4.21 Physiotherapy Role in the Pre Lung Transplant Clinic at the Irish National Heart and Lung Transplant Centre

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Background: Mater Misericordiae University Hospital is the National Lung Transplant Unit in Ireland, established in 2010. Prior to 2021 there was no outpatient physiotherapy input to pre transplant patients. In 2021, a trial of virtual pulmonary rehabilitation for patients on active transplant list was completed. Only 6 patients completed this programme in a 6 month period. Methods: To increase patient catchment, in 2022, we completed a pilot of physiotherapy attending transplant assessment clinic started. This programme is now being run as part of our standard of care with Physiotherapy attendance at each pre transplant assessment clinic. Assessment includes oxygen assessment (6MWT), updates to current prescriptions as well as exercise education and prescription. Attendance at this clinic has aided in managing the risk for many of our patients as well as supporting in the MDT decision making on the suitability for transplant. Results: On average 6 patients are seen per clinic per week, with on average 60% updates to oxygen prescription and 90% education on exercise and onward referrals. This enhanced holistic approach to patient management aids in optimising the service for those in attendance ensuring gold standard care. Patient satisfaction survey 2023 also showed 92% of patient found physiotherapy attendance to be strongly beneficial in understanding oxygen therapy and exercise provision.

Disclosures: None **Conflict of Interest:** The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.