



Hospital Care for People with Dementia

Dr Stella Barnes,
Derval Russell

Agenda

- What is dementia?
- The size of the problem
- National Guidance and Reports
- Hillingdon Borough Dementia Group
- Work being undertaken at The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

What is Dementia?

Dementia is a syndrome due to disease of the brain, usually of a chronic or progressive nature, in which there is a disturbance of multiple cortical functions, calculation, learning capacity, language and judgement.

Consciousness is not clouded.

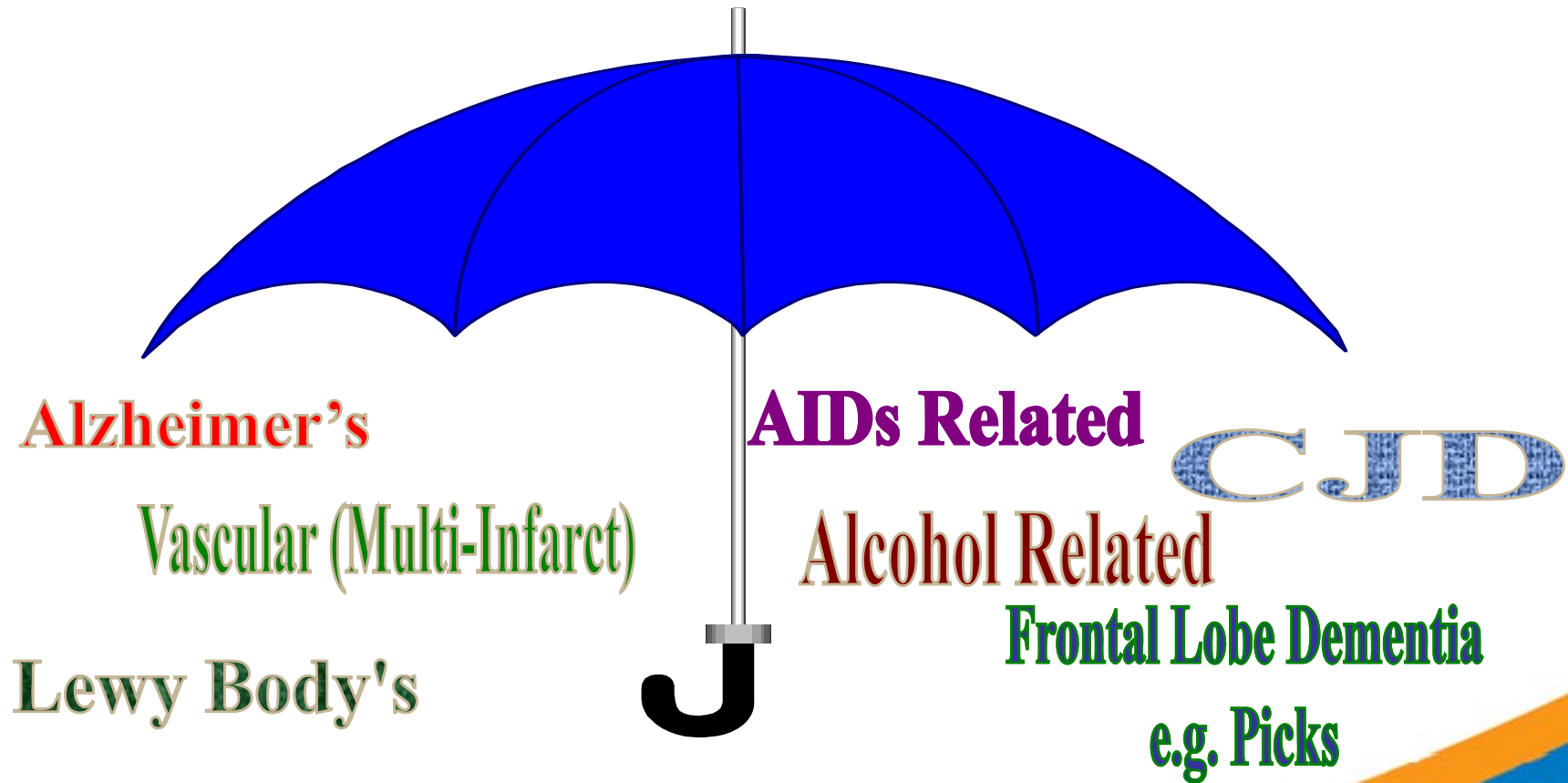
Impairments of cognitive function are commonly accompanied, and occasionally preceded by deterioration in emotional control, social behaviour, or motivation.

World Health Organisation

What is Dementia?

- Not just a memory problem
- Progressive decline in memory, change in personality and reduced ability to carry out activities of daily living
- In its later stages, dementia causes physical decline, leading to inability to walk, inability to speak or recognise family members and problems with eating and swallowing

Types of Dementia



Dementia and Age

Figure 1. Occurrence of dementia in people over 65



Source: www.nhs.uk/conditions/dementia/Pages/Introduction.aspx

Dementia – The Size of the Problem

- Currently 700,000 people with Dementia in UK, estimated cost of £17 billion per annum
- In 30 years, this will have doubled to 1,400,000 at a cost of £50 billion per annum
- 64,600 people in London have Dementia
- 2/3rds of people living with dementia live in the community supported by informal carers
- 11% of people over the age of 65 provide informal care to a person with Dementia

Dementia in the General Hospital- Why does it matter?

“The presence of a mental health problem is a strong and independent predictor of poor outcomes such as increased mortality, length of stay, institutionalisation and resource use”

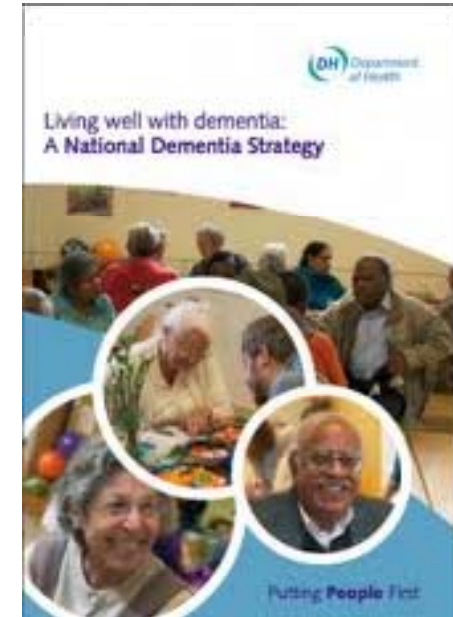
(Holmes & House 2000; Leslie *et al* 2005)

Living well with Dementia - DoH 2009

Objective 8:

Improved quality of care for people with dementia in general hospitals

- Identifying leadership for dementia in general hospitals, defining the care pathway for dementia there and the commissioning of specialist liaison older people's mental health teams to work in general hospitals
- Core component- training across the trust



Coalition Government's Implementation Plan 2010

Four key priorities to support local delivery of strategy:

1. Good quality diagnosis and early intervention for all
2. Improved quality of care in general hospitals
3. Living well with dementia in care homes
4. Reducing antipsychotic medication

Healthcare for London Dementia Services Guide

- Developed in partnership with carers, service commissioners, clinicians and third sector stakeholders
- Aims to improve services for people with dementia in London through supporting people to live at home for longer and preventing unnecessary hospital stays
- Offers advice to the NHS and local authorities on how to get the right services in place for people with dementia and provides practical information on the checks that should be undertaken at every stage – from the GP surgery, through to ambulance and hospital care and care in the community

A National Issue

- Care Quality Commission inspections
- Ombudsman Report

“The investigations reveal an attitude – both personal and institutional – which fails to recognise the humanity and individuality of the people concerned and to respond to them with sensitivity, compassion and professionalism. The reasonable expectation that an older person or their family may have of dignified, pain-free end of life care, in clean surroundings in hospital is not being fulfilled. Instead, these accounts present a picture of NHS provision that is failing to meet even the most basic standards of care”

National Audit of Dementia

First National Dementia audit took place in 2010 reviewing care in hospitals

All DGH's but one participated, so representative national picture

Audit reviewed:

- Patient assessment
- Information and support
- Policies and procedures
- Medication
- Staff training

Issues Identified

- Need an integrated care pathway
- Need to improve information gathering
- Need a policy to address challenging behaviour
- Need better access to liaison psychiatry

An extensive action plan has been written to address issues identified in the audit and this aligns with the existing hospital action plan

Hillingdon Dementia Group

- Group formed in 2010 with representatives from:
 - Acute hospital
 - GPs
 - PCT
 - Mental Health Trust
 - Social Care
 - Voluntary Sector
- Mapped out current pathways for patients with dementia and proposed changes that would improve access to services
- Dementia has been selected as Hillingdon's DoH QIPP work stream

Dementia- Training Our Staff

- Dementia awareness session added to New Starter Programme in September 2010
- Dementia teaching introduced for all Foundation trainees
- Key staff attended a study day run by the Dementia Services Centre
- Local workplace dementia training
- Multidisciplinary Dementia courses being run in-house by Bucks New University
- Plan to include in compulsory E-learning module for junior doctors

Improving the Ward Environment for People with Dementia

- Toilet signs
- Calendar clocks
- Green glasses- improved visibility, aim to reduce dehydration, shown in conjunction with above measures to reduce hospital stay for people with dementia



Improving Information

“This Is Me”

LOOK INSIDE MY
CARE PLAN FOLDER
FOR INFORMATION
ABOUT ME

This paperwork gathers information about the patient including their preferences, communication style and personal history. Trial of paperwork is currently underway

Delirium leaflet

Written, approved and now available

Next Steps

- Hospital Dementia Group met last week to coincide with Dementia Week
- Continue to share good practice across different clinical areas
- Continue implementing the action plan created following the National Dementia Audit
- Continue to work with our partner organisations to improve the care delivered to people with Dementia

