

PHASE 1

Systematic review of scientific literature pertaining to:

- Profile of older persons presenting to ED
- Descriptors of best practice in ED management of older persons
- Existing Quality Indicators (QIs) for older persons
- Quality management in ED

Project team to develop list of domains from which QIs to be sourced.

Synthesis of the literature and potential QIs

Expert panel development of preliminary QIs:

- Consideration of care domains
- Definition of preliminary QIs
- Recommendations for data collection methodology

PHASE 2

Testing preliminary QIs in a prospective observational multi-centre cohort

Analysis and scoring of preliminary QIs:

- Structure
- Process
- Outcome

PHASE 3

Expert panel generation of QIs, with final definitions and scoring rules:

- Review of preliminary QIs and relevant field study data
- Modify QIs as required
- Finalise QIs that will be taken to voting stage

Finalisation of QI suite:

- Two voting rounds
- Teleconference for discussion between voting rounds
- Outcome of voting decided by decision rules identified *a priori*