

WHAT IS THE BUTTERFLY SCHEME?

As part of the Butterfly Scheme at our hospitals, we use a discreet blue butterfly to place on the headboard and patient's health records to identify to staff that the patient maybe confused. The scheme aims to improve patient safety and wellbeing by teaching staff to offer a positive and appropriate response to people with a memory impairment and allows patients with **Dementia** to request that response via a discreet butterfly symbol on their notes.

WHAT IS THE BLUE WRISTBAND?

This is an opt-in scheme running alongside the Butterfly Scheme for people living with Dementia who are admitted to hospital. It ensures the needs of people living with Dementia are recognised from the start of their patient journey. It enables all Trust staff to immediately recognise the patient has Dementia and respond to individual care needs. blue wristbands are applied by the Dementia and Delirium Service once a Dementia diagnosis has been confirmed.

HOW TO REFER A PATIENT TO THE DEMENTIA AND DELIRIUM SERVICE?

Electronic referrals can be made via Careflow Connect or paper referral form is available on the Intranet. Email completed referral to: bhrut.danddreferrals@nhs.net

We aim to visit patients within 72 hours of receipt of a referral.

For support with Dementia and Delirium please contact the Team on:
Ext: 6747 - Queen's Hospital
Ext: 5833 - King George Hospital

DEMENTIA AND DELIRIUM RESOURCES IN OUR TRUST

- Dementia and Delirium Care Plan
- Carer Support Plan
- This is Me (This document should be utilised to understand the patient's wishes and preferences)
- Confusion Pathway
- Behaviour Charts

DEMENTIA AND DELIRIUM INIATIVES IN OUR TRUST

We have rolled out some exciting initiatives, including:

- Dementia finger food menu
- Red plates for our dementia patients which helps the food stand out
- Orientation clocks
- Reminiscence Interactive Therapy Activities (RITA) screens
- Assistance in medical intervention
- Coffee afternoons
- Music therapy
- Art therapy
- Trolley tea parties on wards
- Twiddle muffs and memory blankets
- Chair based exercises
- Nail painting, hair grooming
- Shaving

Remember the **me** in dementia

Version 4 – June 2022



DEMENTIA

WHAT IS DEMENTIA?

Dementia is not a disease in itself. It is an umbrella term used to describe a set of symptoms, which occur when the brain is damaged by structural and chemical changes, resulting from diseases such as Alzheimer's disease or some strokes.

As the condition develops, memory problems become more severe and further symptoms can develop such as confusion, disorientation, difficulty planning and performing a task or making decisions.

Dementia is progressive in nature, which means that symptoms will worsen over time and the person's ability to carry out activities of daily living will deteriorate. However, some people are able to live well with Dementia and enjoy satisfying lives.



COMMON TYPES OF DEMENTIA

Alzheimer's Disease - is the most common form of Dementia. In Alzheimer's the loss of brain cells leads to the brain shrinkage.

Vascular Dementia - is caused when the brain's blood supply is interrupted, leading to brain damage.

Dementia with Lewy Bodies (LBD) - Lewy Bodies is small circular lumps of protein that develop inside brain cells.

Front or temporal Dementia - is caused by damage and shrinkage in two areas of the brain.

Early on set Dementia - Dementia caused to people under the age of 65.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF DEMENTIA

- Poor attention span
- Behaviour changes
- Concentration problems
- Disorientation -time, place, person
- Emotional disturbances
- Forgetting recent events
- Getting lost or wandering
- Poor judgement
- Changes in mood
- Problems with speech and language

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT A PATIENT LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

- Remind the patient what has led to this moment
- Explain what is going to happen next
- Arrange helpful clues and make important items visible
- Check wellbeing, especially cleanliness and hydration
- History of any kind must always be verified from the health records, staff and carer
- Speak slowly, in short clear sentences
- Provide familiar objects (e.g. photos of family & friends)
- Communicate with Non-verbal signs
- Avoid contradicting the person if they are distressed
- Complete 'This is Me'

