

Practical Dementia Resources Improvement Project

Progress update April 2025

About the project

We identified through previous work, a potential need for simplified, practical tools to support frontline staff in taking a non-pharmacological approach to improve dementia care and reduce inappropriate use of psychoactive medicines where possible. (Jenks K, Marshall D. and Stokes G. (2024) *Reducing psychoactive medication use: Find the 'why'*. *Journal of Dementia Care* Vol 32 (No. 5) p 34-39)

What we are doing

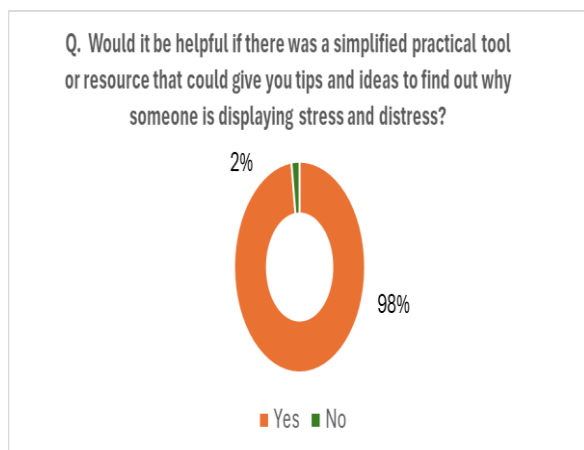
We are co-developing and co-designing practical tools with, and for, frontline care staff to support them in their role caring for people with dementia.

This involves:

- a survey of frontline care staff
- speaking and meeting with frontline staff to gather deeper information on what they feel would best support them and in what format
- co-designing the content

Impact so far...

Our survey asked 11 questions based on what frontline staff use in their day-to-day job. We received a total of 145 responses from users that help support people with Dementia.



When asked through the survey and workshops about what format the information should take, the majority indicated a preference for an online/ digital resource.

From the 145 respondents from the survey, 102 people asked to be a part of the ongoing process and to stay informed.

This number has increased throughout the course of the project.



We held three workshops and one online interactive session.

The information extracted from the workshops was:

- key themes for dementia care
- key content for sharing
- power of storytelling, hearing from peers and people with lived experience on what works best
- having simplified tools and short emotive stories that resonate with staff
- format should be short, sharp, and easily accessible on a digital format for use on the go



Workshop evaluation quotes:



“Very good, relaxed pace and interactive. Really enjoyed sharing experience and looking at new ways of working.”

Where are we now?...

We will continue to co-produce and test the content with frontline staff