

Improving Dementia Services

Across the health and social care economy in Kent and Medway organisations have been working to increase the integrated provision of community based services for older people with dementia. Strategic developments have focussed upon prevention and early intervention, delivery of care closer to home, promoting continuous improvements of community based services and reducing the reliance upon in-patient beds and other forms of 24-hour care.

Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust (KMPT) have been working closely with colleagues from other organisations and key stakeholders to develop Health and Social Care Integrated Projects (HASCIP) across Kent and Medway. The goal is to ensure that efficient and responsive services are co-ordinated and delivered in conjunction with partners in the Local Authority, Kent Community Healthcare Trust (KCHT) and primary care.

KMPT are transforming the way in which older adult services are delivered. This includes functional and organic presentations in both community and acute settings. The Transformation Programme includes individual and local developments, as well as strategic transformation.

Some examples of local developments are:

- Early diagnosis for Dementia – KMPT have an aligned Mental Health practitioner for every GP practice in Kent to support Primary Care to access Secondary Mental Health Dementia Services.
- GP training – KMPT have developed a GP training programme for Dementia. This programme has an on-line training module that all GPs will be able to access and a follow up bespoke training session delivered at locality level by the local Consultant Psychiatrist.
- Memory Assessment Services and MSNAP accreditation – all localities have joined MSNAP as affiliate members and are at various stages, from preparing for assessment to achieving excellent.
- Admiral Nursing across Kent remains proactive in working with families and carers of people with Dementia
- Dementia Pledge objectives – KMPT is part of the Kent Dementia Action Alliance and have made pledges as part of the action plan, these include access to our memory assessment services and our involvement of users and carers.
- Engaging Service Users – we have an active user forum called 'Forget Me Nots'. The forum members represent the Trust at various local and national events. Examples of recent engagement include the participation in the Dementia Friendly Communities workshop at Christ Church University and approval of new leaflets for the Trust memory assessment services
- Engagement in the Kent Pioneer programme – KMPT are actively involved at both strategic and operational level in their programme.
- National / Industrial research contributions – recent research contributions include use of music therapy to reduce aggression on inpatient units and potential participation in Kent Surrey Sussex wide research and participation in IDEAL research project.

KMPT have an Older Adult Transformation Board which is accountable for the delivery of the strategic planned developments:

Community Services Re-Design across Kent and Medway

The Community Services re-design is at the development stage and delivery of the project is to be negotiated and agreed, both within KMPT and with Partners. The anticipated changes will deliver the following benefits:

- Improved access to services for users and carers
- A more seamless service with streamlined clinical pathways
- Improved patient experience
- Efficiencies in working practices
- Improved relationships and reputation with partners and key stakeholders

Older Adult Safe and Secure In-Patient Services (OASSIS – East Kent)

The OASSIS project is at the design stage and KMPT are working with industry colleagues to deliver the building infrastructure of the first phase of the OASSIS project. The completion of a new 16 bedded unit on the St Martins site in Canterbury is scheduled for April 2016. The OASSIS project will deliver the following benefits:

- Inpatient capacity to cater for the projected population
- Provision of older adult inpatient services from centres of excellence.
- Improved outcomes, resulting in reduced length of stay and improved delayed transfers of care.
- Fit for purpose accommodation which enables safe care and recovery
- Access to therapeutic interventions across extended hours
- 24 / 7 dementia crisis service
- Retention of highly qualified, expert and motivated staff
- Increased capacity of the Home Treatment Service
- Continued engagement in national research