

**CYC – Health Scrutiny – Dementia review  
1<sup>st</sup> September 2008  
Additional Information from York Hospital**

**WHAT A LIAISON SERVICE WOULD PROVIDE.**

- Improved access to an initial mental health assessment and treatment for all patients.
- Early screening on admission with regard to mental health needs
- In depth assessment of mental health need for patient's in order to ensure the appropriate care, treatment and management of these needs at the same time as their physical health needs are being met.
- Ensure suitable risk assessments are undertaken regarding mental health need in order to reduce length of stay and prevent further loss of independence.
- Optimise and expedite discharge for patients with mental health needs. E.g. discharge home with care package instead of nursing/ residential home placement.
- Appropriate assessment for transfer to transitional and intermediate care for those with mental health needs.
- Reduce readmission rates for this patient group by ensuring comprehensive mental health assessment and referral onto specialist services.
- Training and awareness sessions for general hospital staff – and ongoing modelling of patient centred care.
- Provide a source of information, advice and support to hospital staff regarding crisis management for patients in acute distress.

- To offer advice and support in developing ongoing plans of care to enable staff to deal with challenging behaviours, both during current and subsequent admissions.
- Improve joint working across all agencies – particularly when assessing ongoing after care needs. Provide a link between Mental Health services (NYYPCT), Social Services (CYC) and general hospital services.

Staffing required

Team Leader – specialist nurse in post  
Additional nursing  
Occupational Therapist  
2 Sessions of psychiatrist  
Social worker  
Support Staff

Sue Beckett  
Heather Sweetman  
Dr. Kesavan

September 2008