Focus on Dementia is a partnership programme between Scottish Government Mental Health Division, Quality and Efficiency Support Team (QuEST), Joint Improvement Team (JIT) and Alzheimer Scotland. Its objectives are:

- **Support the delivery of the Post-Diagnostic HEAT Target across all health and social care partnerships across Scotland**
- **Test the Alzheimer Scotland 'Eight Pillars' model for community based support in five areas in Scotland**
- **Support improvement in the care of people with dementia in acute hospitals**
- **Support partnerships to use data to drive improvement**

For more information visit:


@FocusOnDementia

Changing minds, improving lives in Scotland
Diagnosis of dementia is important as diagnosis is the gateway to information, support, care and treatment for the person with dementia, their family and the carers.

A target to increase the number of people with a diagnosis of dementia was delivered nationally across Scotland.

The diagnosis HEAT(Health Efficiency Access and Treatment) target has now become a standard and is embedded within the new HEAT target on Post-Diagnostic Support.

Everyone diagnosed with dementia from April 1, 2013 is entitled to a minimum of one year's worth of post-diagnostic support, coordinated by a Link Worker.

Dementia care in acute general hospitals has been a key focus in both the first and second National Dementia Strategies in Scotland (2010-2016).

There are 10 areas identified for improvement, ranging from developing the workforce to working as equal partners with families, friends and carers.

The ‘Focus on Dementia: Changing Minds, Improving Lives in Scotland’ programme is supporting the Alzheimer Scotland Dementia Nurse/Allied Health Professional Consultants in each Board to test and evaluate a range of change ideas to deliver improvements in care for people with dementia in acute hospitals.

Testing the Eight Pillars Model: An integrated and comprehensive, evidence-based approach to supporting people with dementia and their carers in the community.

The aim is to improve experience, safety and co-ordination of care for people with dementia, their carers and staff by January 2016, through testing and evaluating a range of approaches to providing better integrated care and support in the community using the Eight Pillars Model.

The ‘Focus on Dementia: Changing Minds, Improving Lives in Scotland’ programme is supporting this work through working with the five test sites across Scotland to test and evaluate different approaches. This will then inform future direction of integrated community support.