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**advantAGE**  
MANAGING FRAILTY

sunfrail  
final conference

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The Advantage project has received  
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Healthcare Programme (2014-2020)

## **ADVANTAGE JA**

### **Joint Action on Prevention and Management of frailty 2017-2019**

**Prof. Leocadio Rodríguez Mañas**  
**Coordinator**  
**ADVANTAGE**



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MANAGING FRAILTY

A Joint Action with **22 Member States and 43 organizations** involved.

It is co-funded by the EU Commission and the Member States.

- **DURATION:**

1<sup>st</sup> January 2017 - 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 (3 years)

- **COORDINATOR:**

Servicio Madrilen0 De Salud (SERMAS-HUG), Spain

- **BUDGET:**

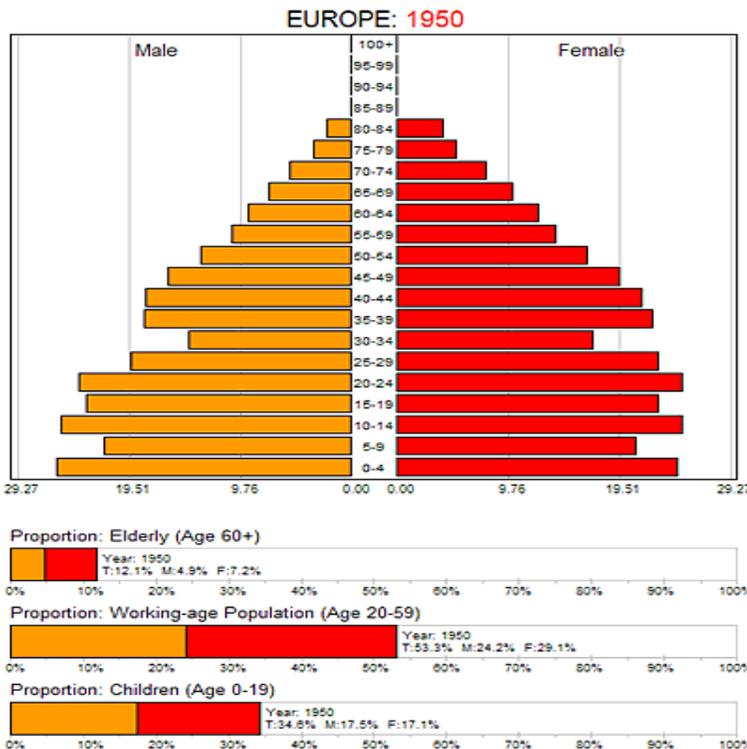
The estimated eligible costs of the action are EUR  
5,738,934.60

(The grant reimburses 60% of the action's eligible costs)



# Demographic change – challenges to society & economy

Ageing society



Chronic conditions

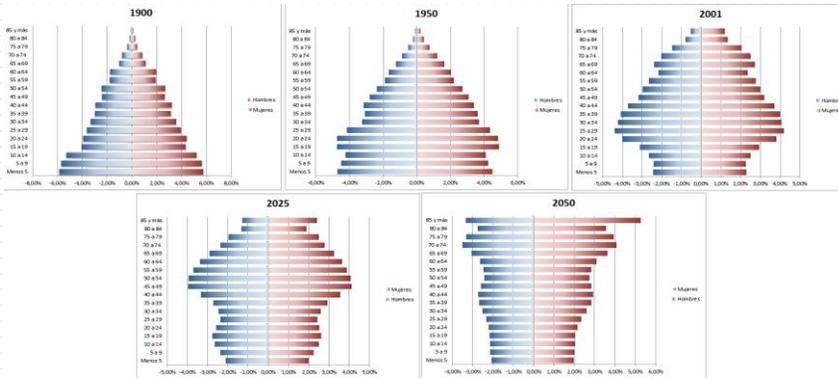
Health workforce shortage

Financial unsustainability

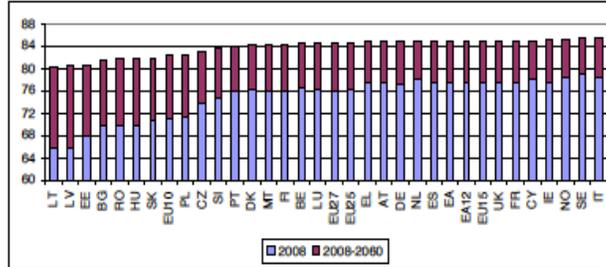
HLY vs LE

Health inequalities

## DEMOGRAPHIC TRANSITION

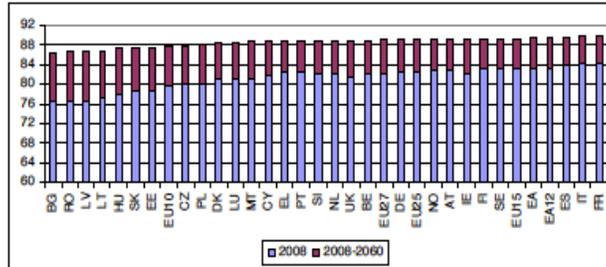


Graph 6 - Projection of life expectancy at birth in EUROPOP2008, men (in years)



Source: Commission services.

Graph 7 - Projection of life expectancy at birth in EUROPOP2008, women (in years)



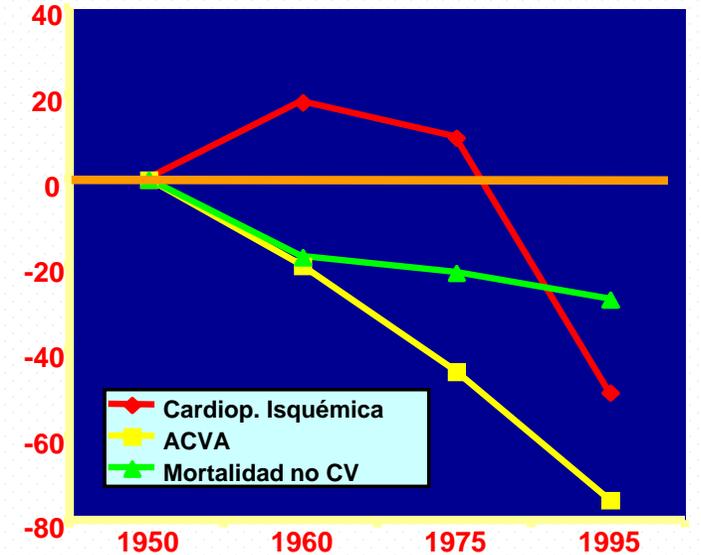
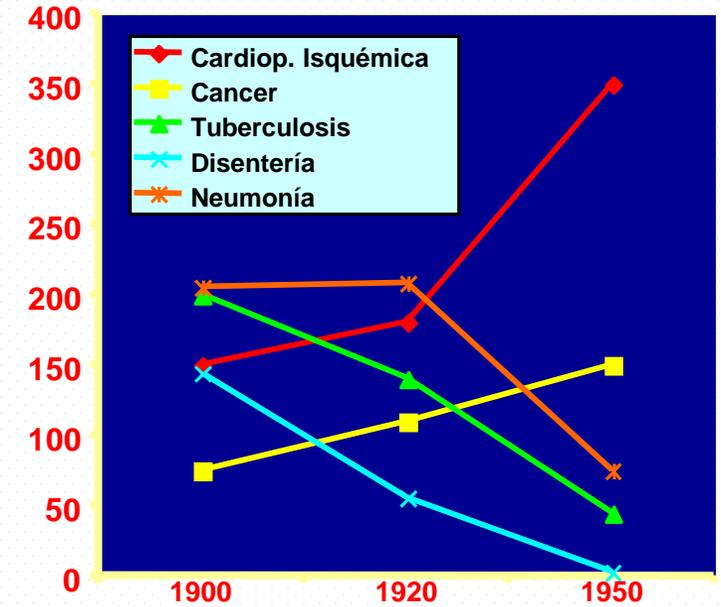
Source: Commission services.



When the facts change, I change my mind. What do you do, sir?

John Maynard Keynes

## EPIDEMIOLOGIC TRANSITION



I have been vaccinated against polio and mumps. I have been vaccinated against chicken pox, whooping cough and measles. Then I fell down the stairs.

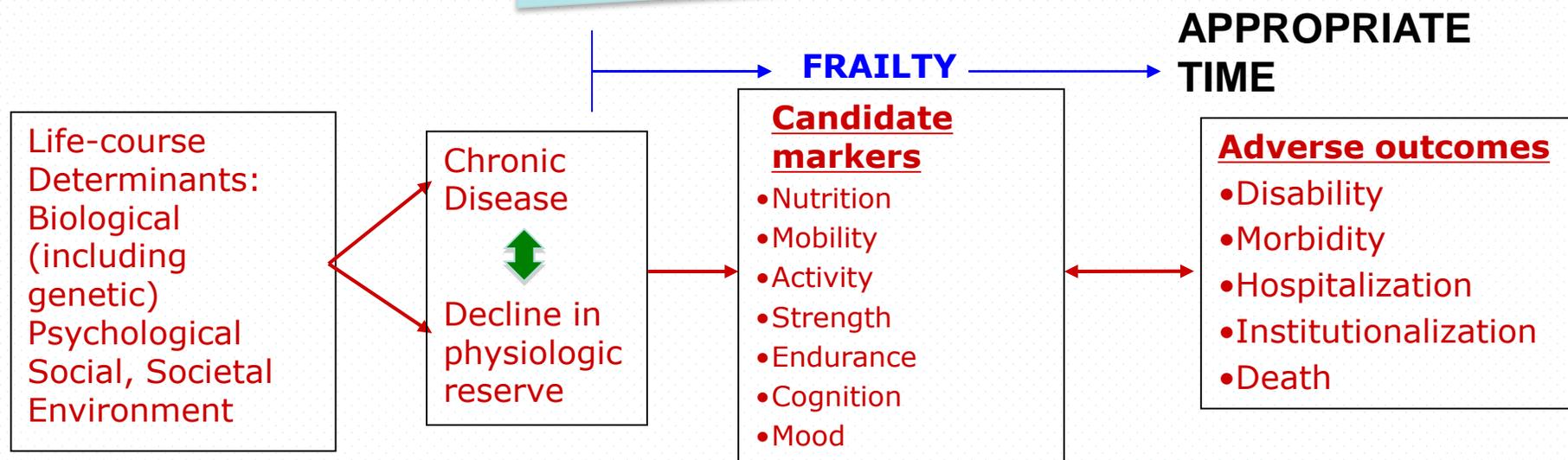
*Charlie Brown - Charles M. Schulz*



BE AWARE ABOUT  
THE TRUE FOCUS:

IT IS FUNCTION!!!

REVERSIBILITY



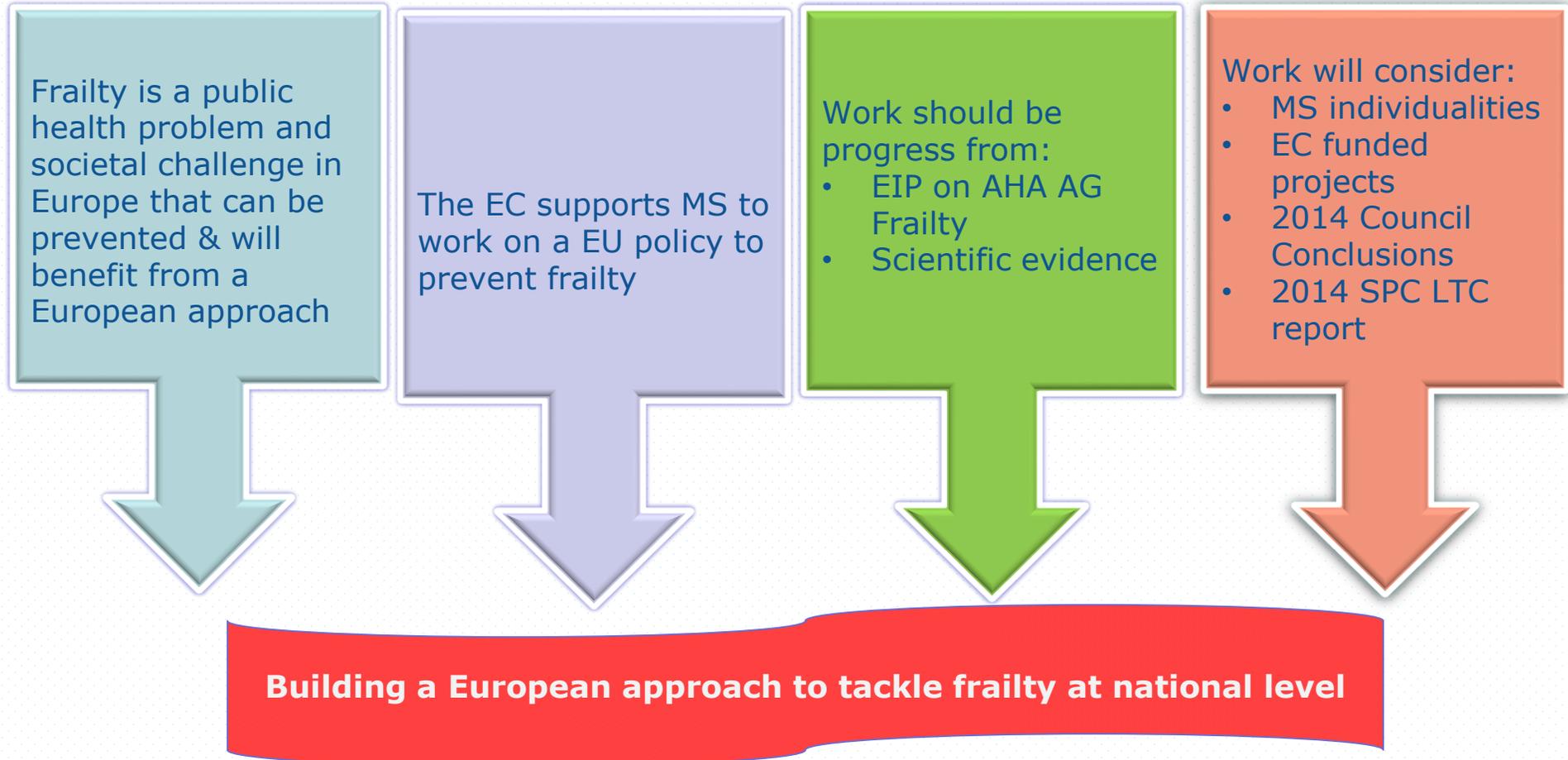
# Frailty as a dynamic functional state



	Robust	Frail	Functional Limitation	Disability	Dependency
<b>Definition</b>					
<b>Interventions to improve quality and outcomes - and prevent or delay further functional decline</b>	<b>What How Where</b> ?	<b>What How Where</b> ?	<b>What How Where</b> ?	<b>What How Where</b> ?	<b>What How Where</b> ?

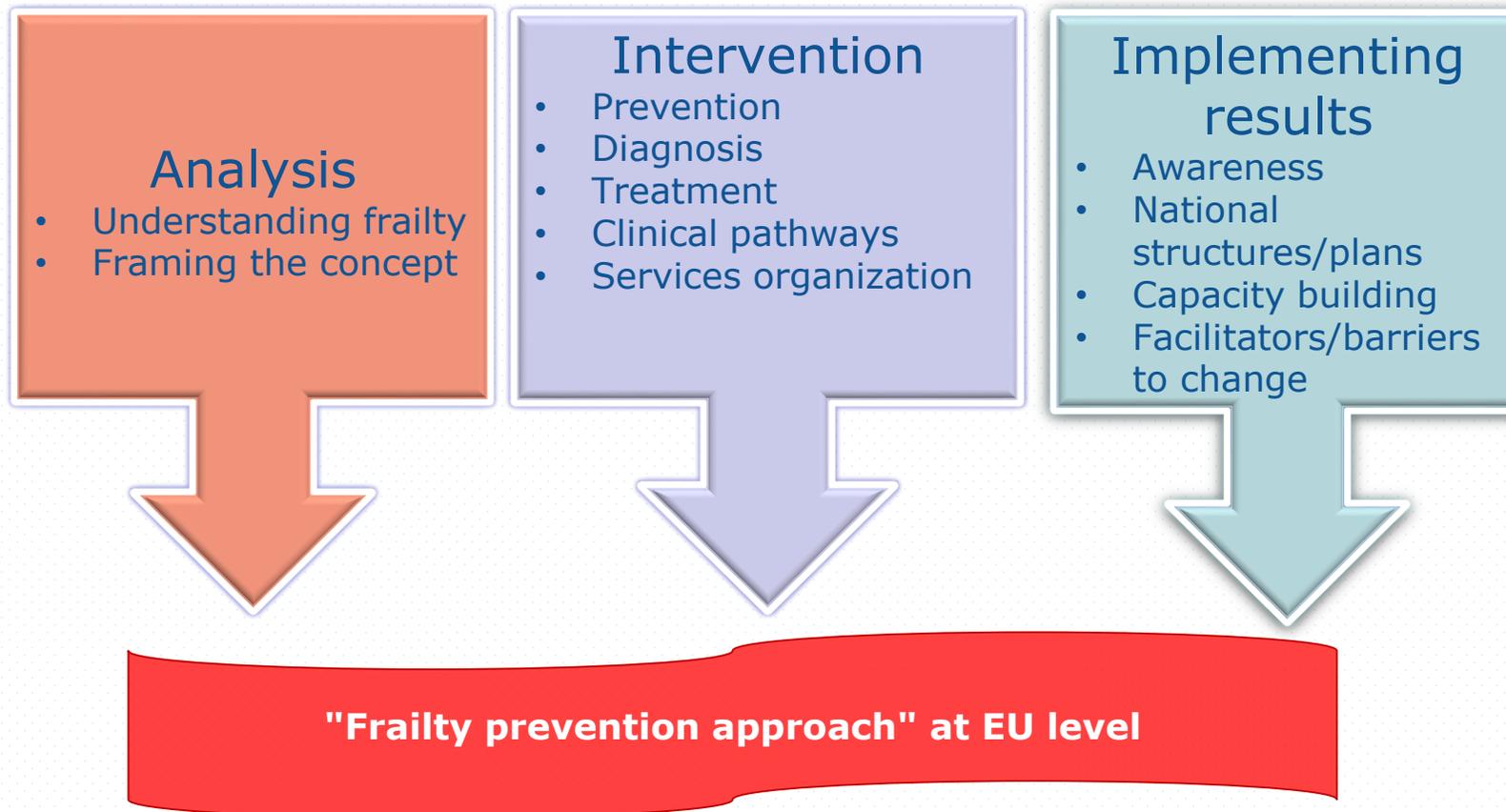


## 4 ideas to consider





## Working on frailty prevention by



# Objectives

ADVANTAGE JA aims at building a common understanding on frailty to be used in all the Member States, by policy makers and other stakeholders, which should be the base for a common management both at individual and population level of older people who are frail or at risk of developing frailty throughout the European Union.

1. To promote important **sustainable changes** in the organization and implementation of care **in the Health and Social Systems**;
2. To prepare a **common European framework on** screening, early diagnosis, prevention, **assessment and management of frailty**;
3. To develop a **common strategy on frailty** prevention and management, including raising awareness and advocacy among stakeholders, especially policy and decision makers.

# TARGET GROUPS

1. Policy makers and stakeholders, both from the public and private sectors.
2. Health and Social care professionals
3. Frail older people and their carers, those at risk of frailty, and the EU population at large.

# EXPECTED OUTCOMES / RESULTS

A GENERAL EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK

**A SPECIFIC MS PERSPECTIVE**  
which will be aligned with the  
European one, but implemented  
according to the local capability and  
context.

# IMPLEMENTATION PHASES

**Phase I** (2017) - State of the Art - background information collection, analysis and rational discussion and drafting of preliminary documents.

**Phase II** (2018) - developing and testing the draft version of the common European model to approach frailty (frailty prevention approach – FPA document).

**Phase III** (2019) - drafting final documents, debating these with participant MSs, and drafting the final framework, the FPA document and policy recommendations.

STATE OF THE ART  
STATUS OF MS

MS PRIORITIES  
ROAD-MAP DRAFTS

CONSULTATION  
FINAL ROAD-MAPS

# First outcome: State of the art



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MANAGING FRAILTY

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State of the art report on the  
prevention and management of  
frailty

This report is part of Joint Action ‘724099 / ADVANTAGE’ which has received funding from the European Union’s Health Programme (2014-2020).

*DISCLAIMER: The content of this report represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility; it cannot be considered to reflect the views of the European Commission and/or the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency or any other body of the European Union. The European Commission and the Agency do not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.”*

Available at [www.advantage.eu](http://www.advantage.eu)

# With the aim of answering relevant questions for policy

1. What is the definition of frailty adopted by ADVANTAGE JA? .....	10
2. What is the relationship between frailty and multi-morbidity?.....	10
3. How common is frailty in the ADVANTAGE JA Member States? .....	11
4. How many new cases should we expect in the future? .....	11
5. Can a frail person improve his/her situation (become less frail) spontaneously? .....	12
6. How can frailty be screened in clinical practice?.....	12
7. How can frailty be diagnosed? .....	13
8. How can frailty be managed?.....	14
9. Do we need programs to screen for frailty at population level?.....	18
10. Is there a need to monitor frailty in Europe? .....	19
11. What components should health and care systems adopt to manage frailty? .....	19
12. Is the health and social care workforce ready to meet the challenges of frailty? .....	20
13. What are the future areas of research on frailty?.....	21

## Written following a consensus method stemming from the report of each WP

WP	Area of knowledge covered by each WP
WP4	Frailty definition. Relationship of frailty with chronic diseases and multi-morbidity. Individual screening and diagnosis.
WP5	Epidemiology. Population screening, monitoring and surveillance.
WP6	Prevention. Clinical management and treatment (including nutrition, physical activity, drugs and ICTs).
WP7	Health and social care models for frailty management.
WP8	Education/training of the workforce. Research.

## After a thorough research in the specialised literature

Areas of knowledge reviewed	Papers identified	Papers analysed
Definition	494	74
Relation with chronic diseases	2,282	25
Prevalence and incidence	2,948	63
Individual screening and diagnosis	6,611	52
Prevention	391,910	31
Clinical management	67,462	27
Nutrition	39,885	28
Physical activity	620,043	25
Drugs	28,796	25
ICTs	124,634	33
Population screening	1,186	3
Surveillance	751	0
Monitoring	451	0
Trajectories and transitions	862	3
Health care models	1,065	43
Education/Training	1,914	0
Research	610	71
Total	1.291.904	503

# WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF AN EXTERNAL EXPERT COMMITTEE

**EAB and SC meeting**

**Mahon, Spain,  
September 2017**



# GLOSSARY OF TERMS-DEFINITIONS

## Annex 4: Glossary

**Active ageing:** the process of optimizing opportunities for health, participation and security in order to enhance quality of life as people age.

**Assessment:** the action of making judgement about something. It refers in this context to screening and diagnosis of frailty.

**Comprehensive geriatric assessment:** a multidimensional assessment of an older person that includes medical, physical, cognitive, social and spiritual components; may also include the use of standardized assessment instruments and an interdisciplinary team to support the process.

**Chronic condition:** a disease, disorder, injury or trauma that is persistent or has long-lasting effects.

**Disability:** any restriction or lack (resulting from an impairment) of ability to perform an activity in the manner, or within the range, considered to be normal for a human being. The term disability reflects the consequences of impairment in terms of functional performance and activity by the individual.



**Functional ability:** the ability to perform activities of daily living, including bathing, dressing, and other independent living skills, such as shopping and housework. Many functional assessment tools are available to quantify functional ability.

**Frailty:** is a geriatric syndrome which can be regarded as a progressive age-related deterioration in physiological systems that results in extreme vulnerability to stressors and increases the risk of a range of adverse outcomes including care dependence and death.

**Geriatric syndrome:** the multifaceted dynamics between underlying physiological change, chronic disease, and multi morbidity can also result in health states in older age that are not captured at all by traditional disease classifications and that are therefore often missing in disease-based assessments of health. These are commonly known as geriatric syndromes, although there is still some debate as to what disorders these include.

**Good practice:** is a practice that has been proven to work well and produce good results, and is therefore recommended as a model. It is a successful experience, which has been tested and validated, in the broad sense, which has been repeated and deserves to be shared so that a greater number of people can adopt it.

# Recommendations about instruments

Annex 2. Tools for the screening of frailty recommended by ADVANTAGE JA

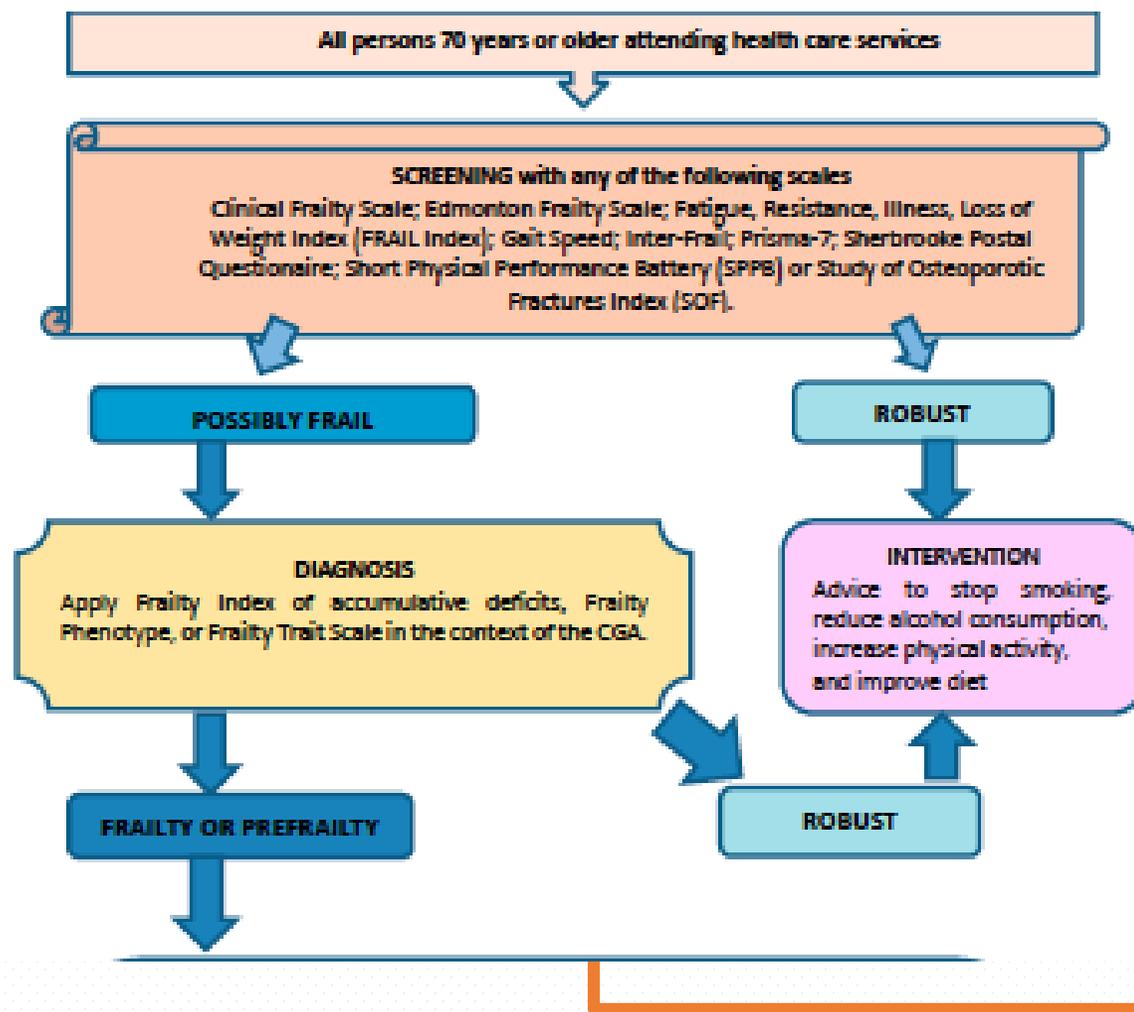
Tool name	Original reference	Tool description	Time needed to perform	Number of items	Special equipment needed
Clinical Frailty Scale	Rookwood et al. Can Med Assoc J 2005	Single descriptor of a person's state of frailty (fitness)	5 min	NA	No
Edmonton Frail Scale	Rolfson et al. Age Ageing. 2006	Timed up and Go Test, Clock draw test, 7 Questions exploring frailty domains	<5 min	9	No
Fatigue, Resistance, Ambulance, Illness, Loss of weight (FRAIL Index)	Morley et al. J Am Med Dir Assoc. 2008	5 items: fatigue, resistance, ambulation, illnesses, loss of weight	< 10 min	5	No
Inter-Frail	Bari et al. J Am Geriatr Soc 2014	1 disability and 10 frailty items (yes-or-no questions)	10 min	11	No
Prisma-7	Raiche et al. Arch Gerontol Geriatr 2007	Self-reported. 7 questions on demographics and performance	5 min	7	No
Sherbrooke Postal Questionnaire	Hebert et al. Age Ageing 1996	Self-reported questionnaire. 6 items: living alone, polypharmacy, mobility, eyesight, hearing, memory.	< 5 min	6	No
Short Physical Performance Battery (SPPB)	Guralnik et al. J Gerontol 1994	3 dimensions: balance, gait and weakness.	<10 min	12	No
Study of Osteoporotic Fractures Index (SOF)	Ensrud et al. Arch Intern Med. 2008	3 items: weight loss, reduced energy level and inability to rise from a chair.	< 5 min	3	No

Annex 3. Tools for the diagnosis of frailty recommended by ADVANTAGE JA

Tool	Original reference	Tool description	Time	Number of items	Special equipment needed
Frailty Index of accumulative deficits	Mitnitsky et al. Sci World J. 2001	Number of health deficits present / Number of health deficits measured	20-30 min	>30	No
Frailty phenotype	Fried et al. Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci 2001	5 items: weight loss, low physical activity, exhaustion, slowness, weakness	< 10 min	5	Yes (dynamometer)
Frailty Trait Scale (FTS)	García-García et al. J Am Med Dir Assoc. 2014	Seven dimensions: energy balance and nutrition, activity, nervous system, vascular system, weakness, endurance, slowness	20 min	12	Yes (albumin, dynamometer)

# Management of frail older people

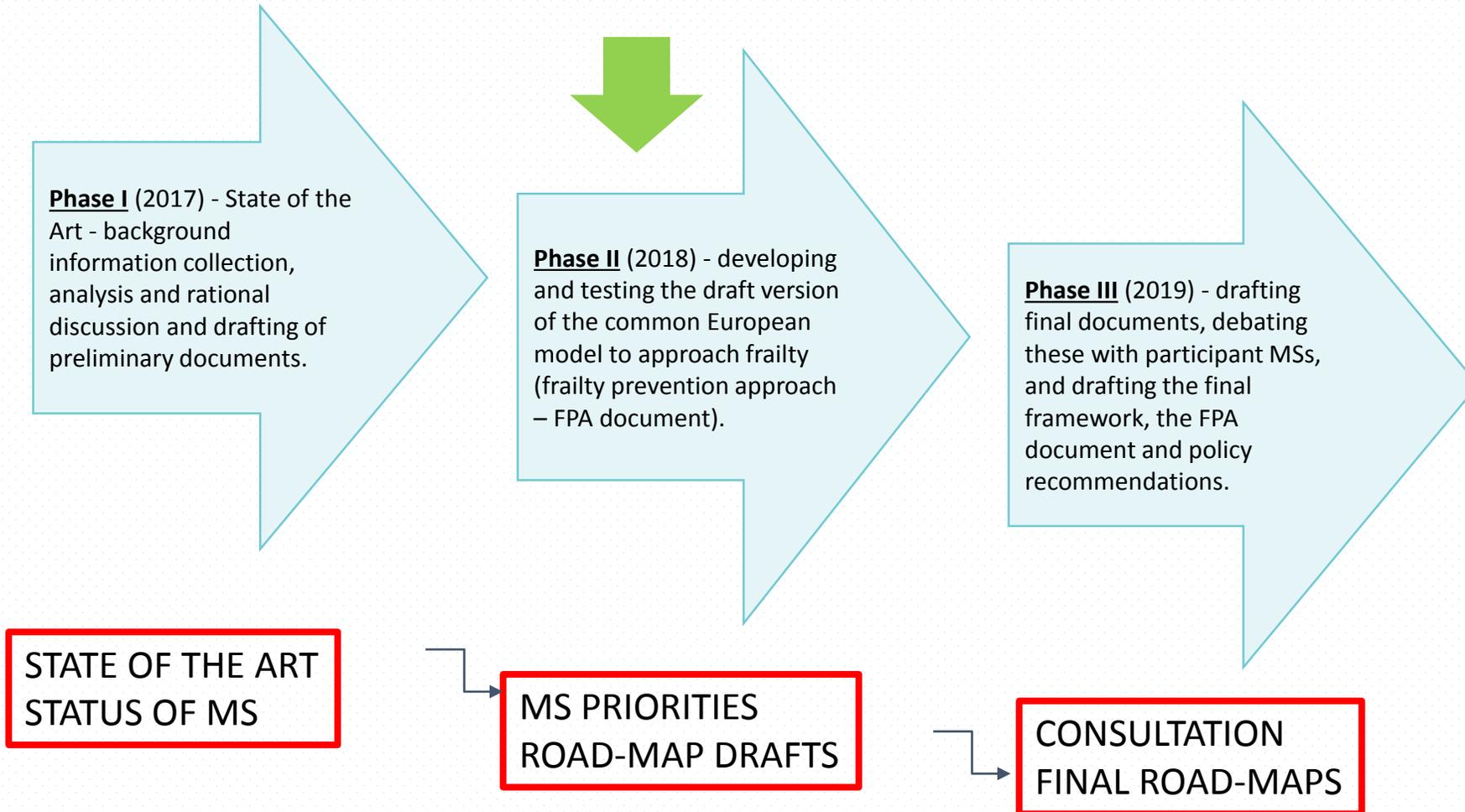
Figure 1. Algorithm for the management of frailty at individual level



## MANAGEMENT CONSISTING OF :

- Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment to develop a personalised care plan and carry out a personalized multi-dimensional interventions
- Take into account the frailty or pre-frailty stage to tailor the correct treatment of concomitant diseases.
- Provide structured multicomponent exercise programs (consisting of endurance, flexibility, balance, and resistance training) performed with low to moderate intensity, in 30 to 45 minutes sessions, three times a week. Followed or substituted by exercise programs of strength training: minimum of 8 weeks and medium to high exercise load (from 8 to 12 repetitions, from 30% - 60-70% of maximum intensity).
- Assess and optimise nutrition ( Mini Nutritional Assessment )
- Apply tools to minimise risk from inappropriate drugs and polypharmacy (Beers criteria, STOPP-START or Laroche criteria).
- Advise patients with a body mass index greater than 35 kg/m<sup>2</sup> to achieve a moderate weight loss of 0,5-1 kg per week or 8-10% of initial body weight after 6 months, with a final target of a body mass index between 30-35; always combined with physical activity and/or physical exercise.
- Considerer Vitamin D supplementation in frail patients who are at high risk for falls and fracture level and with a 25-OH vitamin D level < 30 ng/ml, with doses of 20 to 25 µg/day (800 a 1000 IU/day) of vitamin.
- ICT solutions should also be considered and advised to enable self-management and promote independence.

# IMPLEMENTATION PHASES



# THE THIRD TRANSITION

## BREAKING THE INERTIA

CURE

DISEASE

SURVIVAL

TO DO

LONG-TERM

REACT

EPISODES



CARE

FUNCTION

QUALITY OF LIFE

RISK TO BENEFIT RATIO

TIMELY INTERVENTIONS

PREVENT

INTEGRATED/CONTINUED

Rodriguez-Mañas et al., JAMDA 2017

Rodriguez-Mañas et al., ADVANTAGE proposal, 2016

# FACING THE CHALLENGE OF HEALTHY AGING



**AVOIDING DISABILITY**  
**IMPROVING SUSTAINABILITY**  
**BY**  
**FIGHTING AGAINST FRAILITY**

**advantAGE**  
MANAGING FRAILITY

THANK YOU !!!

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