

Tower Hamlets Frailty Virtual Ward



Barts Health
NHS Trust

What is the Frailty Virtual Ward?

Virtual wards (VW) are a safe and efficient alternative to NHS bedded care and are led by a GP/Geriatrician.

We deal with all medical problems prevalent in the older population (fluid overload, infections, electrolyte disturbance, blood pressures, etc.) and can also deal with mobility + social issues.

The team consists of a GP, nurse, physiotherapist and OT

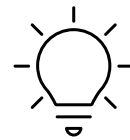
Who we see:

- 65 years and over with a Clinical Frailty Score of ≥ 5
- Registered to a Tower Hamlets GP
- Been physically seen in the last 7 days
- May require hospital treatment in the next 2 weeks

How to refer into the service:

Referrals to be sent via email to bartshealth.THfrailtyVW@nhs.net or VW mobile phone – **07729 046924**

Referrals will be reviewed + responded on the same day if before 2PM and will aim to be first seen within 24-48 hours (and more urgently if required)



Referral

Referral from GP or any community team to email or phone above.

Team has access to EMIS so minimal details needed if EMIS consultation exists



Assessment

Patients contacted and will be offered either a face to face or remote consultation (within 24-48 hours)

Acceptance of referral will be by email and a note on both EMIS and hospital system



Treatment & Monitoring

Patients aim to be kept on the VW for 7-14 days and patients given VW phone number during this time

They will be reviewed daily by the VW GP with consultant input if needed with access to short-term therapies



Discharge & Transfer of Care

When fit for discharge from the VW – a note will be added to EMIS and a discharge summary created.

Onward referrals to community or social services done by the VW.

Frailty Virtual Ward Pathway:

(Operating Hours : 9AM – 5PM daily)