**Details of the person with dementia or difficulties**

|  |
| --- |
| Name:  |
| Address:Postcode:Telephone number:  |
| Diagnosis of dementia: Yes No |
| Type / date of diagnosis: |
| NHS Number:  |
| GP Name and address: |
| Other professionals or agencies involved: |
| Relevant medical history / health issues:  |

**Details of main carer/contact**

|  |
| --- |
| Name:  |
| Address:Postcode:  Telephone number: |
| Relationship:  |
| NHS Number: |
| GP Name and address: |
| Relevant information about carer: |

**Further information**

|  |
| --- |
| Who is being referred? Person with dementia Carer Both |
| Has the person or carer given consent?  Yes No |
| Social history: |
| Any known risks? |
| Reason for referral: |

**Refer details**

|  |
| --- |
| Name:  |
| Job Tile / Organisation address:Email:Telephone:  |
| Signed:  |
| Date: |

For further information please contact Dementia Services on 0191 386 1170.

Referrals can be emailed to NECNE.StcuthbertsHospiceReferrals@nhs.net or sent by post to:

St Cuthbert’s Hospice

Park House Road

Durham

DH1 3QF

**Referral Guidelines for accessing Dementia Care Services**

**at St Cuthbert’s Hospice**

Led by our Admiral Nurse, St Cuthbert’s Hospice has an established dementia care service. This is designed to support the person with late stage dementia and their families and carers if they are experiencing difficulties and need support. We recognise that each person living with dementia has their own specific needs and strive to meet those needs as best we can.

Late stage dementia can present in a number of ways and these difficulties can be very challenging for families and carers.

Key changes that can occur in later stages of dementia include:

* The person appears more withdrawn and can communicate less.
* Changes to dietary intake, particularly reduced food and fluid intake
* The person becomes less mobile and there is an increase in falls
* The person’s capacity to maintain activities of daily living is reduced
* The person may no longer respond to treatments or interventions that have worked in the past
* There is an increased number of infections with reduced times between infections
* There are changes to skin condition
* Ability to respond to changes in functioning and physical health will be reduced e.g. stop taking medication
* Changes in behaviour. For example restlessness, agitation

For medical, nursing, allied health and social care professionals considering whether you feel it is appropriate to refer a patient to our services we would ask that you review:

* How long it has been since the person was diagnosed with dementia?
* Are the family now reporting significant changes/decline?

What we can offer:

* Admiral Nurse led service including:
	+ Triage and assessment to access of Living Well Centre.
	+ Referral into our community Namaste Care Service.
	+ Support for families who are experiencing difficulties including 1:1 sessions, signposting, referrals to appropriate services.

**Please contact Dementia Care Services at St Cuthbert’s Hospice on 0191 386 1170 to discuss what help and support we can offer.**