

Dementia Strategy

For: Information

Summary: Our strategy and implementation plan has been developed to deliver objective 8 of the National Dementia Strategy, which is specifically directed at acute general hospitals.

Improved Quality of Care for people with dementia in General Hospitals. Identify leadership for dementia in general hospitals, defining the care pathway for dementia care and commissioning of specialist liaison older people's mental health teams to work in general hospitals.

The aim of the project is to improve the quality of care for patients admitted to our district general hospital for a range of acute medical / physical care needs and who just happen to have dementia. The number of such patients presenting to emergency departments and medical receiving rooms is increasing and will continue to increase country-wide. Once admitted, these people typically present the hospital with challenging, complicated cases for treatment and subsequently tend to be more complex to discharge.

Our Strategy:

1. Develop a set of evidence based interventions, which need to be in place and used/drawn upon by all staff to provide consistent high quality care.
2. Improve ward environments to meet the needs of people with dementia:
 - a. Explore the need to establish a designated specialist medical ward to meet the needs of patients with dementia.
 - b. Improve the ward environment on Leigh and Newdigate (orthopaedics) to meet the needs of patients with dementia.
3. Actively involve people with dementia and their carers in the development of services at East Surrey Hospital
4. Reduce the use of antipsychotic and benzodiazepine prescribing.
5. Develop a training programme on mental health and dementia for all ward based clinical staff, so that they can respond to the needs of the individual appropriately and to ensure early diagnosis.
6. Appoint a dementia nurse specialist to champion and lead dementia care and service improvements across the Trust.
7. Support and advise on management and care planning, including

discharge planning for people with confirmed or suspected mental health problems. This includes requests for urgent attention or response to patient behavioral management difficulties to support hospital clinicians and provide a link to community services, including specialist dementia services where appropriate

The dementia strategy was ratified by the management board for strategy on 9 Nov 11. It details the strategy and outline of the dementia projects required to deliver the strategy.

Action: The Board is asked to:
Note the development of the Trusts Dementia Strategy

Presented by: Joe Chadwick-Bell (Director of Strategy and Transformation)
Author: Joe Chadwick-Bell (Director of Strategy and Transformation)

Notes:

Trust objective: Work with our Whole Community – Improve the experience and care for patients with dementia and end of life care.

Legal: What are the legal considerations and implications linked to this item? Please name relevant act
None

Regulation: What aspect of regulation applies and what are the outcome implications? This applies to any regulatory body – key regulators include: Care Quality Commission, MHRA, NPSA & Audit Commission
CQC