



Dementia Friendly Hospital Charter for Wales

An overview of the charter and its purpose



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Introduction

The Dementia Friendly Hospital Charter for Wales (the Charter) outlines the principles that a dementia friendly hospital should achieve over time. This should fully support the Dementia Action Plan for Wales 2018-22, where the vision is to:

‘Create a society without stigma... Where people living with dementia continue to go about their lives and are understood by the wider public who know how to provide support’.

Purpose of the Dementia Friendly Hospital Charter for Wales

The purpose of the Charter is to enable hospitals to create a dementia friendly care experience and environments that meet the needs of people with dementia, their families, carers and supporters in Wales.

The Charter will...

- Act as a clear statement of the key principles that contribute to a dementia friendly hospital.
- Provide a set of principles and indicators that focus on the needs of people with dementia and their families, carers and supporters.
- Inform people of what to expect when they receive care / visit a dementia friendly hospital.
- Build on the foundation offered by the Royal College of Nursing's SPACE-VG principles. This includes the latest developments and resources that hospitals can use to provide dementia care and support.
- Offer an improvement guide to assist hospitals in their self-assessment against the dementia friendly principles

Vision Statement

‘Dementia is a priority in all Welsh hospitals and the Charter outlines the national and regional shared values and principles to achieve this. The values and principles are for all staff in hospital, community and other care settings and explain to people with dementia and their carers what to expect when they come into hospital’.

All Wales Shared Values

- Organisations and hospital staff are committed to listening, learning, enabling, being kind and caring. Staff at all levels alongside people living with dementia and carers can make a positive difference together in achieving good care.
- There is strong partnership working between the person, hospital staff, the person's carers, family and supporters. This should also include community settings such as care homes and other organisations involved in the person's care.

SPACE-VG principles:

SPACE-VG is a set of principles that form a shared commitment to improving care for people with dementia and their families. They are:

Staffing	Care is provided by staff who have appropriate knowledge and skills in line with the Good Work Framework. Staff at all levels are given permission and encouragement to make a difference to shape good care.
Partnership	It is important that people with dementia, families, care agencies, care home facilities and professionals work together for the best outcome. All people should be equally recognised as partners in providing care.
Assessment	Assessments are always centered around the person and seek to identify strengths to enable care and support to be built around their needs.
Care	Care is kind, enabling, responsive and where possible, promotes self-care and individual strengths, skills and abilities. Care supports and enables the person to maintain their sense of self and relationships with loved ones.
Environment	The environment is comfortable and promotes independence. It should also encourage mobility, activity and social interaction.
Volunteering	Volunteers have learning and development opportunities to support people with dementia and their families. Volunteers complement paid staff and are not a substitute for them.
Governance	Systems are in place to support continuous improvement in the quality of care for people with dementia and their carers whilst in hospital.

WITH THANKS TO

There are many partners involved in the creation of the Dementia Friendly Hospital Charter for Wales and they will be included in the main document.