

## FAQs for Dementia

**Q: How do we find eligible patients?**

A: Practices will be provided with searches via the DQ team to help identify patients eligible for an annual review. Eligible patients should be recorded using a designated code provided by the ICB.

**Q: Will any non-face to face reviews be accepted under this specification?**

A: Ideally the reviews will be undertaken with the patient face to face to ensure the highest quality of review and allow for a holistic assessment. In exceptional cases where this may not be possible, a video/telephone consultations could be undertaken, however this needs to be of sufficient quality to allow for a holistic assessment, medication review and assessment of cognition as required.

**Q: Is staff training mandatory as part of this specification?**

A: Training is encouraged but is not mandatory. The decision is at the discretion of the practice, but the practice must be assured of the competency of its staff undertaking the review. The ICB can signpost for relevant dementia training.

**Q: What do we need to do if a carer has been identified and how do we support them?**

A: Where applicable, the patient's record should be noted with a carer code. Carers should then be offered a carer's assessment. The care plan should include a named person to contact if the patient is deteriorating or if the carer needs specific support. The plan should also include contact details for support organisations for patients and carers. Practices may consider signposting to the social prescriber or local carers assessment services where one exists.

If the carer for the patient is not registered at the practice, ideally, they would be signposted to services and encouraged to let their own GP practice know they are a carer so ongoing support may be offered opportunistically.

**Q: Dementia review - Does it need to be a GP who does this? At the moment we have our nurse do the dementia reviews but the medication review should be done by a GP or pharmacist, I think?**

A: The decision is at the discretion of the practice, but the practice must be assured of the competency of its staff undertaking the review.