

Protected Patient Engagement Time



To improve the wellbeing of patients with Dementia attending the Julian Hospital in Norwich.

Holkham Ward
Staff Team

Specific Aims:

- To improve the patients nutritional status.
- To enable patients to participate in the management of their care.
- To increase opportunities for patients to make informed choices

Patients who discover they have dementia often feel vulnerable, with an intense sense of loss of identity and self-worth. With the many and constant changes taking place within the health service today, busy ward schedules and regular targets to meet, 1300 nurses revealed in a survey that they were unable to spend nearly enough time in direct patient care. Patients with dementia have also acknowledged this and made their wishes known of the kinds of things they would like to do if they had more time with the nurse. With the implementation of the Protected Patient Engagement Time (PPET) project, the ward closes to visitors and other hospital staff for two hours, where staff can focus on supporting patients with their meals and provide assistance to what the patients have identified as important to them.

Objectives:

- To provide healthy meal choices.
- To provide a pleasant, uninterrupted mealtime experience.
- To offer a variety of new activities of the patients choice.
- To set up staff training on aromatherapy for patients with dementia.
- To support staff in the mapping process to feed into the patients care planning.
- To facilitate the patients input in their care plan.





Providing therapeutic choices such as: aromatherapy hand and foot massage, reminiscence work, developing a life history profile, assistance with writing a letter or engaging in outdoor pursuits.



The number of patients in the study was 132



Making mealtimes special and unhurried

Outcomes

- Better mealtime choices with extra fruit available for patients
- Enhanced mealtime experience
- Dementia Care Mapping indicates that a patient's wellbeing can be improved
- Protected mealtimes now daily followed by protected engagement time twice a week
- Patient involvement in care plan decisions, greater patient choice and satisfaction
- Trust board approval of Dr Foster's Patient Experience Tracker to evaluate care delivery
- 18 nursing staff trained in aromatherapy techniques

"Patients with dementia need focused quality professional care".



The project will be evaluated using:

- Semi-structured questionnaires (staff, patients and carers)
- Dementia Care Mapping
- Dr Foster intelligence - Patient Experienced Tracker
- Patient portfolio

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