

# American College of Surgeons Geriatric Surgery Verification Program

Abington Hospital Jefferson Health

# Geriatric Population Facts

- Fastest growing segment of the population
- Expected 58 million persons by 2020
- Older adults account for 40% inpatient and 33% outpatient operations annually, with number expected to grow
- Distinct physical and social vulnerabilities, require individualized approach to care

# American College of Surgeons

## 2019 Geriatrics Surgery Verification (GSV) Quality Improvement Program

- Goal: Increased quality care and outcomes in specific specialties and populations
- Collaborative project: The ACS, The John A. Hartford Foundation and 50+ stakeholder organizations
- Creation of 30 new surgical standards to improve outcomes for the aging surgical population
- Standards provide framework for hospitals to provide interdisciplinary approach to optimize surgical care and qualification criteria for GSV accreditation
- Improving communications with patients before surgical procedures to focus on outcomes that matter most to the patient

# Accreditation Requirements: Compliance with GSV Standards



AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

*Inspiring Quality:  
Highest Standards, Better Outcomes*

**100+years**

- **Institutional Administrative Commitment:**  
*Letter of support from hospital leadership*
- **Program Scope and Governance:**  
*Designated Geriatric Director, Geriatric Coordinator and Geriatric Surgery Committee*
- **Geriatric-friendly patient rooms:**  
*Improve reorientation strategies, family visitation space*
- **Personnel and Services Resources:**  
*Geriatric Surgery Nurse Champion (GSNC) per surgical floor to provide Leadership, Nursing Education and QI*

Facts courtesy of <https://www.facs.org/quality-programs/geriatric-surgery/standards>

# Accreditation Requirements: Compliance with GSV Standards



AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

Inspiring Quality:

Highest Standards, Better Outcomes

- Treatment decision-making and discussions about overall health goals
  - Discuss anticipated treatment to align outcomes with patient's health goals*
  - Communication should not be “managerial” or lacking patient engagement*
- Geriatric Vulnerability screens
  - Designate patients high-risk for delirium, impaired mobility, impaired cognition, malnutrition*
- Interdisciplinary input and care for high-risk patients identified via screenings
  - Preoperative discussions between disciplines for the best care for patients*
- Immediate return of personal sensory equipment postoperatively
  - Eyeglasses, hearing aids*

Facts courtesy of <https://www.facs.org/quality-programs/geriatric-surgery/standards>



AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

Inspiring Quality:

Highest Standards, Better Outcomes

100+years

## Accreditation Requirements: Compliance with GSV Standards

- Inpatient medication management and opioid sparing

*Avoid/minimize meds on Beers list via order sets, CDS, flags. Multimodal analgesia, non-pharmacologic options, include bowel regimen. Regulate polypharmacy*

- Discharge communication with primary care physicians, geriatricians and care facilities

*Include deficits identified via screenings, info regarding common geriatric syndromes, d/c summary to be discussed with patient, PCP & caregivers*

- Geriatric surgery community outreach project

*Programs in awareness, injury prevention or education, to be done annually*

- Geriatric education of surgeons, advance practice providers, nurses and pharmacists

- Ongoing data collection and review

Facts courtesy of <https://www.facs.org/quality-programs/geriatric-surgery/standards>

Abington Hospital Jefferson Health- Department  
of Surgery's

Preparations for the Geriatric Surgery Verification  
Program via

\*The GSV Inventory Spreadsheet

# The 4Ms Framework

Age-Friendly care is the reliable implementation of a set of evidence-based geriatric best practice interventions across four core elements, known as the 4Ms, to all older adults in your system

## 4Ms Framework of an Age-Friendly Health System





# Reciprocal/Synergistic Relationships Among 4Ms

- Provides feasible framework for implementation and measurement
- Addresses older adults' core health issues
- Builds on strong evidence base
- Synergistic relationships → simplify and reduce burden on care team while increasing effect
- Advances priorities many of the health systems are already focused on

