

Admiral Nurse Service

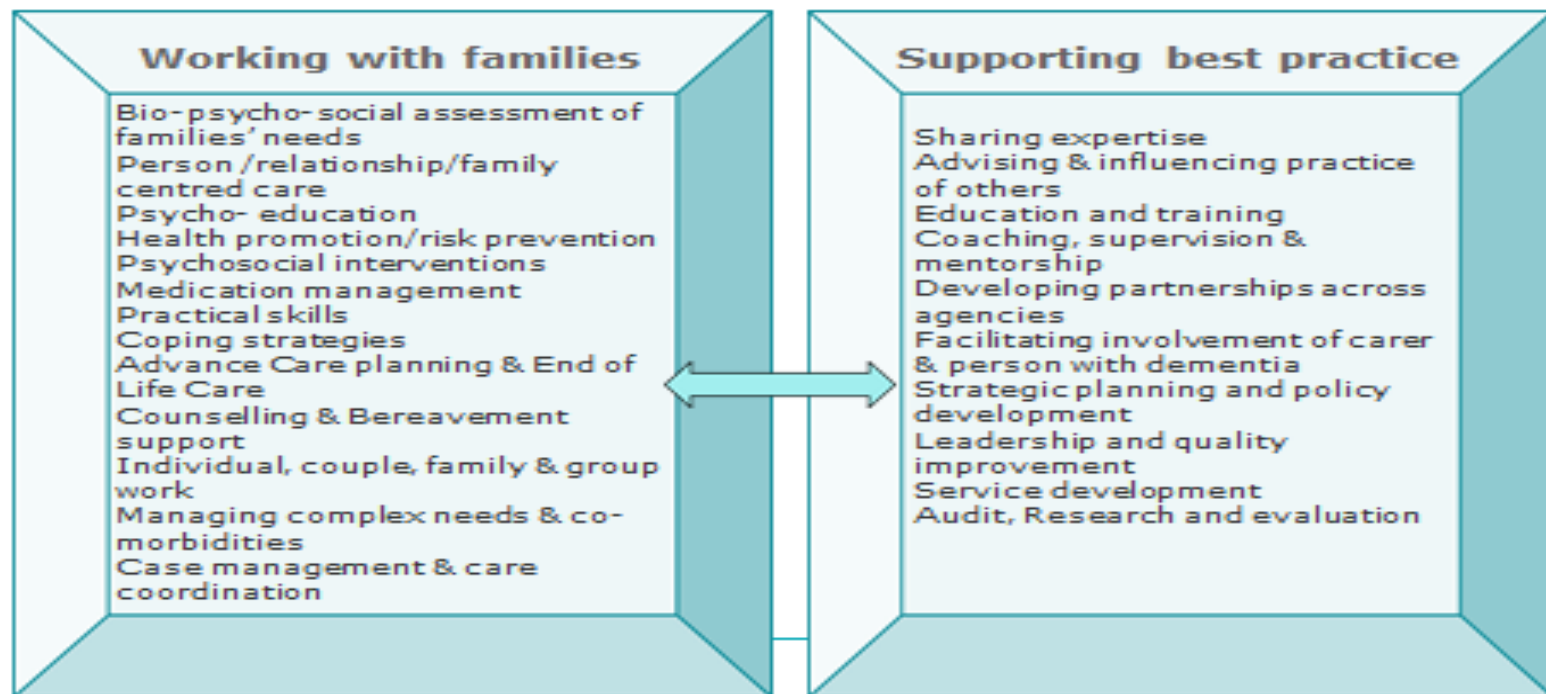
Emma Easton

Admiral Nurse Team Manager

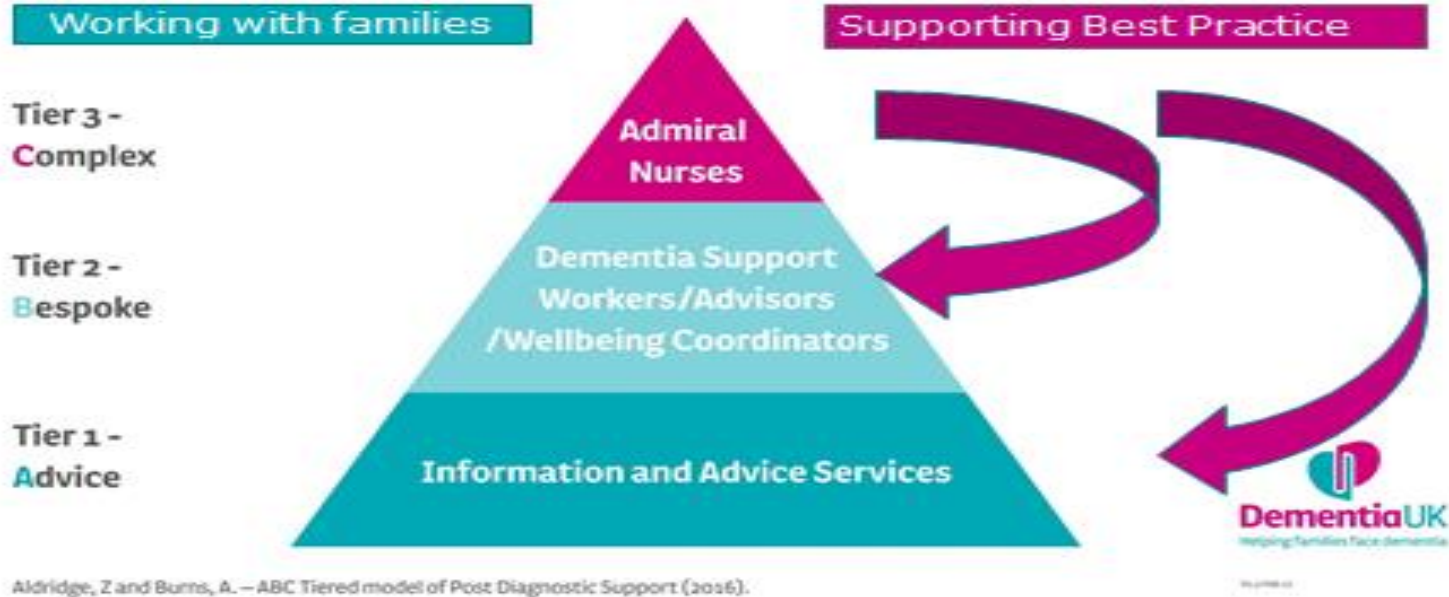
What is Admiral Nursing?

Admiral Nurses are Registered Nurses who specialise in dementia care and work with families affected by dementia who have complex needs (Gridley et al. 2019). The service will be available for people with dementia and their families from pre assessment, through the disease progression into end of life, and post bereavement. The Admiral Nurse will have a dual focus: case management of families affected by the complexities of dementia and supporting best practice of other professionals (Aldridge & Harrison Denning 2019; Aldridge et al. 2019; Harrison Denning et al. 2017). An integrated approach is central to the model and Admiral Nurses coordinate care through an integrated collaborative team-based approach.

Admiral Nursing: an integrated role



The Tiered Model - ABC



Referral Criteria

The Admiral Nurse will accept referrals where:

- The person with dementia has a diagnosis of dementia or suspected diagnosis and lives within the London Borough of Sutton
- The carer has consented to the referral
- The person with dementia has complex** care needs and/or the family's needs are complex; for example, due to high levels of distress / change in presentation of the person with dementia / end of life
- Other services are unable to meet the needs and complexity of the caring situation

**Complex needs may include issues such as the carer struggling to cope, complex family dynamics, high level of distress, changes in the presentation of the person with dementia, complex decision-making, comorbidities and end of life. Often at / or near crisis point with multi-faceted areas of need requiring intensive clinical case management.

Case work vs supporting best practice

Examples of reasons for referral for families:

- There is a high risk of carer breakdown/stress; lack of support services involved
 - There are complex interactions with dementia and co-morbidities impacting upon the family's ability to manage
 - The family has difficulty understanding or coming to terms with the diagnosis and/or the presentation of the condition, including recognising their caring role and their inability to identify their unmet needs in relation to the caring role
 - The family requires support with identifying and managing risk associated with dementia
 - The family affected by dementia are socially isolated, demonstrate a lack of knowledge about identifying and accessing support services and have difficulty expressing choice and need
 - The family needs specialist practical skills training, information and advice, emotional support for e.g., carer fatigue, loss, transition and changing relationships, managing behaviour that challenges
 - Support is needed at end of life, including post bereavement (and the family are not already receiving a service from the hospice)
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Case work vs supporting best practice

Reasons for referral for supporting best practice:

- Staff require advice on the care of people with dementia and their carers/families with complex care needs
- Staff require support with improving the identification and management of co-morbidities and frailty for people with dementia and their carers/families
- Staff require support with developing and delivering person-centred care plans for people with dementia, including positive risk management
- Staff require support with understanding and responding to changes in behaviour and relationships

References

Aldridge, Z., Burns., A & Harrison Denning K. (2019) ABC Model: A tiered integrated pathway approach to peri and post-diagnostic support for families living with dementia. Dementia Sage Publications.

Aldridge Z, Harrison Denning K. (2019) Admiral Nursing in Primary Care: Peri and Post-Diagnostic Support for Families Affected by Dementia within the UK Primary Care Network Model. OBM Geriatrics 2019;3(4):

Gridley, K., Aspinall, F., Parker, G. et al. (2019) Specialist Nursing Support for Unpaid Carers of People with Dementia; A mixed methods feasibility study. Health Service and Delivery Research Volume 7 Issue 12

Harrison Denning, K., Aldridge, Z., Pepper, A. et al. (2017) Admiral Nursing; Case Management for families affected by dementia. Nursing Standard 31 (24) 42-51

Contact Details

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Service working hours: Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm (excluding bank holidays)

National Team – Admiral Nurse Dementia Helpline

National FREE Helpline 0800 888 6678

Email helpline@dementiauk.org

Online Form to speak to a dementia specialist Admiral Nurse <https://www.dementiauk.org/information-and-support/how-we-can-support-you/admiral-nurse-dementia-helpline/helpline-form/>