

North Bristol NHS Trust

Southmead Hospital



The Challenge

At Southmead we have a Meaningful Activities Project. There were challenges around this initiative which meant ensuring the staff understood meaningful activities, meaningful interactions, and person-centred care. There were challenges around space, storage and infection control.

The outcomes in its use has been an overall improvement in the staff understanding of meaningful activity and person centred care. There is a clear link between positive staff interaction and patient wellbeing.

The Solution

The My Improvement Network helped us overcome those challenges through their unit and the prompts it offered staff and how it supported the meaningful interaction between the patient and the staff.

Benefits

- It was one item
- It was a practical size,
- It was safe and portable, it wiped clean so removed risks around infection control.
- The outcomes in the use of the technology has been an overall improvement in the staff understanding of meaningful activity and person centred care. There is a clear link between positive staff interaction and patient wellbeing.
- We have a number of sites in Bristol that are currently operating and seeing the benefits of using the My Improvement Network Unit.
- It also has its place in our Emergency Department where it has been positive in calming and easing agitation.



We initially purchased 2 units at Southmead that were deployed on a complex care ward and an acute Neuro ward. The feedback from staff and patients has all been very positive. In December 2015 we purchased a further 13 units.

Around 200 of the 800 beds at Southmead Hospital are occupied by somebody with a cognitive impairment. All are at risk of

- Increased isolation
- Increased risk of falls/serious injuries
- Increased risk of disorientation and delirium
- Increased length of stay and complex discharges

Cognitive impairment can arise as a result of injuries. Patients can become inactive for long periods of time. The units have helped some people with their cognitive skills before they leave ICU. Other patients can become bored in their single rooms and have voiced that they have really enjoyed having something to help pass their time.