

Admiral Nurses welcome the commitment to improving the quality of dementia care driven by the development of a National Dementia Strategy and are keen to contribute towards the further development of recommendations and their implementation.

The main messages from Admiral Nurses in relation to this consultation include:

- The views of people with dementia and their families must develop and shape future provision
- For significant investment, proper funding and clearer directions for improvements to be successful.
- To develop bespoke dementia services rather than trying to fix current systems which struggle to meet the needs of people with dementia and their families.
- To acknowledge the trajectory of the illness and to include a bigger emphasis on the complex needs of those at the end of life, as part of the Strategy.
- To recognise that dementia is a complex illness that needs a comprehensive and flexible but dedicated solution.
- To understand that people with dementia and their carers sometimes have different needs which may conflict and/or be interdependent; these must be acknowledged and balanced in a commitment to providing family centred care.
- To recognise that people with dementia and their carers needs and deserve support from knowledgeable, skilled professionals whose development is supported through clear education and training pathways.
- To ensure that quality education/ training that is embedded within organisational, systematic approaches to change and in which practice is adequately supervised and supported in order to develop.
- For an assessment of competence, knowledge and skills in relation to dementia to be included as a part of pre-registration education for all health and social care professionals
- To recognise that nurses have a significant contribution to make in delivering dementia care in a variety of settings and for dementia specialist nurse roles to be developed in support of this.

Admiral Nursing offers a model for developing specialist dementia nurse roles and are committed to improving the lives of families affected by dementia.