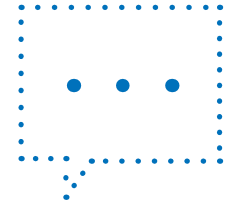




The Challenge

To provide stimulation and engagement for patients who refuse to leave their Hospital bedrooms. Patients with dementia tend to isolate themselves from staff and other patients. They can be very reluctant to engage with staff on a 1-1 basis and are dismissive of all therapeutic activities suggested to them.



The Solution

By using the My Improvement Network Technology, we aim to encourage patients to interact with staff through conversation and the triggers that the system provides.

We have patients with varying degrees of cognitive issues including paranoia. One such Patient was admitted to the ward for specialist assessment. He was experiencing symptoms of paranoia and was suspicious of others around him. This meant that he was fearful of staff and their motives and therefore was reluctant to engage with them. This fear was often demonstrated in hostility and intolerance and staff had to keep their interventions time limited so as not to cause further distress.

In addition to his hostility, he was low in mood and was not motivated towards personal care and leisure activities.

The Occupational Therapist was aware that he became animated when talking about his childhood. The interest in reminiscing prompted him to use the My Improvement Network Technology, as the resource could be taken to his bedroom and shared on a 1-1 intervention. Further sessions saw the patient being able to work collaboratively with the OT to complete jigsaws and a good measure of improved motivation and willingness to engage was witnessed.

In summary the technology has been able to provide concrete and structured activity. Previously the patients saw the activities as abstract concepts that could easily be dismissed. However, having this resource meant it elicited responses. The staff have reported that using the software was a great benefit not only in reducing agitation but also in improving confidence and promoting good patient/carer interaction.