

## **Acute Hospital Grant University Hospital Kerry**

### **A. Maintain and support cognitive engagement and psychological well-being of patients with dementia by:**

1. Delivering a regular schedule of cognitive engagement activities for patients with dementia through collaboration with the occupational therapist.
2. Developing a skilled pool of health care assistances (HCAs) with specific dementia communication skills and competencies.
3. Continuing the implementation of our delirium prevention and management programme using the 4-AT screening tool, Abbey pain assessment tool and 'PINCHES-ME' care bundle through staff education, audit and feedback.

### **B. Promote a sense of calmness and homeliness during an acute admission by:**

1. Continuing to upgrade ward bays in line with dementia friendly principles (Grey et al, 2018).
2. Designing a sensory room as a place of calmness and space to relax.  
This dedicated space will also allow us to deliver cognitive stimulation therapy and reminiscence therapy.

### **C. Outcome Measures:**

- We will measure both process and patient outcomes using patient/family interviews, documentation audit and observation. We will look at the number of activity sessions delivered per week, number of 4AT forms commenced on eligible patients and the number of staff teaching sessions delivered.

We anticipate this combination of interventions will:

- Improve patient and family experience,
- Increase detection of delirium
- Reduce antipsychotic prescribing
- Reduce falls
- Reduce length of hospital stay
- Improve staff knowledge and sense of dementia competency