



# Irish National Audit of Dementia (care in general hospitals)

## ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

**Hospital code**

**Ward code**

## Ward Size and Layout

**Number of beds**

**Number of single sex bays**

**Number of mixed bays**

**Number of single rooms**

## Section 1: The Ward/Signage

*Signs should display information in a consistent and simple way. They should be positioned on the ward so they can be easily seen by patients and designed so they are readable and easy to understand - clearly contrasted, placed at a suitable height on the wall etc.*

1 **Colour schemes are used to help patients with dementia to find their way around the ward** (e.g. different bays are painted in different colours to aid recognition)

Yes  No

2 **Key areas are clearly marked** (e.g. the nursing station, the bathroom, any side rooms or waiting areas)

Yes  No

3 **Signs/maps are large, bold and distinctive**

Yes  No  N/A (no signs/maps)

4 **Information (words and pictures) on signs is in clear contrast to the background**

Yes  No

## Section 2: Floors

5 **Level changes and contrasts (gentle slopes and steps) are clearly marked**

Yes  No  N/A

6 **Floors are plain or subtly patterned, not 'busy'** (e.g. without bold or high contrast design or pattern which could affect orientation)

Yes  No

7 **Floor surfaces are subtly polished rather than high gloss**

Yes  No

8 **Floor surfaces are non slip**

Yes  No

## Section 3: Bed/Rest Area

9 **Patients with dementia are situated on the ward where they are visible to staff and staff are visible to them**

All patients  Some patients  No patients

10 **Patients with dementia are able to see a clock from their bed area**  
 All patients  Some patients  No patients

11 **Patients with dementia are able to see a calendar from their bed area**  
*(this can be an orientation board)*  
 All patients  Some patients  No patients

12 **For patients with dementia, messages from relatives and personal objects, including self care items, are situated where the patient can see them at all times**  
 All patients  Some patients  No patients

13 **A room/area is available for patients to use for a break from the ward environment** *(e.g. a 'quiet room', patient's lounge or seating area)*  
 Yes  No

**Any Comments on Bed/Rest Area (e.g. clocks/calendars on right time/date)**

## Section 4: Accessible Toilet and Bathing Facilities

14 **Signs to locate the toilet are visible from the patient's bed area/door of room**  
 All  Some  None

15a. **Toilet doors carry signs**  
 All  Some  None

15b. **Bathroom doors carry signs**  
 All  Some  None

16 **Toilet and bathroom doors are a different colour to the walls**  
 All  Some  None

17 **Items such as the soap dispenser, the bin, the hand dryer, are clearly labelled with pictures as well as words so that the patient can identify them**  
 All  Some  None

18 **There are hand rails, large handles and a raised toilet seat to support patients**  
 Yes  No

19 **Door handles are a different colour to the wall so that they stand out**

- All  Some  None

20 **Toilet paper is a different colour to the wall so that it stands out**

- All  Some  None

21 **The toilets are big enough for assisted toileting**

- All  Some  None

22 **The bathroom is big enough for assisted bathing**

- Yes  No

23 **Single sex toilet/washing facilities are provided for patient use**

- Yes  No

24 **Facilities are available so that patients have choices about bathing or assisted bathing** (e.g. at the sink, overhead showering, hand held shower head, full bath)

- Yes  No

25 **There are call/alarm buttons visible in the toilet/bathroom**

- Visible and in reach  
 Visible and not in reach  
 Not visible

## Section 5: Promoting Independence

26 **There is space for active patients with dementia to walk up and down where they are visible to staff and staff are visible to them**

- Yes  No

27 **The ward is adapted to assist people with mobility difficulties** (e.g. large handles, hand rails)

- Yes  No

28 **The ward can readily provide equipment to assist mobility** (e.g. walking frames, wheelchairs)

- Yes  No

29 **The ward can provide hearing aids such as amplifiers/communicators/hearing loops/batteries for personal aids or other assistive devices**

- Yes  No

30 **The ward can provide adapted utensils (cutlery) to encourage patients to assist themselves with their meal and eat independently**

- Yes  No

**Any comments on the environmental checklist:**

**If you have any queries, please contact:**

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