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# FM ACP RESEARCH GRAND ROUND

## Community Nursing programme evaluation

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# Overview of SingHealth Community Nursing



## Person-Centered Care

### Objectives

Building Healthy & Empowered Community

Continuing Quality Care in Community & Ageing in Place

Right Siting & Integration of Care

### Roles

#### Prevent

Preventive Health for Seniors

#### Empower

Empowerment of Self-Management of Chronic Conditions

#### Re-enable

Transitional Care & Post Acute Care for High Risk Clients

#### Palliate

Palliative Care for Clients with Non-Malignant Conditions

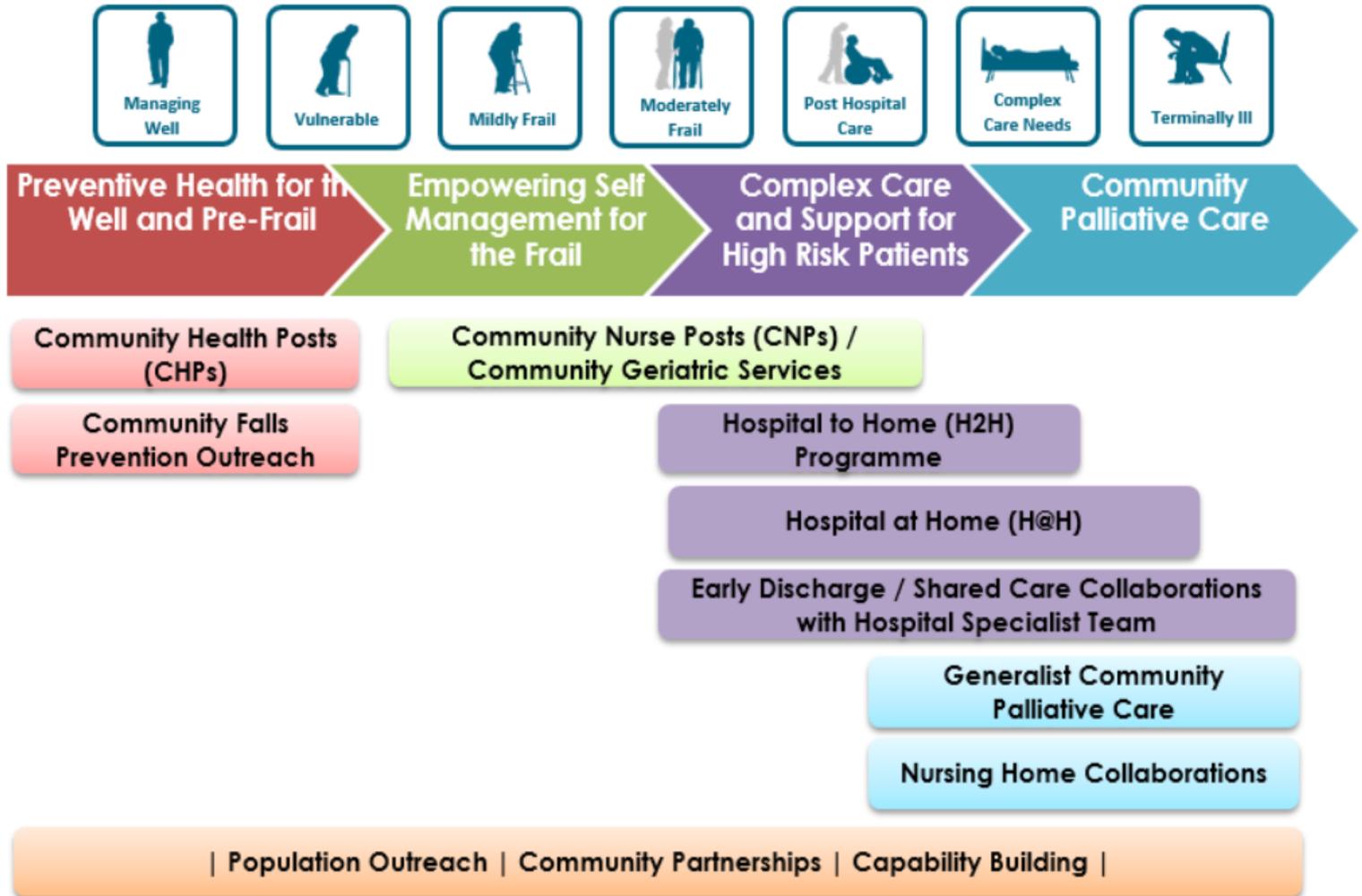
### Approach

Collaborate & Leverage Assets Available in Community

Develop Shared Care

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# Population-Based Practice of Community Nursing



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# Geographical Team-Based Approach



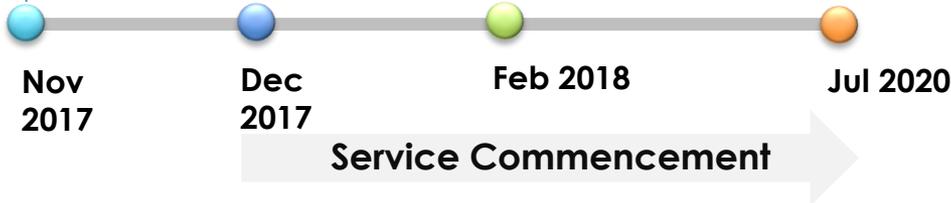
- Deeper understanding of the **population needs in the respective zones**
- **Skill-mix** to cater to different levels of needs & care
- **Ease of collaboration** & building capability for health & social care personnel
- **Greater accessibility**
- **Increase efficiency** in resource allocation

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# Commencement of Community Nursing Services

MOH approved 2 tranches of funding for **SingHealth RHS-led Community Nursing Services**.

- \$29M from FY2017 to 2019 for East & Southeast regions
- \$23M from FY2020 to 2021 for East, Southeast & Northeast regions



# Community Nurse Posts (CNPs)

## 74

East: 31 Southeast: 35 Northeast: 8

**CNPs all co-located within community partners' premises have been set up.**

(As of 31 January 2022)

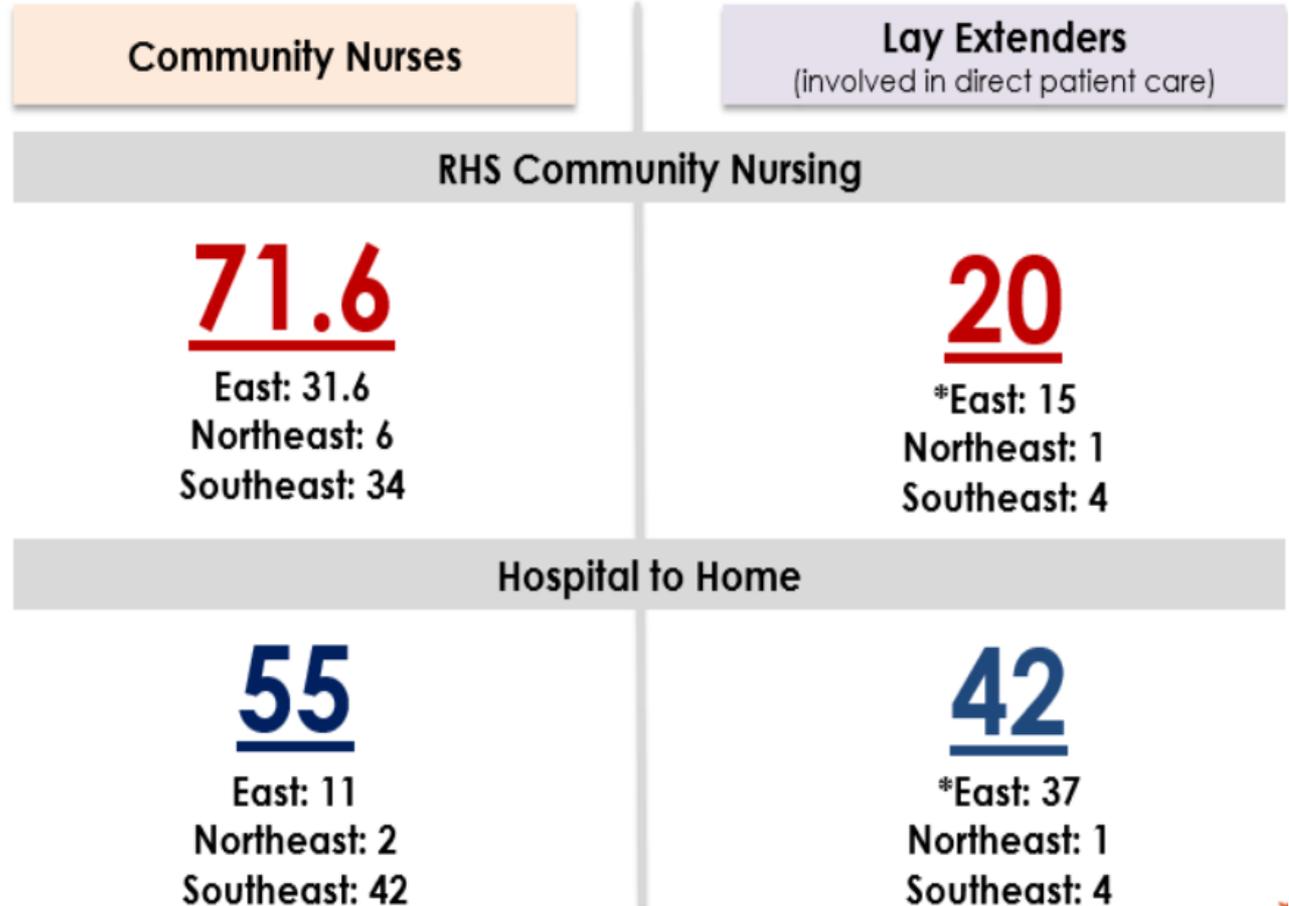


- Health & Geriatric Assessment
- Health Coaching for Disease Prevention
- Chronic Disease Monitoring & Self-Management Education
- Medication Self-Management Support & Education
- Care Referral & Coordination

Service Modes	Referrals to CNPs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1-1 Nurse Consult in CNP</li> <li>• Home Visits</li> <li>• Phone/Video Consult</li> <li>• Group Sessions (Virtual/Face-to-Face)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Care Partners (Healthcare institutions &amp; community partners)</li> <li>• Self Walk-n</li> </ul>
Operating Hours	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily to Weekly (depending on needs &amp; availability of venue in community)</li> </ul>	

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# Community Nursing Manpower (as at Dec 2021)



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# SingHealth Community Nursing Programme Evaluation



## Scale of Programme

- Demographic Profile
- Clinical Profile

Evaluation Period:  
**1 Apr 2019 to  
31 Mar 2020**

## Needs of Residents

- Needs Assessed
- CNP Utilization



Analysis of the **scale of  
Community Nursing Post  
(CNP) Programme &  
Residents' Needs**



## Key Findings

- “Reached Out” to Residents Unknown to SingHealth
- Clinical Outcomes
- Healthcare Utilisations

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# CNP Demographic



32% are aged 70-79 years old  
Median Age: 71



58% are Female  
72% are Chinese



50% are married  
31% live with their spouse



50% reside in purchased HDB flat  
37% in rental flat

n = 2,193

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# Comparison of CNP clients with SG population

Compared to the wider SG population of the same age, CNP clients tend to have:

- **Malay** ethnicity
- **Lower socioeconomic status**
- **Weaker social networks**
- *Possibly fewer chronic disease problems*

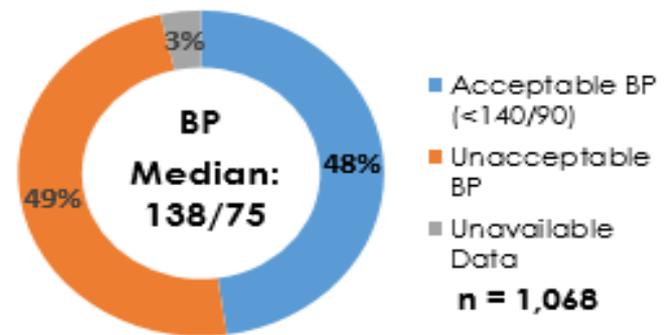
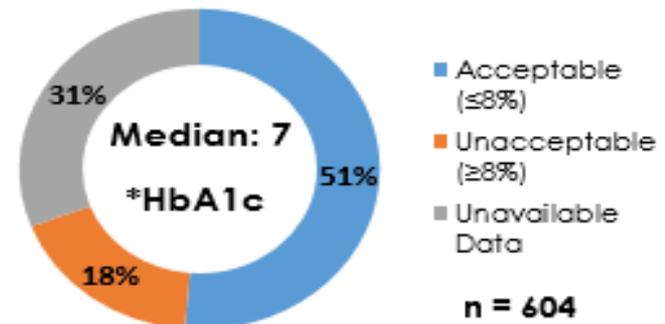
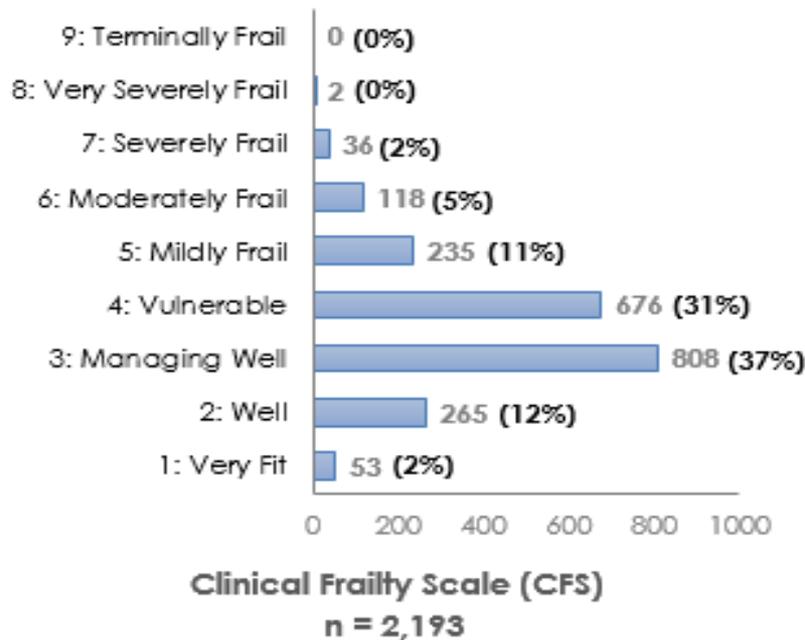
Characteristic	CNP clients (n=2,193)*	SingStat (n=860,508)†	SIGNS I (n=4,549)‡
<b>Demographic</b>			
Malay ethnicity	18.0%	9.9%	9.5%
Private housing	2.4%	16.8%	8.8%
Not married	47.2%	31.3%	33.1%
Living alone	27.6%	-	7.0%
<b>Clinical</b>			
≥1 chronic disease problem	65.7%§	-	82.2%

\*Proportions are adjusted for missing data. †Department of Statistics, Ministry of Trade & Industry, Republic of Singapore, 2019. ‡Chan et al. *SIGNS I*. 2018. §Refers to those with ≥1 problem associated with chronic disease. ||Refers to those with those with ≥1 chronic disease diagnosis.

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# Clinical Profile

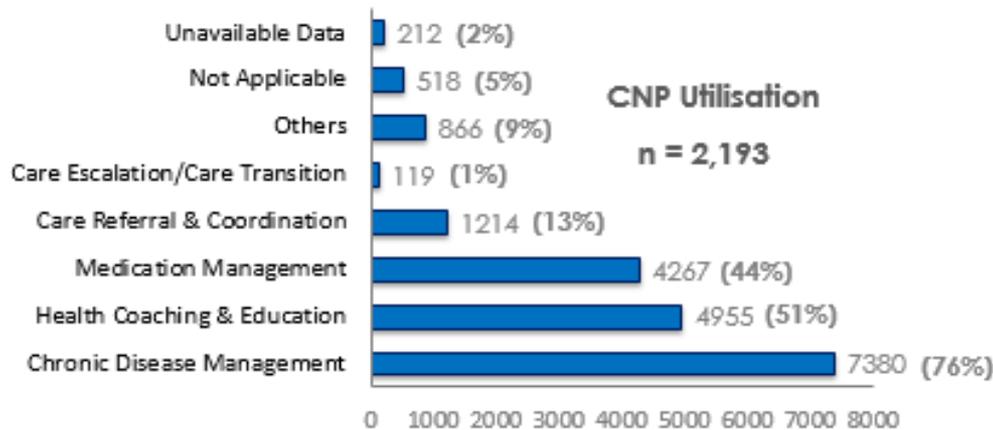
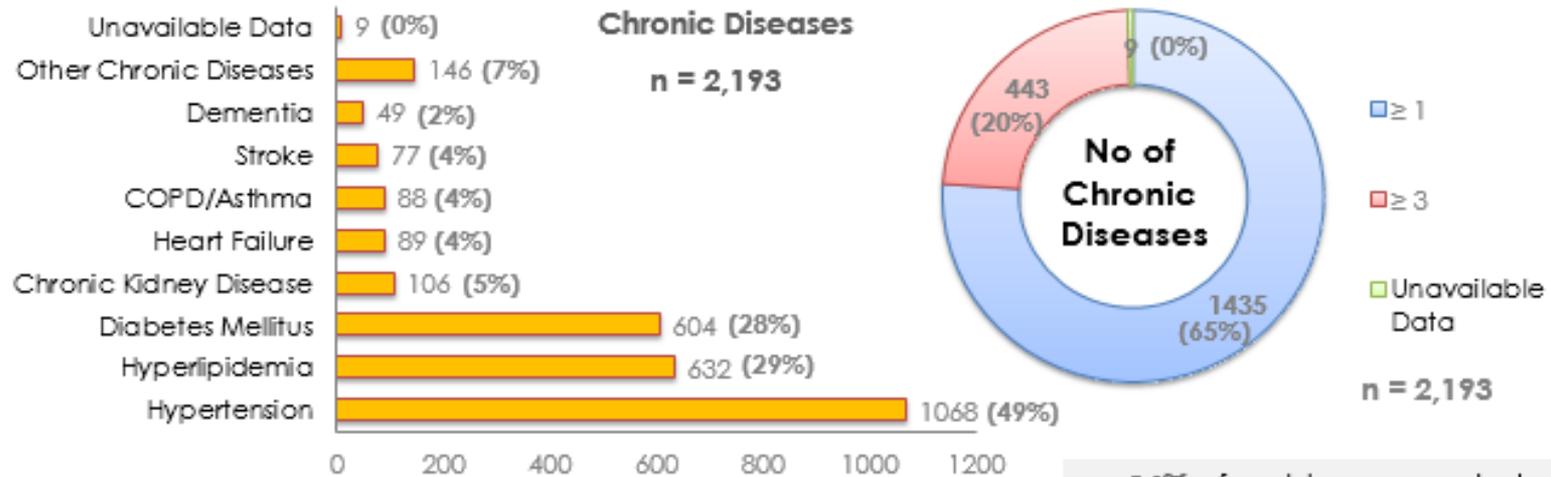
**>49%** are vulnerable & frail  
**18%** have unacceptable HbA1c range  
**49%** have BP reading of >140/90 mmHg



Acceptable range according to MOH CDMP. Formula for proportion: (No of DM residents with HbA1c <8% in their last readings)/(Total no. of DM residents with at least one HbA1c reading in 1-year period prior to or on their first CNP visit)

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# Needs of Residents



- **84%** of problems recorded are related to Physiological, which includes chronic disease management
- Top 3 medical conditions: HDL
- **65%** of residents have 1 to 2 chronic diseases
- **76%** of CNP visits were related to chronic disease management

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# Key Findings

## Reached Out to Residents Who Were "Previously Unknown to System"

**46%**



No SHP chronic disease diagnosis record within the last 1 year prior to 1<sup>st</sup> CNP Visit

**2-6%**



Were referred for new chronic disease diagnosis

**5%**



Increased in SOC Visits 6 months after 1<sup>st</sup> CNP Visit

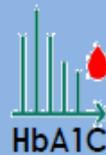
## Improved Clinical Outcomes

**49.3% to 63.9%**



Proportion of clients with improved BP range  
( $p > 0.001$ )

**69.2% to 71.2%**



Proportion of clients with acceptable HbA1C range (<8%)

( $p > 0.378$  – unable to correlate due to short study period)

## Reduction of Healthcare Utilisations

**19%**



Inpatient Admissions



**23%**



ED Visits



**8%**



Length of Stay (LOS)



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# Strengths and limitation

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## Strengths

- Large sample size: low probability of type II error
- Accounted for potential sources of bias and confounding

## Limitations

- A one group pre/post design does not control for confounding by time-associated variables (e.g. history, maturation)
- COVID-19 is intractably confounded with time: accounting for COVID-19 necessarily removes a portion of the data, reducing representativeness of results
- Only SingHealth healthcare utilization data available
- Only SingHealth mortality data available

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# Other Factors affecting data completeness

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- Clients' health seeking behaviour
  - Default appointments, not keen for subsequent follow up
  - Lack of social support/family members to supervise & manage chronic diseases, suboptimal home environment
- No centralised source of info via a common IT system (e.g. GPs, community partners), CMNs are unclear who are caring for residents or services that they are already receiving
  - Missing HbA1c data
- the data template was not standardised previously, missing data and inconsistencies in the categorisation of information

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# MOH Community Nursing Programme Evaluation

2019 Profile*		SHS (n=9,268)
Gender	Male	3,130 (34%)
	Female	4,606 (50%)
Race	Chinese	5,514 (59%)
	Indian	463 (5%)
	Malay	1,096 (12%)
	Others	658 (7%)
Age group	<50	157 (2%)
	50-59	541 (6%)
	60-69	2,429 (26%)
	70-79	2,531 (27%)
	≥80	2,073 (22%)
SES	1-2rm flat	2,524 (27%)
	3rm	1,807 (19%)
	4rm	1,896 (20%)
	5rm and above	1,459 (16%)
Dis. complexity	Mean CCI score	4.8
Status in programme	Dropped out/discharged	1 (0%)
	Died*	225 (2%)

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# MOH Programme Evaluation on RHS-Led Community Nursing Pilot

Outcomes			DID of Intervention vs Control Groups		
					SHS
Hospital utilisation	Inpatient admissions		-0.12*	-0.05	-0.20*
	ED visits		-0.15*	-0.06	-0.17*
Clinical indicators	Proportion of poorly-controlled patients	HbA1c>9	0.04	0.03	-0.01
		LDL≥2.6	-0.19*	-0.10*	-0.02
		BP≥140/90	0.00	0.12*	-0.06*

\*p<0.05

- Greater reduction in inpatient admissions and ED visits were seen across the clusters
  -  and SHS saw significant reduction in both
- Better improvement in poorly-controlled LDL was seen across the clusters
  -  and  saw significant reduction
- SHS saw slight reduction in poorly-controlled HbA1c and significant reduction in poorly-controlled BP

# Data challenges limited the evaluation scope

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- Evaluation was done using previous unstandardized template for retrospective data collection
  - Inconsistent data collection methods across clusters led to incomplete data capture and missing data, resulting in a limited analysis scope and potentially inaccurate interpretation
- New data template has been finalised and used for data collection starting from FY2020 Q2
- Clusters are currently looking into devising a system to collect process and outcomes data comprehensively and consistently across all 3 clusters for data-driven decision-making
- Follow-up period in this analysis was relatively short, given that the intervention addresses longer-term outcomes
  - Unable to analyse mortality rate, as death data is only available up to 2019
- Refresh analysis with longer follow-up period and when newer data are available
  - To include death as an outcome and a cost effectiveness analysis

Extracted from MOH/AIC Sharing of RHS-Led Community Nursing Pilot Evaluation on 14 Sep 21

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