

INTEGRATION OF PALLIATIVE CARE TO HEART FAILURE CLINIC

HEART FAILURE CLINIC COMPONENTS

Headquartered in San Antonio, Texas

WellMed is a healthcare delivery network serving more than 280,000+ patients, mostly Medicare-eligible seniors, in Texas and Florida.

The WellMed Palliative care program, which began in 2013, encompasses the entire spectrum of patient care.

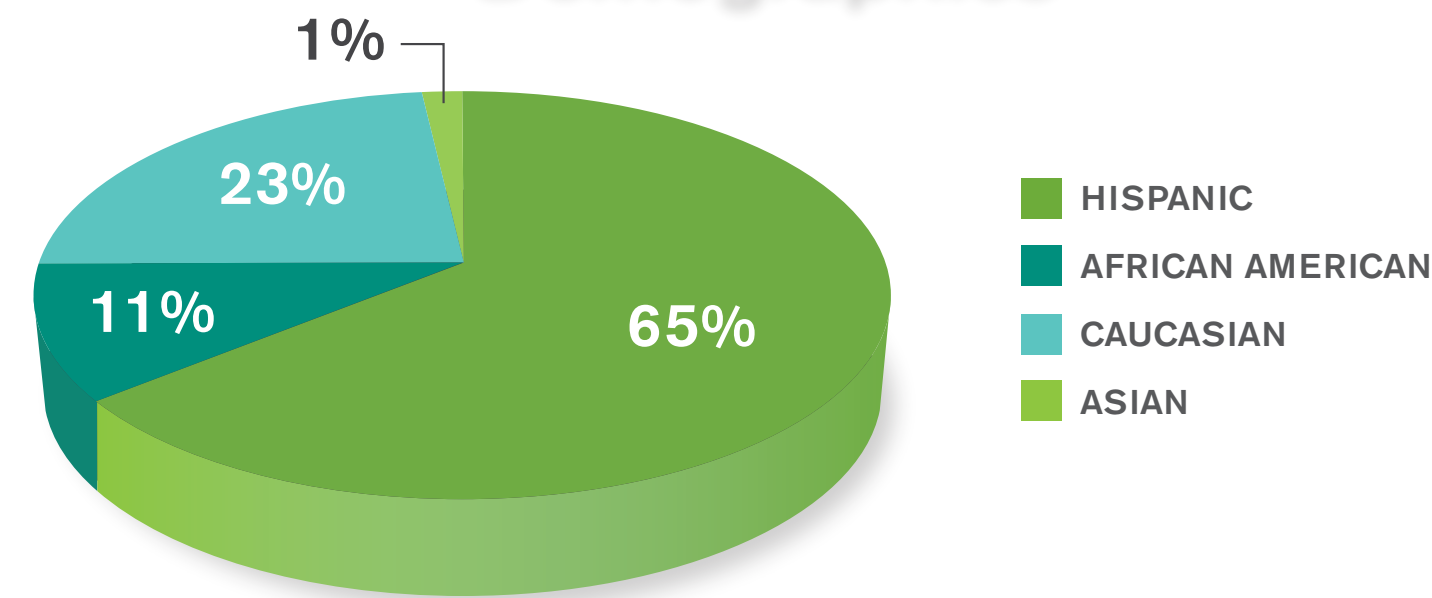
- Inpatient arena
- Skilled nursing facility
- Subspecialty clinic (CHF, Oncology)
- Home-based

In 2015, we expanded from providing subspecialty palliative care in a patient's primary care clinic to the creation of a multidisciplinary palliative care clinic in collaboration with cardiology for our CHF patients.

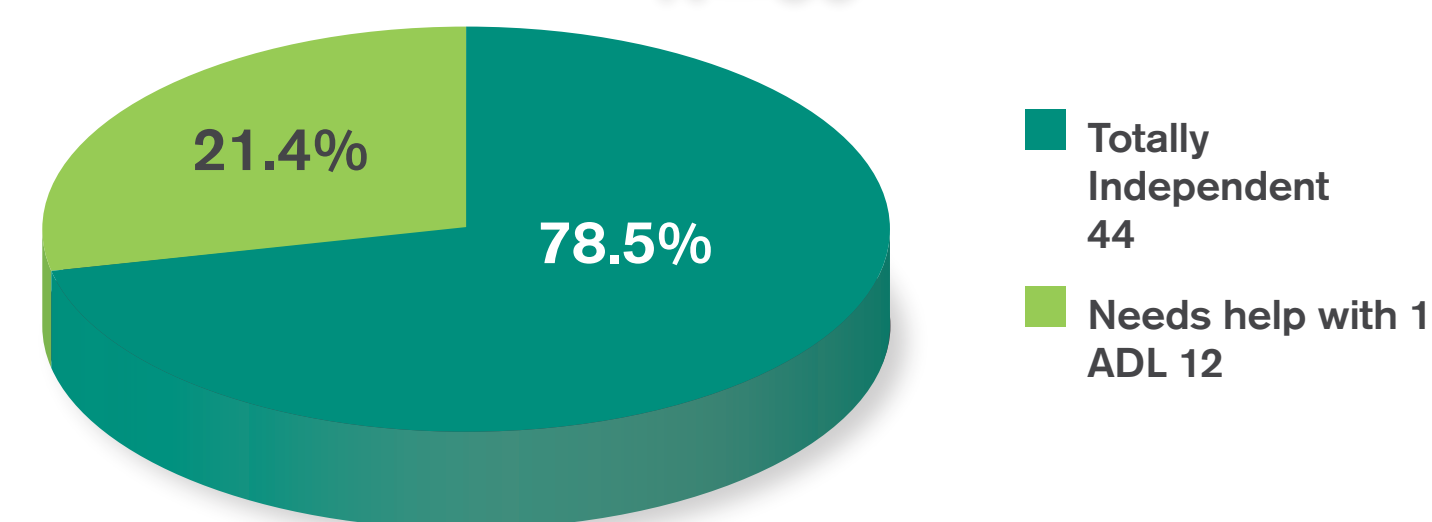
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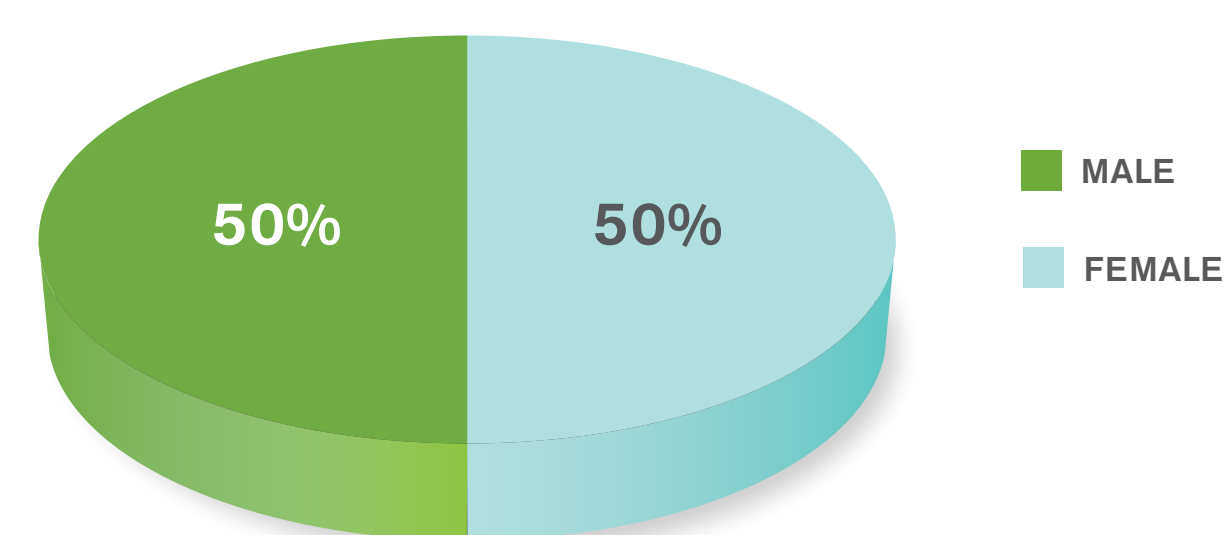
Demographics



Patients' Functional Status N=56



Male/Female



INCLUSION Criteria for CHF/Palliative Care Clinic:

1. Moderate to severe LV systolic dysfunction
2. Multiple Hospital Admissions/ED visits within the past 6-12 months

GOALS of CHF/Palliative Care Clinic:

1. Reduce morbidity and mortality
2. Decrease hospital admissions
3. Decrease symptoms related to CHF
4. Improve QOL for patients with advanced heart failure
5. Improve patient education regarding disease process
6. Decrease polypharmacy

COMPONENTS of Multi-Disciplinary Clinic:

- Cardiologist
- Palliative Care Provider
- Pharmacist
- Medical Assistant

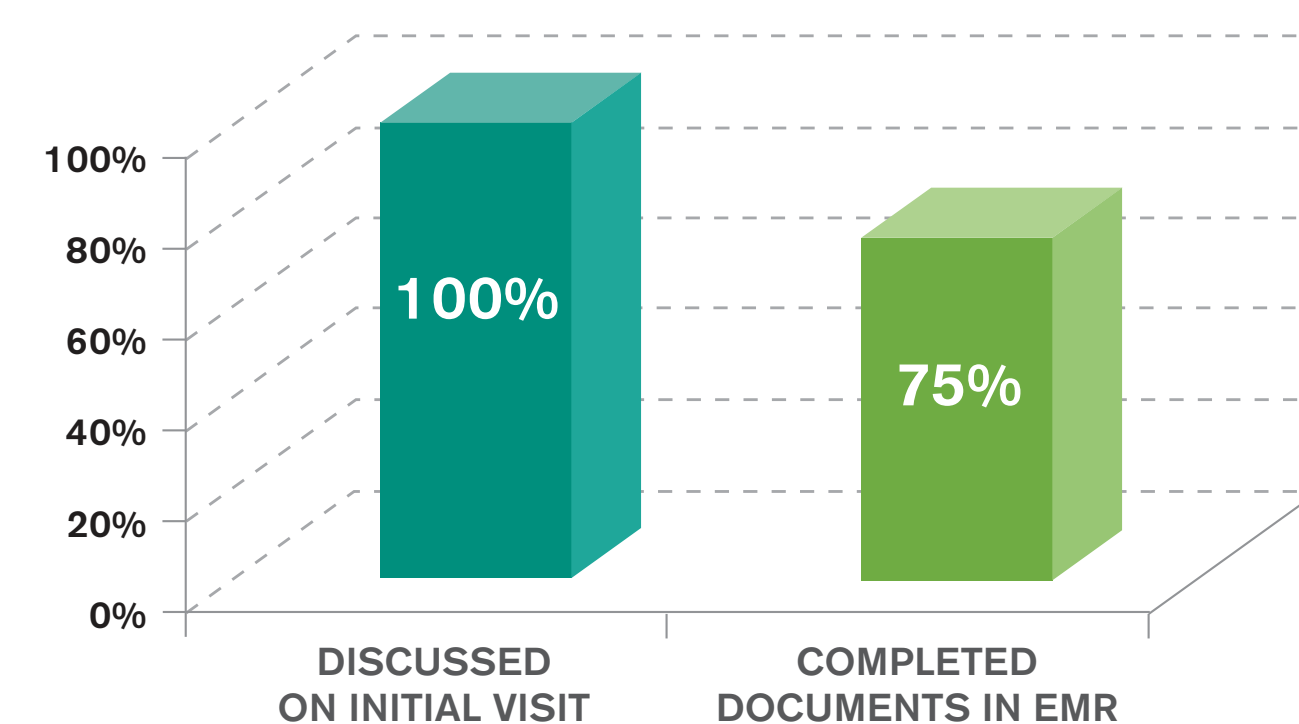
Full Geriatric ASSESSMENT:

- Cognitive
- Emotional
- Social
- Functional
- Medical/Physical

SUMMARY / DISCUSSION

1. 61% of patients showed improvement in their MLWHQ score (24/41).
2. Of those patients whose score improved, the average score decrease was 16.8. (100 point scale)
3. For all patients, the average initial MLWHQ score was 40.85. The average change in score for all patients was -4.12 (negative is improvement). Therefore, there was a mean improvement in HF scores for all patients of 10.1%.

Advance Care Planning



Change in Heart Failure Symptoms



Bearing in mind that HF is a progressive disease, with a natural history of worsening symptoms over time, these results are very encouraging.