



Centre for
Perioperative Care



British Geriatrics Society
Improving healthcare
for older people

Guideline for Perioperative Care for People Living with Frailty Undergoing Elective and Emergency Surgery

The Centre for Perioperative Care (CPOC) and British Geriatrics Society (BGS) have now published the '[Guideline for Perioperative Care for People Living with Frailty Undergoing Elective and Emergency Surgery](#).' Building on existing guidance, this is the first full pathway guideline for the perioperative management of people living with frailty undergoing surgery.

The impetus for the collaboration has arisen for the need for a complete pathway for people living with frailty to reduce perioperative complications in this high-risk patient group. The guideline was developed by a multidisciplinary working group led by joint clinical leads, Dr Jugdeep Dhesi CPOC Deputy Director, and Dr Jude Partridge British Geriatrics Society. The group encompassed representatives from over twenty organisations involved across the perioperative pathway in the care of patients living with frailty alongside patient and lay involvement.

The scope of this guideline covers all aspects of perioperative care relevant to adults living with frailty undergoing elective and emergency surgery. It is written for healthcare professionals involved in delivering care throughout the pathway, as well as for patients and their carers, managers and commissioners. Implementation of the guideline will require collaboration across the four nations of the United Kingdom between all stakeholders, underpinned by an implementation strategy, workforce development with supporting education and training resources and evaluation through refinement of current national audit tools. We believe this guideline is an important step in improving outcomes for our patients and healthcare services.

The guideline is the second of many that CPOC will lead on and publish to advance the development of perioperative care transforming surgical pathways to the benefit of patients and clinicians alike, boosting service efficiency and reducing the burden of post-surgical complications through multidisciplinary working and seamless integrated perioperative care.

[Please find a full copy of the guidance available here.](#)

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