

Why doctors should run re-enablement services

Richard Day

Objectives

- Short term: avoid admission
- Medium: avoid loss of independence
- Long term: avoid institutionalisation



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The surface tension of a hospital

- A hospital ward has a surface tension
- It takes energy to free the patient from the grip

Primary vs secondary care

- Secondary better –
 - focus for special interest
 - easier team working
 - broader picture
 - more committed to success?

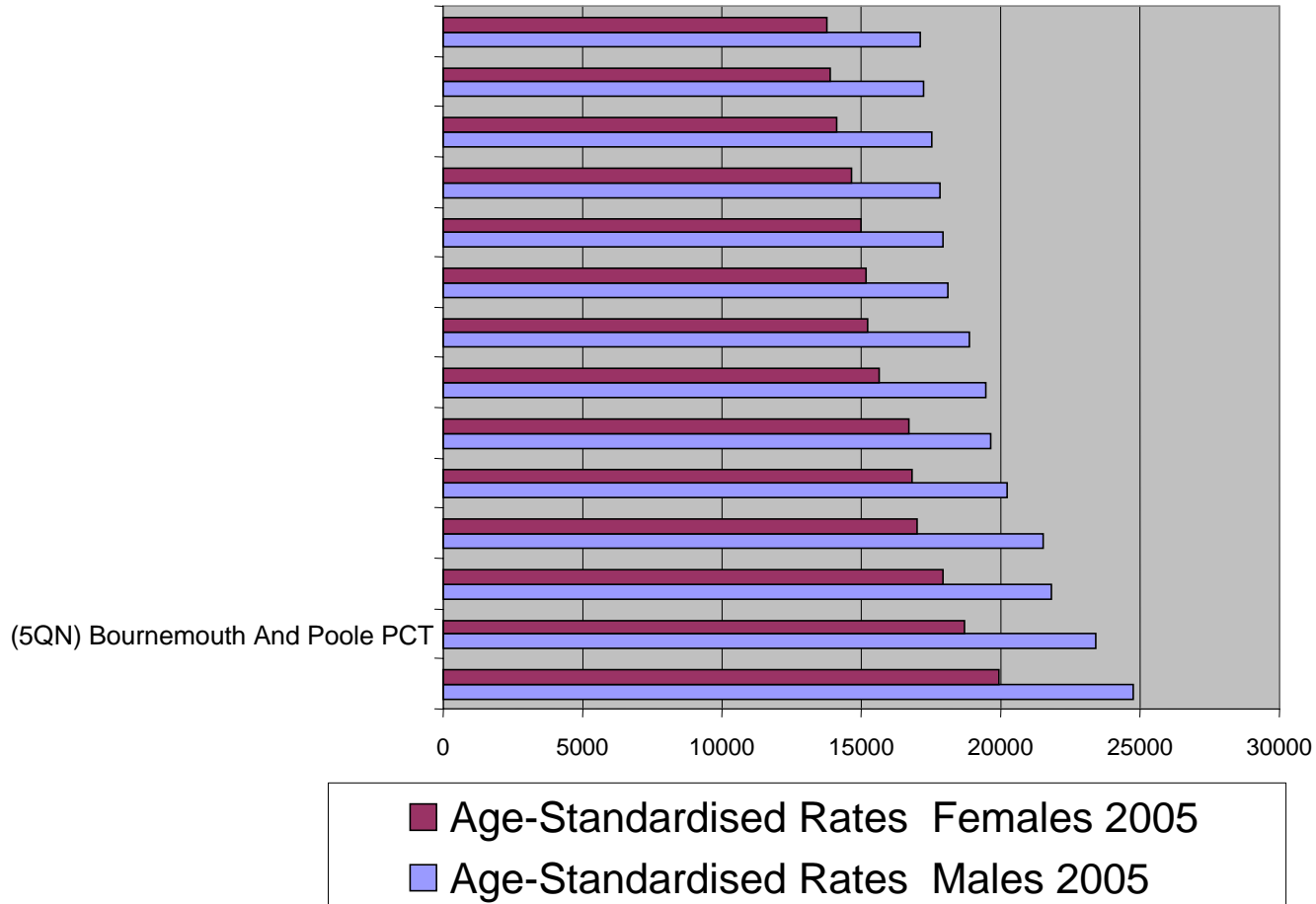
What is a specialty

- Public need
- Technical skill
- Body of knowledge

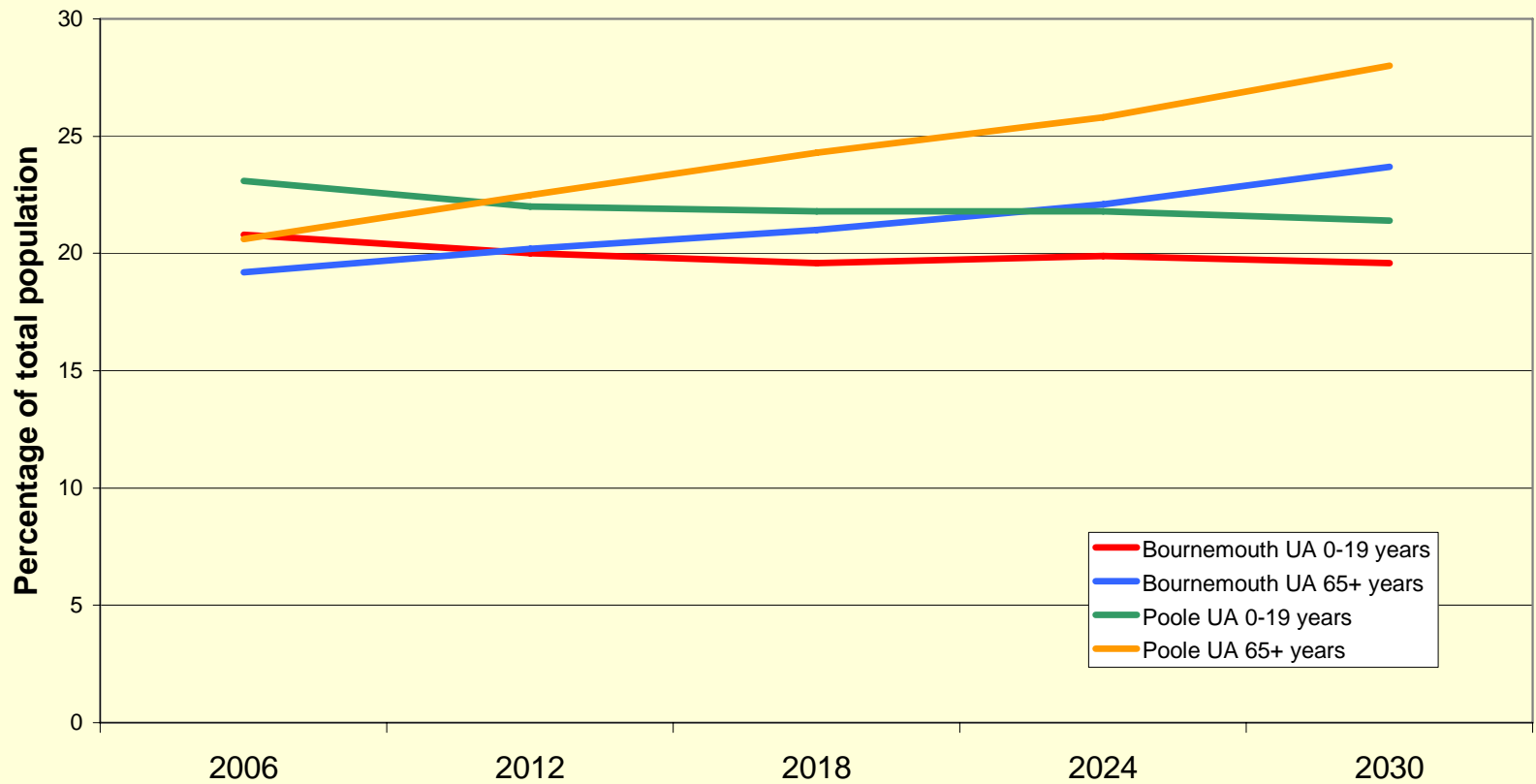
Public Need

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Emergency Hospital Admissions by PCT 2005



Population projections for Bournemouth and Poole, showing proportions of 0 to 19 and over 65 year age groups 2006 to 2030



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Technical Skill

Skills of a community geriatrician

Years of medical/research/admin training

- Make a diagnosis
- Make decisions (eg when not to treat)
- Communicate the decision

Body of Knowledge

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Primary vs Secondary Care in Prevention of Falls

Spice CL, Age and Ageing 2009

- Primary=nurse; secondary=doc+team
- OR falls 0.52 vs primary care
- Principle difference in intervention:
medication changes (4% vs 52%)

What is the Science?

Citations on PubMed

- Re-enablement: 3
- Re-ablement: 7
- Admission avoidance: 234
- Community geriatrics: 1825
- Rehabilitation: 258398
- Home care: 484420

Local services

- East Dorset re-ablement services: PICS, CART, PINC, CLIC, REACT.
- Local may be best
- But how to compare efficacy, value for money.

What do we call geriatrics?

- Medicine for the elderly
- Geriatric medicine
- Care of the elderly
- Elderly care
- Integrated medicine
- Elderly care medicine
- Geriatrics
- Elderly services
- Health care of the elderly
- Health care of older people
- Medicine for older people
- Medicine for elderly people
- Integrated medicine for the elderly
- Special responsibility for the elderly
- Age related medicine
- Adult medicine
- Care of older people
- Care of the elderly medicine
- Medical services for elderly people
- Medical services for older people
- Elderly
- Medical health care of the elderly
- Integrated general medicine
- Medicine of the elderly

BMJ 2004

Conclusion

- BGS Conferences show what we can do
- We work best as a team
- Decision maker leads the team
- The doctor makes decisions
- The doctor should lead the team