

## The Challenge

To remove isolation in patients suffering with dementia and other cognitive impairments and to bring in anything that would help with this that would also provide the opportunity to engage with patients. At the same time we wanted to offer purposeful activities and the opportunity for better patient/carer interaction.

**The Queen Alexandra Hospital site has gone through a major redevelopment to create a modern and 'fit for purpose' hospital, which was completed in 2009. The Trust hosts the largest of one of five Ministry of Defence Hospital Units (MDHU) in England. The Unit treats members of the armed forces and their families from all corners of the UK.**



## The Solution

We introduced the My Improvement Technology as a means to further support and compliment the work we do across our elderly acute ward setting. The staff have said that it now gives them a tool of communication to work with.

During the time it has been in use, we have witnessed the varied use of the very many applications that the technology has to offer. We have been able to offer this in a Group setting, where the patients have enjoyed sing-a-longs, karaoke, bingo and quiz games. This has been extremely powerful in bringing together patients that would normally refuse to interact with others and also for use in 1:1 scenarios. It has been good to be able to bring together separately placed patients who share common interests.

We are an extremely busy medical assessment unit and we feel that the software has a benefit not only for patients, but for the nursing staff too, it has helped the nursing staff ease unsettled and agitated patients. We had a scenario where two unsettled patients, who enjoyed films, sat with each other whilst watching an Elvis Movie.

With such an array of activities, games and music contained within the system, it really does have something for everyone and gives the families the chance to interact with their loved ones using the system.

We are very keen to promote that the system does not solely have its use in dementia and care of the elderly, but can be enjoyed by all patients, their families and carer that come into the hospital setting. We feel that the system would be valuable in other Elderly Medical Wards including rehabilitation and Stroke.