

Nutrition Improvement Collaborative

Case Studies

Trust name	Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health Foundation Trust
Provider type	Mental Health
Site (if applicable)	Juniper Centre, Moseley Birmingham
Core service	Dementia and Frailty

The issue: Our project focussed on further improving the knowledge, skills and communication within the multi-disciplinary team (MDT) on an organic dementia unit.

The solution: Our solutions included ensuring all clinical staff are fully competent for nutrition screening and care planning and developing new processes for the regular inclusion of nutrition status as MDT meeting focus.

Enablers and challenges: We had a strong personal commitment from board level to improve patient care in this area.

We learnt that having consistency across the staff leading and driving the project forwards was vital and we needed to ensure the fundamentals of staffing, processes and policy were in place and fit for purpose before making changes at a patient level.

We also found that staff on the ground in the clinical areas were the key to implementing change, and that they recognise areas for improvement.

We also learnt that technology and information systems can be a very effective way to gather useful information

Our tip would be to use Driver Diagrams as they are a great facility to breakdown the aims into do-able tasks!

The impact: To date we have agreed Board assurance through the Nonexecutive Director of Nursing Board reporting process and Non-Executive Director sponsorship confirmed. Board Assurance Measures in place and will be reported annually.

We have a Quality Audit Tool in place for annual audit if screening tool and have developed a IT system based, Trust wide dashboard – utilising informatics systems which highlights the MUST screening tool. We can now use our technology processes to help identify patients at high risk of malnutrition across all our services to target intervention.

We have also developed a new ward-based risk identification system to raise awareness current malnutrition within the ward.

Our E- learning package has been completed by 130 members of staff and 140 Dementia and Frailty staff have completed face to face training on Nutrition & Hydration.

Next steps and sustainability: Our next steps include carry out real time quality checks to ensure good practice when weighing and measuring our patients and ensuring the Dietetic resource into the MDT meeting structure.

We will be presenting our Collaborative summary to Clinical Senate.

Want to know more?

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For more information on our nutrition and hydration work, email nhsi.nutritionandhydration@nhs.net