



**Service Priorities and Programmes**  
**Electronic Presentations**

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**Geriatric Nurse Clinic (Dementia Care) in Prince of Wales Hospital Facilitates Better Client Outcomes through Multi-disciplinary and Community Collaboration**

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**Keywords:**

Geriatric Nurse Clinic (Dementia Care)

**Introduction**

Dementia is a health challenge which influences individuals, their family and the whole health care system. The estimated population of the elderly with dementia aged 60 years or above was more than 100 000 in 2009. Furthermore, it is estimated that the increase will be more than threefold, up to 330 000 by 2039.

Persons with dementia have multiple and different care needs. Apart from pharmacological therapy, it is crucial for them to receive comprehensive assessment, risks & needs identification, education, cognitive training, caregiver support and community support.

Geriatrics Nurse led Clinic (Dementia Care) provides active and earlier assessment, education and counseling to patients with cognitive impairment, suspected dementia and dementia and the caregivers. In order to enhance the support from the community, eligible cases will be referred the “Dementia Community Support Scheme” (the pilot scheme) which is led by the Food and Health Bureau and in collaboration with Social Welfare Department and Hospital Authority.

**Objectives**

Geriatrics Nurse Clinic (Dementia Care) in Prince of Wales Hospital (PWH) was firstly set up in Jun 2012. The service had extended to the review clinic in 2014 subsequently. Our targets are to delay progression, maintain self-care ability, enhance safety, control symptom and reduce caring stress. Therefore, our objectives are to:

1. provide early comprehensive assessment, problem identification, education, counseling for geriatric patients with memory or cognitive problems and their caregiver.
2. provide subsequent monitoring on symptom control, complication prevention and continuous support to patients and caregivers.
3. refer and collaborate with other specialist and community resources

**Methodology**

1. First nurse clinic visit will be arranged 3 months before their first Geriatric outpatient clinic appointment.

2. Subsequent visit for review will be arranged 3 months after for mild to moderate dementia. Earlier appointment and third or more clinic visits will be arranged for complex case.
3. Urgent geriatrician consultation will be arranged for those who presented with significant behavior & psychological symptoms or for those caregivers who expressed significant stress.

### **Result**

Up to December 2017 since the opening, 445 new cases were seen by Geriatrics Nurse Clinic and 313 review visits were offered. Among the reviewed cases in 2017, 95% of them reported some improvement or no worsening on temper tantrum, mood and distressing behavior after first visit. 80% of the cases reported some improvement or no decline in activities of daily living. For the evaluation on complication prevention, 95% cases had no more report on domestic accident. 95% of cases reported no episode of losing way. Moreover, there is no case admitted to hospital due to "behavioral psychological symptoms of dementia". Satisfaction survey showed that all cases felt satisfied with our services. For the collaboration with community services, 41 cases were referred to and joined the Dementia Community Support Scheme.