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Objective of your solution: (Briefly define the primary outcome of your solution to this challenge):

Cancer is increasingly becoming a disease of the ageing population. According to global cancer statistics, the number of older adults diagnosed with cancer continues to rise due to increased life expectancy and population ageing. However, treatment decisions for elderly patients are still frequently based on chronological age and ECOG performance status alone. While ECOG assesses general functional status, it does not capture important geriatric vulnerabilities such as falls, frailty, hearing impairment, social support, nutritional status, and functional dependence. As a result, two elderly patients with the same ECOG score may have vastly different abilities to tolerate chemotherapy.

The importance of geriatric assessment was highlighted by the landmark GAP70+ randomized controlled trial, published in The Lancet in 2021, which demonstrated that geriatric assessment-guided interventions significantly reduced Grade 3–5 chemotherapy toxicity from 71% to 51% without compromising outcomes. Despite endorsement by ASCO, ESMO, and NCCN guidelines, geriatric risk assessment models such as the CARG score remain underutilized in routine oncology practice because of time constraints, lack of awareness, and poor integration into clinical workflow

Describe your solution / proposal: Provide a detailed account of your solution/ proposal to this challenge. You could type your solution/ proposal here. (Disclaimer: Solution/proposal should not exceed more than 300 words.):

I propose the implementation of an Electronic CARG Platform (E-CARG) to enable universal adoption of the Cancer and Aging Research Group (CARG) score in oncology practice.

The system begins at the point of hospital registration. Whenever a patient aged 65 years or older registers in the hospital information system, an automated WhatsApp message containing a secure QR code link to the CARG assessment questionnaire is instantly sent to the patient's registered mobile number. The questionnaire is designed in simple language and can be completed by the patient or caregiver within a few minutes.

Completion of the assessment becomes a standard part of the registration process. Once submitted, the system automatically calculates the CARG score and uploads it directly into the patient's electronic medical record without requiring any manual data entry by healthcare providers

When the patient attends the oncology outpatient clinic, the oncologist can immediately view the result on the hospital dashboard. The score is displayed using a simple color-coded system:

Green — Low Risk

Yellow — Intermediate Risk

Red — High Risk

Alongside the score, the platform generates evidence-based recommendations such as consideration of dose reduction, enhanced toxicity monitoring, nutrition consultation, physiotherapy referral, falls prevention strategies, medication review, or comprehensive geriatric assessment referral where appropriate.

By embedding the CARG score directly into routine registration and electronic medical records, this solution eliminates additional workload for clinicians while ensuring that every older adult receives a personalized risk assessment. This approach transforms geriatric oncology from a guideline recommendation into a standard component of everyday cancer care, improving treatment safety and quality of life for elderly patients.