

SPECIALIST DEMENTIA UNITS (SDU) NETWORK NEWSLETTER - SPRING 2018

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

What is the Specialist Dementia Unit Network? There are 92 SDUs in Scotland and a network has been developed to support staff to connect, learn, spread best practice and improve. The network has three elements:

1. Online resources ([Managed Knowledge Network pages](#) and Yammer discussion)
2. Newsletter
3. Opportunity for face to face meetings

This newsletter provides news and information on SDUs and gives you the opportunity to network.

Managed Knowledge Network Specialist Dementia Unit Network Pages

We have developed SDU Network pages on the Dementia Managed Knowledge Network. These include information and resources including presentations and posters from our successful national networking event on 5 October at the Stirling Conference Centre 'Celebrating Practice and Networking Event'

Please visit the site

<http://www.knowledge.scot.nhs.uk/dementia/organisations/specialist-dementia-unit-network.aspx>

Email us about work you are involved in and we can include it on our website hcis.sduip@nhs.net.

Transforming Specialist NHS Hospital Dementia Care- Maureen Taggart

Maureen Taggart, Alzheimer Scotland National Dementia Nurse Consultant, has been undertaking a project which is looking at future modelling of SDUs. Maureen has visited over 60 units across 10 Health Boards. Initial findings have shown good examples of SDU practice including wide use of Promoting Excellence, committed staff teams and the development of some new, purpose built SDUs in some Board Areas. We look forward to seeing Maureen's final report and recommendations soon.



The screenshot shows the Dementia Managed Knowledge Network (MKN) website. The header includes 'The Knowledge Network', 'You are not logged in.', 'Log In/Register', 'People Connect', and 'Help and Training'. The main navigation bar features 'Dementia MKN' and 'NHS Education for Scotland'. Below this are tabs for 'Resource Library', 'Wikis', 'Blogs', 'Discussions', and a search bar. A secondary navigation bar includes 'Home', 'News and events', 'Whats New!', 'Learning Resources', and 'Organisations'. The main content area is titled 'Specialist Dementia Unit Network' and contains the following text:

Welcome to the Specialist Dementia Unit Network pages. The Network has been developed following four consultation events with over 170 staff working in Specialist Dementia Units.

There are 92 Specialist Dementia Units in Scotland, including NHS units and those based in Care Homes. These pages will give you an area to share good practice, exchange ideas and foster contacts between staff and sites with aim of improving practice.

We need your case studies, ideas and commitment to grow the network and help it flourish, so please get involved - it is your network!

E-mail us at hcis.sduip@nhs.net

Below this text, there are sections for 'Dementia Managed Knowledge Network' (with a link to 'Go to the Dementia Managed Knowledge Network - have a look around at all the resources and information available.') and 'NES Dementia Specialist Improvement Leads Programme'. On the right side of the page, there is a promotional banner for the 'Specialist Dementia Units Celebrating Practice & Networking Event 9th October 2017' with the text 'See all the presentations and posters from the Specialist Dementia Units Celebrating Practice & Networking Event' and 'Practice Examples'.

Let's celebrate! National Conference and Graduation for Cohort 8 Dementia Champions and Cohort 2 Dementia Specialist Improvement Leads

On Wednesday 14 March 2018 the National Conference and Graduation for Cohort 8 Dementia Champions and Cohort 2 Dementia Specialist Improvement Leads took place at BT Murrayfield in Edinburgh. 38 Dementia Specialist Improvement Leads and 147 Dementia Champions graduated. This conference was chaired by Henry Simmons, Chief Executive of Alzheimer Scotland.

Henry Rankin from the Scottish Dementia Working Group and Thea Laurie from the National Dementia Carer's Action Network congratulated the graduates and Maureen Watt MSP, Minister for Mental Health, Scottish Government, gave a keynote speech.

Dr Lindsay Burley, Chair of NHS Education for Scotland and Professor James McGoldrick Convener of Scottish Social Services Council presented the graduates with their certificates. Musical Memories Dementia Choir from Hamilton entertained the audience to a standing ovation with some rousing singing.

The day was rounded off with a presentation from Alzheimer Scotland Nurse Consultants Nicola Wood, Susan Holland and Ruth Mantle.

More information and photographs from the day can be found on the [MKN page](#).



Alzheimer Scotland Nurse Consultants with Barbara Sharp



Grampian Champions

'From Observation to Intervention' Responding proactively to the needs of deteriorating or acutely unwell people in mental health

A new observation practice guide is being developed through the Scottish Patient Safety Programme- Mental Health at Healthcare Improvement Scotland.

The Executive Summary notes: "This guidance, supported by innovative practice and leadership in six test boards, re-focuses practice away from the current use of observation status and practice towards a culture of inquiry, personalised assessment and proactive, skilful mental health care and treatment interventions for **all** patients.

The work to date in testing changes in practice to guide the development of this guidance has been driven by senior charge nurse and clinical team leadership which has relentlessly pursued excellence in patient experience and outcomes.

Services say that when they ask 'what is happening' for the person rather than 'what is their observation status' or 'what is their diagnosis' - they open up the opportunity for personalised care which is tailored to their lives within their own context, to the purpose of their admission". This piece of work has relevance to SDUs and we will keep you up to date with its progress.

Get YAMMERING! Yammer Update

We had 140 staff join our SDU online Yammer Network. Yammer, which is similar to Facebook, is a closed area where you can join the conversation and link with SDU colleagues. We have recently had to move our pages within Yammer as all nhs.net linked groups were closing. Colleagues at SSSC have kindly helped to host us within their workforce development network. So we have rebuilt and re-launched our Yammer page, are keen to build membership and are really want to see you posting and getting involved!

To join our Yammer network simply email hcis.sduip@nhs.net and we will email you an invite. (Unfortunately Yammer no longer supports email addresses ending with nhs.net)

Excellence in Care

Excellence in Care is Scotland's national approach to assuring and improving nursing and midwifery care in all hospitals and community services and focuses on four key deliverables. More information can be found [here](#).

A working group has been set up for each of the 17 nursing and midwifery families to define the indicators. Karen McCaffrey, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Lead Nurse in Lanarkshire chairs the specialist dementia group. The group have recruited Tom McCarthy, the National Lead for Focus on Dementia. Maureen Taggart has been invited to the next meeting to share the work around models of care in SDUs.

Specialist Dementia Unit Demonstrator Sites

The Focus on Dementia Team at Healthcare Improvement Scotland is working with four SDUs to support them to identify and make improvements.

Phase one of this work is now complete following a combination of observations, interviews and conversations with staff, relatives/carers and people with dementia. The data collected was thematically analysed to identify the opportunities for improvement and each team has agreed the areas to focus on.

The units are now using the improvement tools and approaches to help them test the improvement ideas identified. A report is being prepared on the work to date and will be shared once complete. There is also a plan to develop a toolkit that shares some of the approaches developed from this work.

For more information email [Tom McCarthy](#) or [Stephen Lithgow](#)

The Scottish Improvement Leader (ScIL) Programme Applications for the next round of recruitment now OPEN!

The ScIL Programme is a key part of Scotland's innovative approach to address increasing demands across our public services by developing QI capacity and capability.

Stream 1: Cohorts 15 and 17 are open to colleagues working in or contributing to **any area** of public services in Scotland

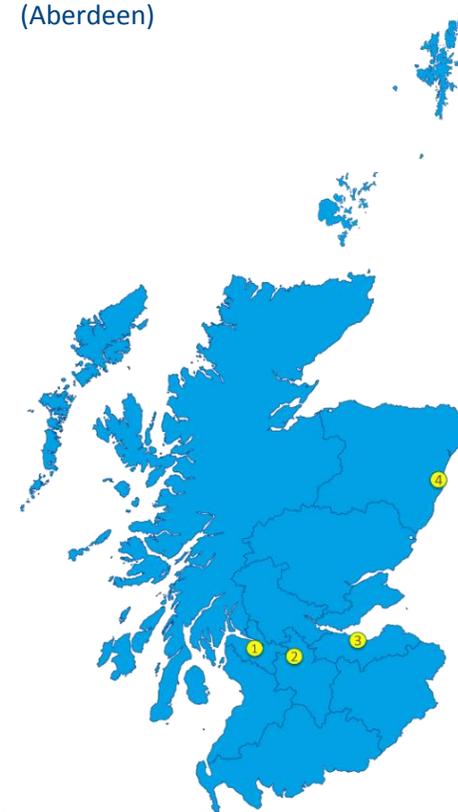
Stream 2: Cohort 18 is open to nursing and midwifery staff only to support the implementation of Excellence in Care

Applications are open from Friday 20 April and close at 10am on Friday 18 May 2018. Application packs are available [here](#).

Informal enquiries can be made to Samantha Smith qualityimprovement@nes.scot.nhs.uk or call 0131 656 4264.

Locations of the SDU Demonstrator Sites

1. Balmore Ward, Leverndale Hospital (Glasgow)
2. Orbiston Unit, Hatton Lea Care Home (Lanarkshire)
3. Prospectbank, Findlay House (Edinburgh)
4. Strathbeg Ward, Royal Cornhill Hospital (Aberdeen)



DAY IN THE LIFE OF WARD 3

**Stephanie McClymont, Senior Charge Nurse, Ward 3, Woodland View
Ayrshire Central Hospital**

Tuesday morning 7am the sun is shining and work begins. 7am staff receive handover from the night shift nurse and start to plan the therapeutic interventions for the day. There is no set wake up time in ward 3; patient wake up naturally and staff offer assistance where needed.

Although some activity must be structured, we like to keep inpatient experiences as close as they would be used to in their own living environments.

Breakfast time is very informal where often both staff and patients eat together and patients have the option of a hot and/or cold breakfast around 9am; however a continental breakfast is available throughout the morning for late risers.

This morning's activity options are a nice brisk walk around the hospital woodland trail, game of pool at the Beehive hub or a pampering session; including foot and hand massage.

After lunch, staff accompany patients to the local driving range, which also includes tea and coffee facilities, country walking area and hair salon. In ward 3 we like to offer a variety of activities which are tailored to each individual patient; assisting us to provide complex care provision, which is meaningful, has direction and meets patients needs on an individual basis.

As well as structured activities in ward 3 we promote spontaneous activities such as listening to music, karaoke, dancing, daily news updates, dominoes; to name but some.

Tuesday evening comes and the sun sets on ward 3; and like the morning it is a relaxed affair; patients retiring to bed at a time of their choosing and again staff offer assistance where required.

Although our patients often have complex care needs we endeavour to embrace a holistic approach to assessment and risk enablement. This is done within the clinical environment, community setting and ensuring families and carers are involved within the assessment process, care planning and discharge formulation.

