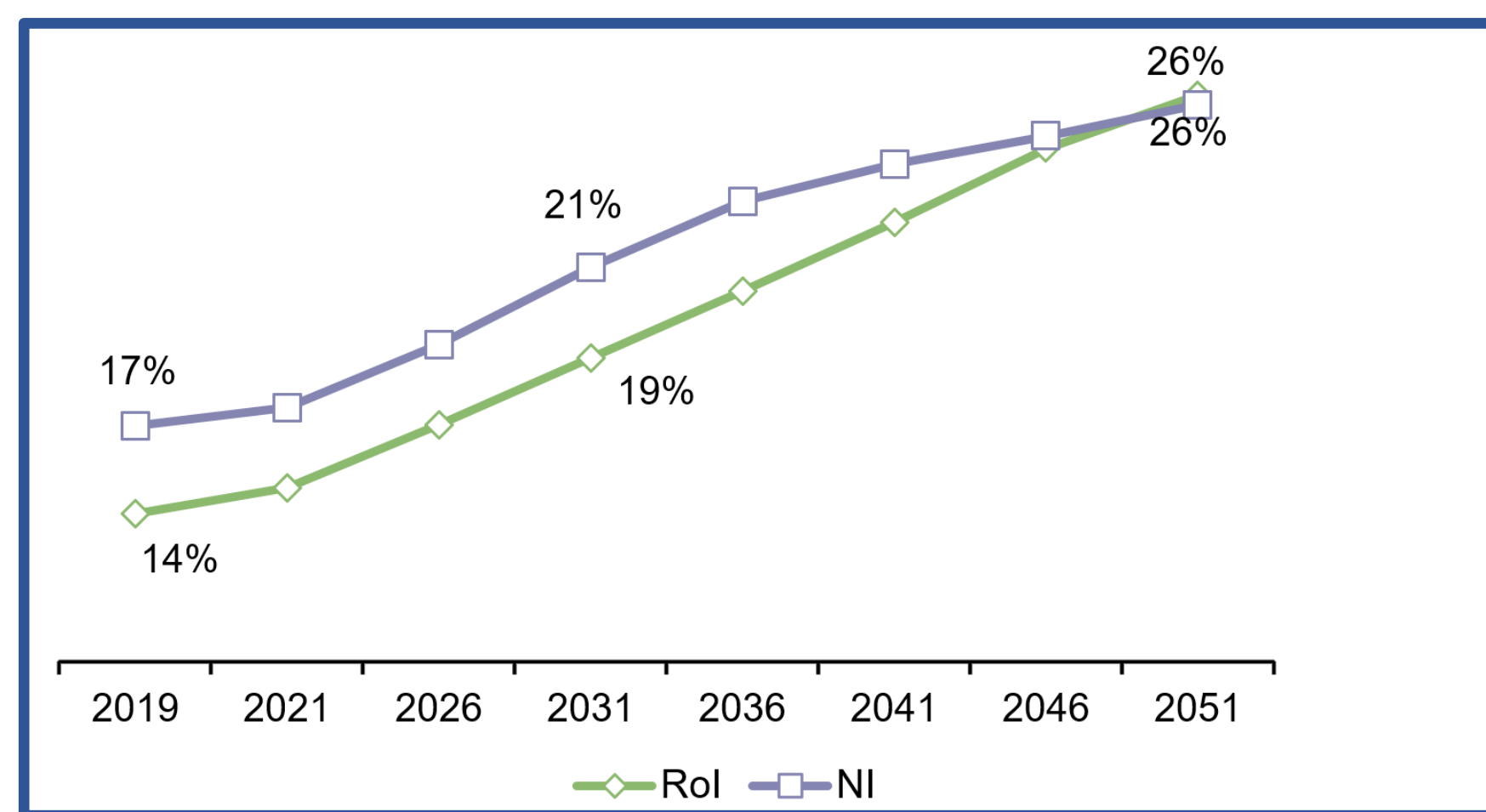


Healthcare Provision For Older People In Kilkenny Through The Implementation Of The Integrated Care Programme For Older People

Trish Finegan MA Design Researcher, DesignCORE, Institute of Technology Carlow

BACKGROUND

- An increase in the cost of healthcare provision is directly related to an ageing demographic nationally and internationally.
- It is, therefore, imperative that the system of health and social care provision for the older person is reformed.



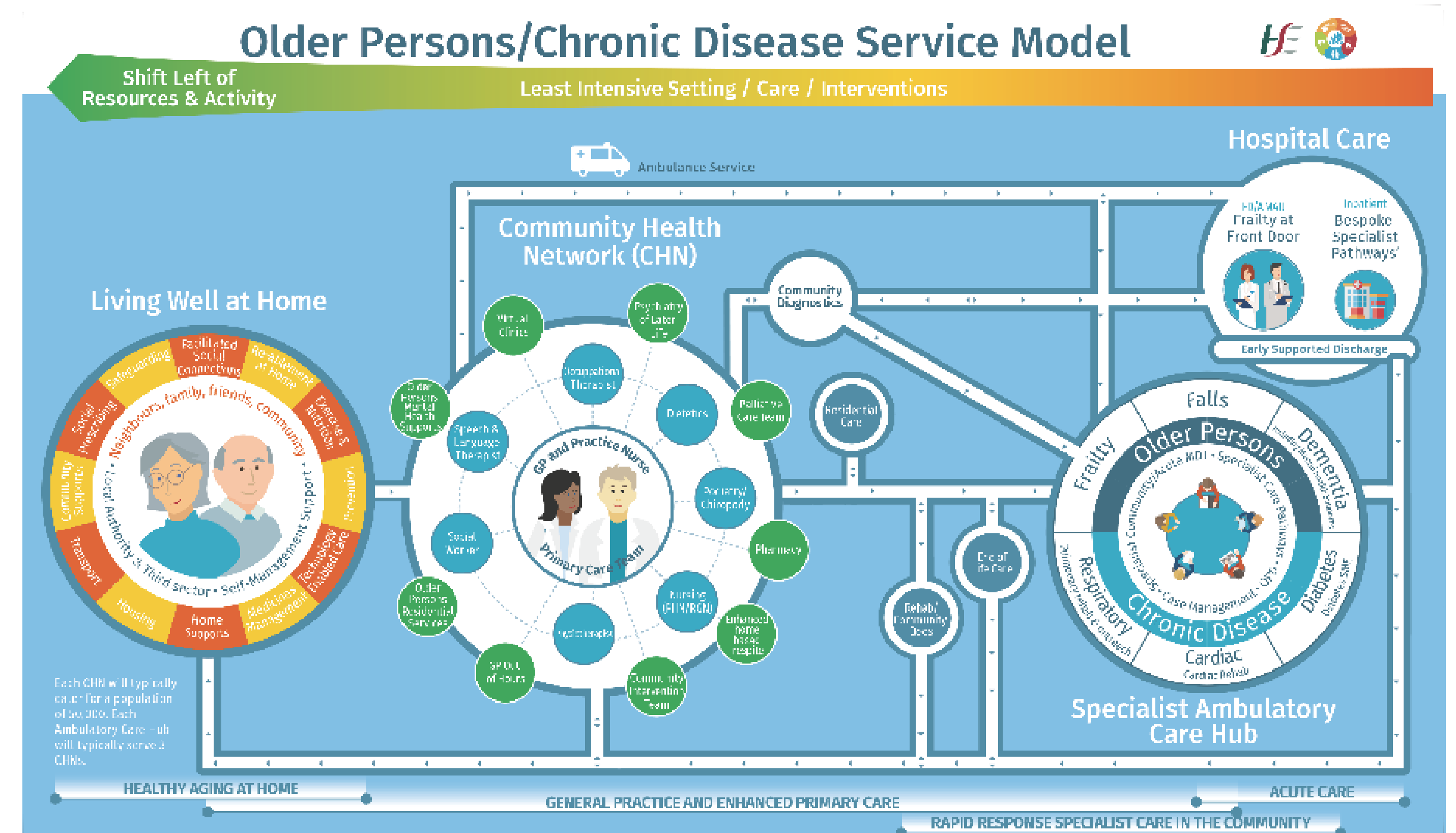
➤ Figure 1: People aged 65+ as a percentage of total population in Ireland 2019-2051: Source CSO 2018; NISRA, 2019

- The Integrated Care Programme for Older People (ICPOP) envisages moving the locus of care from the acute system to primary and community health and social care.
- This research looks at the implementation and benefits of ICPOP from a clinicians and third sector organisations perspective.

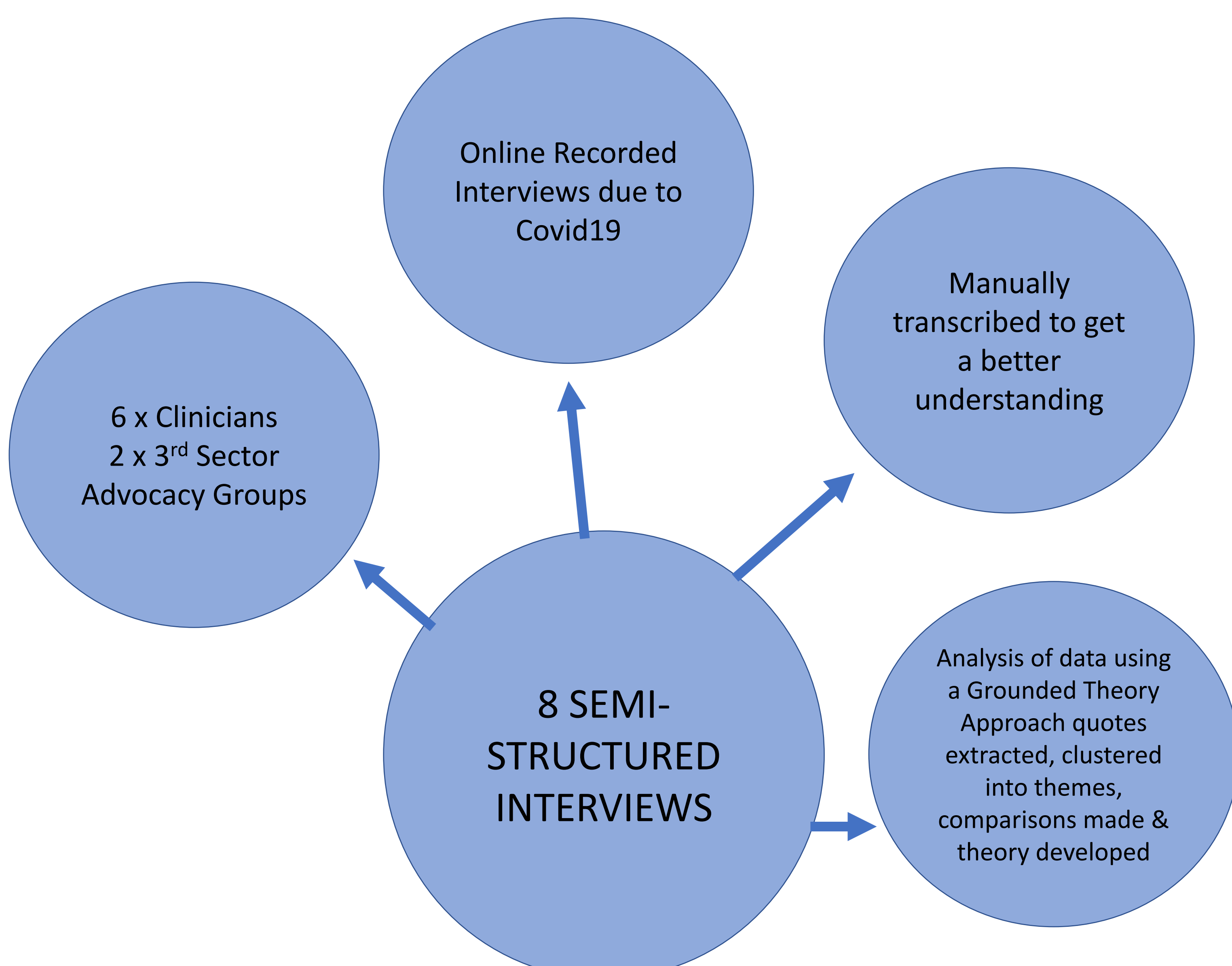


RESULTS

- An organisational culture of innovative and collaborative practice is essential to the delivery of ICPOP
- This leads to the empowerment of staff enabling them to develop integrated healthcare across disciplines and services.
- Funding is vital for home support packages that provide both health and social care assistance with an adequate number of carers evenly distributed nationwide be provided.
- The 'Living Well at Home' section of ICPOP with its important emphasis on local community and social connectedness needs to be sufficiently funded.



METHODS



CONCLUSIONS

- A culture of collaborative and innovative practice of healthcare provision exists in Kilkenny.
- Implementation of ICPOP is commiserate with appropriate funding for, and even distribution of, home care support packages and carers.
- Additional support for services that combat loneliness and social isolation enabling older people to age well at home is also required.