

## JHH Perioperative Service Local Guideline

### Title

Preoperative review of patients from Nursing Home or group home accommodation

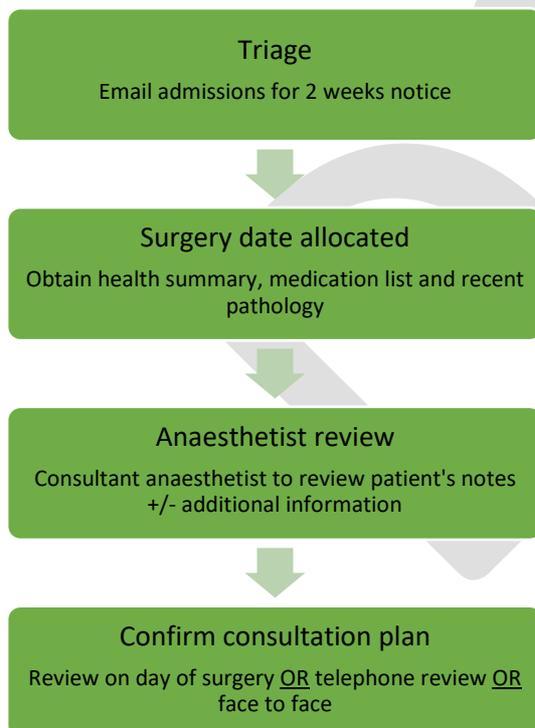
### Background

Patients who are residents of Nursing Homes or group homes often have medical comorbidities that make them higher risk for surgery – e.g. cardiorespiratory disease, renal disease, frailty, cognitive impairment and reduced mobility. However, often these patients are presenting to the Preoperative Clinic for low risk procedures, and the patients have limited capacity for medical optimisation.

The logistics and costs of providing transport and care for patients when providing face to face preoperative clinic review are considerable for the patient and the health care system. Clerical, nursing and anaesthetic input is needed to successfully negotiate the most appropriate method of preoperative assessment. Therefore each patient should have individual consideration of need for face to face Preoperative clinic appointment.

### Guideline

The following process should apply to patients who reside in Nursing Home or group home accommodation who are booked for surgery at John Hunter Hospital.



### Face to face appointments for Nursing Home or group home residents

- Preoperative clinic appointment should be made for morning to allow efficient resource allocation.
- Call patient transport on day of appointment to negotiate their attendance at the hospital until patient is assessed.
- Consider prioritising patient assessment prior to their arrival. This can involve allocation of a nurse and anaesthetist to review paper and electronic documentation (CAP and DMR).
- On arrival consider simultaneous history and assessment of patient with nursing resources available (eg. Observations and ECG)
- Notify anaesthetist of patient's attendance and prioritise preoperative assessment.
- Any pathology or urine testing to be attended on return to Nursing Home or group home.

### **Consultation**

Perioperative service – John Hunter Hospital

### **References**

**Author:** Marie Toth and Paul Healey

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### **Appendices**