence that community-based, multi-functional exercise programmes, targeted at improving strength and balance in older people **can reduce the risk of falling by 29%**.
- A population based approach is needed if a significant reduction in falls across the older population can be achieved.
- In practice, this means that many thousands of people across NZ at risk of falling, should participate in effective, evidence-based community group strength and balance classes.



# Nine TAG criteria (abbreviated)

1. Improve balance and leg strength to reduce the risk of falling
2. Include baseline and on-going assessment
3. Include exercises that provide individual challenges
4. Balance exercises one third of the total exercises
5. Include minimum of one hour weekly group + 10 weeks home-based exercise
6. Strategy to support on-going regular activity
7. Trained instructors
8. Enrolled through a health professional or self/community referrals
9. Available to people at increased risk of falling



# Lead Agencies

- Lead Agency functions are to:
  - increase access to and availability of approved community classes.
  - ensure classes meet and continue to meet the 9 TAG criteria
  - participate in the Local Falls Working Group
  - connect older people with appropriate classes (or back into the pathway)
  - promotion the benefits of community group strength and balance



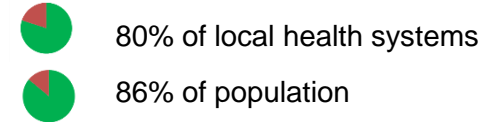


# Service Coverage



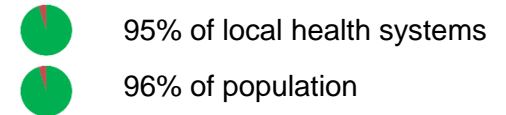
To date:

## Falls and Fracture system



To be completed 3DHBs, MidCentral, Waikato (part2)

## Community Group Strength and Balance Lead Agency



To be completed MidCentral

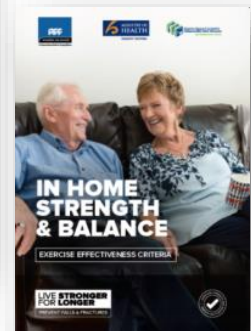
# Strength and Balance referral criteria

- To determine the likely benefit of strength and balance training ask all people aged 75 years and over (Maori & Pacific Island people 65 years & over) living in the community:
  - *Have you slipped, tripped or fallen in the past year?*
  - *Do you have to use your hands to get out of a chair?*
  - *Are there some activities you have stopped doing because you are afraid you might lose your balance? Do you worry about falling?*
- A positive response to any of these questions identifies strength and balance deficits and indicates this person is likely to benefit from strength and balance exercises.

# New Resources



Unifying brand and approval tick



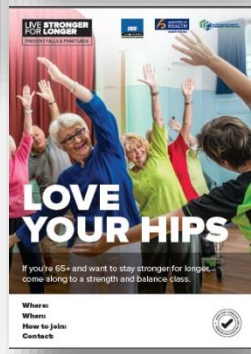
TAG Criteria ( available web only)



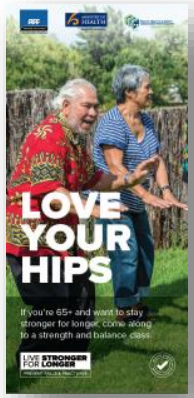
Health Centre Posters



[www.livestronger.org.nz](http://www.livestronger.org.nz)



CS&B Posters



Love Your Hips brochure (for Muriel)





# Other Resources

