



Focus on Dementia

Changing minds, improving lives in Scotland



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The Improvement Hub (ihub) is part of Healthcare Improvement Scotland

What is Focus on Dementia?

Focus on Dementia is a national improvement portfolio established by the Scottish Government and based within the ihub of Healthcare Improvement Scotland. We work in partnership with national organisations, health and social care partnerships, people with dementia, and carers to reduce variation and improve quality of care. Taking a whole pathway approach, our work supports:

- ▶ improvements in diagnosis and post-diagnostic support
- ▶ integrated care co-ordination in the community
- ▶ specialist dementia units, and
- ▶ acute care and advanced care.

All of this work is supporting the implementation of Scotland's dementia strategies and informing future policy and practice.

Improving diagnosis and post-diagnostic support

Aim: To improve the quality of post-diagnostic support for people newly diagnosed with dementia in Scotland, in line with the local delivery plan target.

We will achieve this by:

- ▶ developing and testing a Quality Improvement Framework to support the delivery of high quality post-diagnostic support. We will develop and test associated measures with a focus on personal outcomes to support this work.
- ▶ developing and facilitating a network for post-diagnostic support practitioners across Scotland to share practice and innovation in order to reduce variation and improve quality of care and support.
- ▶ developing and facilitating a forum for post-diagnostic support leads across Scotland to share practice and link with national partners in order to support and inform dementia strategy implementation.
- ▶ testing the relocation of post-diagnostic support services within primary care, through initial testing within two GP cluster areas in Scotland. We will share the learning from this work in order to inform future policy and practice.

Integrated care co-ordination in the community

Aim: To improve co-ordination and quality of care and support for people with dementia at moderate to severe stage of their dementia, through sharing the learning from testing Alzheimer Scotland's 8 pillars model in practice and learning from other examples and evidence of integrated co-ordinated care in the community.

We will achieve this by:

- ▶ sharing the learning and evaluation from Alzheimer Scotland's 8 pillars model, which was tested in five health and social care partnerships in Scotland, through publications and learning events.
- ▶ learning from other examples of integrated co-ordinated care models in the community in order to share practice.
- ▶ learning from and informing the Crisis and Care Co-ordination work package of Act on Dementia (EU Joint Action on Dementia).

Advanced dementia care

Aim: To improve co-ordination and quality of care and support for people with dementia at advanced stage of their dementia, through testing Alzheimer Scotland's Advanced Dementia Care Model.

We will achieve this by:

- ▶ working in partnership with the Living Well in Communities team to test Alzheimer Scotland's Advanced Dementia Care Model as part of their wider work on palliative care.
- ▶ sharing the learning from this work to inform practice.

Improving dementia care in hospitals

Aim: To improve the quality of care, experience and outcomes for people with dementia in acute general hospitals, carers and staff, in line with the 10 care actions for dementia.

We will achieve this by:

- ▶ developing an appreciative enquiry approach to understanding critical success factors in supporting positive outcomes for people with dementia within acute care settings.
- ▶ publishing and sharing the findings from this work and methodology used in order to inform future improvement work in acute care settings.
- ▶ developing a national improvement approach to supporting acute general hospitals in collaboration with other acute care improvement programmes and national partners.

Specialist dementia units

Aim: To improve the quality of care, experience and outcomes for people with dementia, staff and carers within specialist dementia units; to improve the knowledge and understanding of improvement tools and methodology to support local improvements; and to increase the confidence and resilience in using these improvement approaches.

We will achieve this by:

- ▶ working with four demonstrator sites across Scotland using an experience-based co-design approach to understand improvement priorities and work in partnership with sites to support improvement activity and sharing of learning.
- ▶ developing and facilitating a network for specialist dementia unit staff across Scotland to share practice and learning in order to reduce variation and improve quality of care and support.

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