Covid-19 Pandemic Management

Good Practice & Information Toolkit

DEMENTIA

Version Control:

Version	Date	Author	Changes
1		Sharon Adams	
2	22 Apr 2020	Sharon Adams	1.4 Addition, 6.4 Addition, 6.5 Addition, 6.6 Addition, 6.12 Addition
3	06.05.20	Sharon Adams	2.3 Addition, 6.13 Addition, 6.14 Addition, 6.16 Addition
4	14.05.20	Sharon Adams	Remote working 3.4 – 3.9 Additions Support available to people living with dementia and their carers 8.8 Addition Other supporting information 9.1 Addition
5	18.05.20	Sharon Adams	Guidance on the use of DoLS during C-19 1.5 Addition SCIE Dementia & Covid-19 6.10 Updated Care Home & C-19 testing 6.17 Addition
6	27.05.20	Sharon Adams	Memory Services National Accreditation Programme webinar on how services are adapting to the pandemic 3.10 Addition Guidance on remote working for memory services during Covid-19 3.11 Addition Guidance on end of life care for people diagnosed with dementia 6.18 Addition
7	03.06.20	Sharon Adams	NHSE&I Memory Services Assessments: A New Way of Working – a short paper with guidance, information and best practice during Covid-19 1.6 Addition NHSX – helping to improve connectivity in care homes offer 1.7 Addition Guide for care homes supporting people with dementia who "walk with purpose". 2.5 Addition SCIE Safeguarding adults with dementia during the Covid-19 crisis 6.19 Addition UK Research Study into to the impact of Covid-19 on people with dementia and their carers 9.2 Addition

1. National guidance

1.1 **Letter from Professor Stephen Powis, National Medical Director and Ruth May, Chief Nursing Officer NHSE/I dated 07 April 2020: DNAR (DNACPR)**
- [Advice on use of DNAR (DNACPR) within Maintaining Standards Quality of Care letter](#).
  To be read in conjunction with other guidance in the letter

1.2 **NHSE/I**
- [Visitor Guidance](#) dated 08 April 2020 which also specifically mentions people with dementia.
- See letter from Ruth May, mentioned above.

1.3 **From Claire Murdoch Letter dated 26 March 2020:**
DDR
- Monitor rather than assure performance.
- Consideration for the needs of older adults given the impact of COVID-19 on this patient group.
- Delay or defer;
- National support offer.

1.4 **COVID-19: Guidance on home care provision. Public Health England**
- [Guidance](#) for those who provide care and support to people in their own homes, including community health services (updated 06 April 2020)

1.5 **Advice from DHSC:** highlighted the emergency guidance on the application of DoLS during the pandemic and [looking after people who lack mental capacity](#)

DHSC flagged the last section of the document 'Emergency Public Health Powers', which explains how to consider the MCA when caring for people without relevant mental capacity, who may be infected with Covid-19.
In addition, it was emphasised that if somebody is presenting with symptoms, it is essential that the individual follows public health advice to prevent the spread of the disease and receives the necessary care available through the NHS and other care services. Those caring for the person should explore the use of the MCA as far as possible for care and treatment moving forward. The guidance explains how to do this.

The Annex of the document includes a *Decision-making flow chart for decision makers in hospitals and care home* which provides concise guidance

1.6 NHSE&I have produced a short paper for Memory Assessment Services (MAS) – **[Memory Service Assessments: A New Way of Working](#)** with guidance, information and best practice to support services, staff and patients during Covid-19 and beyond. Chaired by Professor Alistair Burns

1.7 NHSX are helping to **improve connectivity in care homes**. We have put together a series of internet offers and guidance to help care home managers and staff [on our website](#). **Your feedback is really important to us.** If you are a care home manager, provider, or staff member who is responsible for the internet in your care home, we'd like to hear from you. We're conducting 45 minute sessions to test the website pages and understand your needs. This is anonymous and will help us to support care homes better. There will be a £50 thank you for your time.
If you're interested please contact digitalresearch@nhsx.nhs.uk to see if you are suitable. There are also more opportunities to get involved in ongoing work related to connectivity and devices. If you prefer, you can provide your feedback, on a voluntary basis, [via this link](#).

2. Other guidance (endorsed by National but not formal guidance) e.g. models developed by other STP's
2.1 **Dementia and COVID-19**

Some useful information that has been published by the Worthing Dementia Action Alliance in relation to dementia and Covid-19.

2.2 Supporting Carers and Care Staff to Understand and Respond to Changes in Behaviour in People with Dementia During the COVID-19 Pandemic (Northern Health & Care Trust March 2020)

2.3 Guidance on delirium management in hospital (not ITU), care homes and community during COVID19 V1 developed by London Clinical Network (16 Apr 20) can be accessed here

2.4 National Weekly Dementia Clinical Network calls take place every Monday. Recent topics have included how Memory Assessment Services are working currently, remote consultations and care homes. They will be added to NHS Futures weekly and can be accessed here.

2.5 The COVID-19 pandemic is presenting many new challenges for people who live in care homes and for staff. **This guide is for care homes supporting people with dementia who "walk with purpose"**. Originally developed in Leeds its originators have kindly shared and provided an ADAPTABLE version if others wish to utilise for local use
The Leeds PDF version can be found here and the adaptable Word version here. Both are also available on the Yorkshire & Humber Clinical Networks website.

3. Managing Reduced Capacity

3.1 **Remote Working**
A COVID-19 Dementia Memory Assessment Protocol has been developed in Essex for diagnosing moderate/ severe dementia via telephone.

3.2 Tools such as DiADeM and DeAR-GP can be used to remotely to support a diagnosis of non-complex dementia in care homes by primary care and MAS where appropriate. Further information, guidance and documents are available here.

3.3 Use of digital technologies, messaging, tools such as Skype, WhatsApp and Facetime, can be used where appropriate and practical to support people with dementia and carers. New NHSX guidance is available to support this.

3.4 Telephone-based screening tools for mild cognitive impairment and dementia in aging studies: a review of validated instruments from the US National Center for Biotechnology Information https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3933813/

3.5 Remote consultations (GMC published guidelines on capacity and consent via remote consulting). https://www.gmc-uk.org/ethical-guidance/ethical-hub/remote-consultations

3.6 Virtual Approaches to Cognitive Screening During Pandemics https://canadiangeriatrics.ca/2020/05/virtual-approaches-to-cognitive-screening-during-pandemics/

3.7 GMC guidance: https://www.gmc-uk.org/ethical-guidance/ethical-hub/remote-consultations

3.8 BMA guidance: https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/covid-19/practical-guidance/covid-19-video-consultations-and-homeworking

3.9 BMJ visual summary to support remote consultations:
https://www.bmj.com/content/bmj/suppl/2020/03/24/bmj.m1182.DC1/gret055914.fi.pdf

3.10 Memory Services National Assessment Programme (MSNAP) webinar held on 13.05.20 where a number of Memory Services highlighted how their services are operating during the pandemic.

3.11 London Clinical Network has produced guidance on remote working for Memory Services during Covid-19. This is held on NHS Futures.

4. Admissions/Referral Management

4.1 Acute Care COVID-19 Manging delirium in confirmed or suspected cases (British Geriatric Society published 19 March 20)

5. Discharge Management

5.1 Further information to follow as released

6. Adaptions to Services to best manage patients

6.1 **The British Psychological Society (BPS)** have produced guidance on supporting older people and people living with dementia during self-isolation.

6.2 **The Alzheimer's Society** have produced guidance to help manage challenging behaviour. April 2020

6.3 **National Association of Intensive Care and (low secure) Units (NAPICU) -**
Has produced guidance to support the management of acute disturbance in the context of COVID-19, including reference to the Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty. Not dementia specific.

6.4 **Advanced Care Planning (ACP) for People with Dementia.**
Guidance and information developed as part of the national dementia pilot to reduce non-essential admissions to hospital for people living with dementia (pre-Covid-19), by West Yorkshire & Harrogate ICS). It focuses on discussions with people living with dementia, families, carers and associated agencies about their wishes for future care, with a number of resources that can be used.

6.5 **Care Homes** - **Resource pack for care homes during the COVID-19 pandemic**
The Care Home Pathway Service at Surrey and Borders Partnership Trust has developed information and guidance to support care homes with a variety of different issues (published March 2020). Please note, this is not dementia specific.

6.6 **The East of England Clinical Network** have produced a series of prompt sheets looking at wellbeing, activity, delirium, sepsis etc in care homes. (April 2020)

6.7 **The British Geriatric Society** has produced guidance on managing the COVID-19 pandemic in care homes for older people (08 April 2020). Please note, this is not dementia specific.

6.8 Admission and Care of Residents during COVID-19 Incident in a Care Home (DHSC, PHE, CQC and NHS 02Apr20). Please note, this is not dementia specific.

6.9 Maintaining Activities for Older Adults During COVID-19 (HIN S London April 20)

6.10 The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) website has further and updated guidance and information on a wide variety of social care issues relating to COVID-19 for social care providers (not dementia specific).

- Dementia in care homes and COVID-19: Supporting residents, supporting carers, supporting homes guidance is available here

- Monitoring MCA implementation including a checklist for monitoring MCA implementation located at the bottom of the webpage

6.11 **Care homes (and other VCFS sectors who support families affected with dementia).** Two national COVID-19 digital offers:

- Attend Anywhere, a virtual outpatient tool. Nationally they have 'relaxed' the rules re what a care home has to do before it can 'connect' to NHS systems.

- MS Team licences are available for L&SC for care homes and VCFS.

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6.12 **Meri Yaadain** has co-produced information for organisations on supporting BAME dementia communities and COVID-19. It also has guidance on supporting people with dementia during Ramadan

6.13 A Dementia, Delirium and COVID-19 guidance pack has been produced by Yorkshire & Humber Clinical Network.

6.14 County Durham & Darlington NHSFT have produced a short video on YouTube to help with **identification of delirium** icanpreventDELIRIUM

6.15 Stop and Watch is a tool that everyone can use to help spot the warning signs that a person's condition is deteriorating. By recognising these signs you can reduce a person's risk of morbidity, further disability, organ failure, or sometimes even death. Developed by North Cumbria CCG.

6.16 A short video for **care home staff** has been produced by Newcastle University on Meeting the Needs of People Living with Dementia in Care Homes during Covid-19

6.17 The Government have launched a new portal for care homes to arrange coronavirus testing (11May20). Information can be found here.

6.18 Guidance on end-of-life-care-and-dementia is available from the **British Geriatrics Society**

6.19 SCIE have new guidance on safeguarding adults with dementia during the Covid-19 crisis

7. Multi-agency Working (ways of keeping in touch with partners to ensure effective management of patients)

7.4   Further information to follow as released.

8. Support Available for people with Dementia and/or their carers

8.1 **North Yorkshire police** have some [advice](#) on how to keep people with dementia safe and try to prevent wandering (April 2020)

8.2 **Apps for Alzheimer's patients and care givers** – [information](#) and how to access apps that can support people living with dementia and care givers. (April 2020)

8.3 **Dementia UK** has also produced [information](#) on calming techniques (April 2020)

8.4 [**Coronavirus: Information for people affected by dementia**](#) – **Alzheimer's Society**. Includes the section, "Somebody I care about is living with dementia. What should I do about coronavirus?'

8.5 **Dementia UK – support for people with dementia and their families.**
Dementia UK have launched a series of new [webpages](#) providing advice and support for people living with dementia, their carers and families. If anyone has any concerns about supporting someone with dementia about the COVID-19 pandemic, they can call the dementia specialist Admiral Nurses on their Helpline 0800 888 6678 or email helpline@dementiauk.org . The helpline is open seven days a week, 9am-9pm Monday to Friday and 9am-5pm at weekends.

8.6 **Carer's UK Coronavirus Guidance** – Includes [advice](#) on making a contingency plan, getting a carer's assessment and guidance for working carers.

8.7 **Tide (together in dementia everyday**) [For carers/ families of people living with dementia.](#) They also have resources on [Living Grief and Bereavement](#) and an online [Carers Development Programme](#)

8.8 The [Royal British Legion](#) can provide Admiral Nurse support for serving and ex-serving personnel with dementia and their families. There is a range of helpful material on their website for those not in the armed forces.

9. Other Supporting Information

9.1 An international discussion led by Alzheimer's Disease International on the impact of Covid-19 on people living with dementia and future gazing is available on [YouTube](#)

9.2 [First UK Research Study into impact of Covid-19 on people with dementia and carers](#). This two-part study funded by the University of Liverpool's COVID-19 Strategic Research Fund, is being headed up by Dr Clarissa Giebel from the University's NIHR ARC NWC team working collaboratively wth Tide and other health and social care partners as well as people with dementia and their carer. The first paper is due to be published in the next week.