## Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 1 – Personal Details

Was this DST completed whilst the individual was in an acute hospital? Yes □ No □

Date of completion of Decision Support Tool 4 October 2018

Barbara Lilley

28 July 1932

Name D.O.B.

87654321 Dr Summers

NHS number and GP/Practice:

Permanent Address and Current Residence (if not permanent Telephone Number address)

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| --- | --- |
| Nightingale Nursing Home1 Station RoadHeath ParkEssex |  |

Gender Female

Please ensure that if the equality monitoring form at the end of the DST is completed

Was the individual involved in the completion of the DST? No

Was the individual offered the opportunity to have a representative such as a family member or other advocate present when the DST was completed? Yes – Mrs Lilley’s daughter was invited to attend

If yes, did the representative attend the completion of the DST? No – Mrs Lilley’s daughter was unable to attend because of work commitments

Please give the contact details of the representative (name, address and telephone number)

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| --- |
| Mrs Jones17 Magnolia AvenueRomfordEssex0208 785 7765Doreenjones1066@hotmail.com |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 1 – Personal Details

Summary

a)

Summary pen portrait of the individual’s situation, relevant history (particularly clinical history) and current needs, including clinical summary and identified significant risks, drawn from the multidisciplinary assessment:

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| Mrs Lilley was placed in Nightingale Care Home in November 2011. She was initially admitted to the Residential part of the Home, but she transferred to the Nursing part of the Home in 2014 when her physical health declined. She was assessed for NHS Continuing Healthcare in December 2015. Although she was clearly very dependent on staff for all her care needs at that time, she was not deemed to have a primary health need. NHS Funded Nursing Care has continued to be paid to the Home. A review in January 2017 again found her ineligible for NHS Continuing Healthcare. Since that time, there have been some changes to Mrs Lilley’s condition, particularly in the domains of Nutrition and Skin.Her medical history includes asthma, eczema, dementia (diagnosed in 2009), depression, arthritis; and possible epilepsy or transient ischaemic attacks from April 2012 onwards; no formal diagnosis has been made. |

Individual’s view of their care needs and whether they consider that the multidisciplinary assessment accurately reflects these:

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| Mrs Jones has complained to the Chief Executive that she remains adamant that the principle of eligibility for NHS Continuing Healthcare should be established for her Mother, because Mrs Lilley worked until she was 75 and continued to pay tax on all her earnings. She had paid full National Insurance contributions until she reached state retirement age. |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 1 – Personal Details

b)

Please note below whether and how the individual (or their representative) contributed to the assessment of their needs. If they were not involved, please record whether they were not invited or whether they declined to participate.

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| Mrs Lilley was unable to contribute to the assessment because of her substantial cognitive impairment.Her daughter, Mrs Jones, visits every day, and spends a great deal of time in the Home, usually giving her Mother her lunch. Mrs Jones would therefore have been really helpful in assisting the assessors to understand Mrs Lilley’s increasing needs, but she was unable to attend the assessment. |

Please list the assessments and other key evidence that were taken into account in completing the DST, including the dates of the assessments:

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| Nursing Home records (Care Plans, risk assessments, daily record sheets)Speech and Language Team report January 2018Record of health professionals visits (including GP visits)The assessors discussed Mrs Lilley’s condition and needs with Rachel Le Fressange, Mrs Lilley’s key worker. |

## Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 1 – Personal Details

c)

Assessors’ (including MDT members) name/address/contact details noting lead coordinator:

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| --- |
| Damian Powell, RGN Nurse AssessorNHS Loamshire CCG damian.powell@loamshire.nhs.ukDolores Pritchard, DipSW Social Workerd.pritchard@loamtown.gov.uk |

Contact details of GP and other key professionals involved in the care of the individual: Please indicate which of these have contributed to the assessment of needs for the MDT to consider when completing this Decision Support Tool.

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| --- |
| Dr Summers Loamtown Surgery 0208 765 8888The Nurse Assessor attempted to contact Dr Summers but he is abroad on holiday. |

## Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

1. Breathing: As with all other domains, the breathing domain should be used to record needs rather than the underlying condition that may give rise to the needs For example, an individual may have Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), emphysema or recurrent chest infections or another condition giving rise to breathing difficulties, and it is the needs arising from such conditions which should be recorded.

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| 1. Describe below the actual needs of the individual, providing the evidence that informs the decision overleaf on which level is appropriate, including the frequency and intensity of need, unpredictability, deterioration and any instability.2. Circle the assessed level overleaf.Mrs Lilley has a history of asthma, and an inhaler is prescribed. She has had two chest infections in the last three months. Hospital admission was needed on the most recent occasion (August 2018), when she was treated with IV anti-biotics. She returned to the Home with oxygen therapy prescribed on a PRN basis – it has never been used, to date. |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

1. Breathing

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description | Level of need |
| Normal breathing, no issues with shortness of breath.  |  No needs |
| Shortness of breath or a condition which may require the use of inhalers or a nebuliser and has no impact on daily living activities.OREpisodes of breathlessness that readily respond to management and have no impact on daily living activities. |  Low |
| Shortness of breath or a condition which may require the use of inhalers or a nebuliser and limit some daily living activities.OREpisodes of breathlessness that do not consistently respond to management and limit some daily living activities.ORRequires any of the following:low level oxygen therapy (24%).room air ventilators via a facial or nasal mask.other therapeutic appliances to maintain airflow where individual can still spontaneously breathe e.g. CPAP (Continuous Positive Airways Pressure) to manage obstructive apnoea during sleep. |  Moderate |
| Is able to breathe independently through a tracheotomy that they can manage themselves, or with the support of carers or care workers.ORBreathlessness due to a condition which is not responding to treatment and limits all daily living activities  |  High |
| Difficulty in breathing, even through a tracheotomy, which requires suction to maintain airway.ORDemonstrates severe breathing difficulties at rest, in spite of maximum medical therapyORA condition that requires management by a non-invasive device to both stimulate and maintain breathing (bilevel positive airway pressure, or non-invasive ventilation) |  Severe |
| Unable to breathe independently, requires invasive mechanical ventilation. |  Priority |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

2. Nutrition – Food and Drink: Individuals at risk of malnutrition, dehydration and/or aspiration should either have an existing assessment of these needs or have had one carried out as part of the assessment process with any management and risk factors supported by a management plan. Where an individual has significant weight loss or gain, professional judgement should be used to consider what the trajectory of weight loss or gain is telling us about the individual’s nutritional status.

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| 1. Describe the actual needs of the individual, providing the evidence that informs the decision overleaf on which level is appropriate, including the frequency and intensity of need, unpredictability, deterioration and any instability.2. Circle the assessed level overleaf.Mrs Lilley needs to be fed. Her daughter visits daily, and feeds Mrs Lilley at lunchtimes. Feeding takes about 40 minutes. Mrs Lilley will often clench her mouth and refuse to eat; she sometimes spits food out.Her weight has reduced from 65 kg (December 2014) to 56 kg (December 2016) to 47 kg now. Her height is approximately 5’ 7”.Ensure Plus and Fortisips have been prescribed.Care plans have noted her coughing increasing during meals. She is always fed whilst sitting upright in line with recommendations from the Speech and Language Team. She has a pureed diet and thickened fluids.Mrs Lilley loves semolina pudding, and will often accept this even when she refuses other food.The GP has commented in the visits from health professionals records that some of Mrs Lilley’s chest infections may have been due to aspiration. |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

2. Nutrition – Food and Drink

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description | Level of need |
| Able to take adequate food and drink by mouth to meet all nutritional requirements. | No needs |
| Needs supervision, prompting with meals, or may need feeding and/or a special diet (for example to manage food intolerances/allergies).ORAble to take food and drink by mouth but requires additional/supplementary feeding. |  Low |
| Needs feeding to ensure adequate intake of food and takes a long time (half an hour or more), including liquidised feed.ORUnable to take any food and drink by mouth, but all nutritional requirements are being adequately maintained by artificial means, for example via a non-problematic PEG. |  Moderate |
| Dysphagia requiring skilled intervention to ensure adequate nutrition/hydration and minimise the risk of choking and aspiration to maintain airway.ORSubcutaneous fluids that are managed by the individual or specifically trained carers or care workers.ORNutritional status “at risk” and may be associated with unintended, significant weight loss.ORSignificant weight loss or gain due to identified eating disorder.ORProblems relating to a feeding device (for example PEG) that require skilled assessment and review. |  High |
| Unable to take food and drink by mouth. All nutritional requirements taken by artificial means requiring ongoing skilled professional intervention or monitoring over a 24 hour period to ensure nutrition/hydration, for example I.V. fluids/total parenteral nutrition (TPN).ORUnable to take food and drink by mouth, intervention inappropriate or impossible. |  Severe |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

3. Continence: Where continence problems are identified, a full continence assessment exists or has been undertaken as part of the assessment process, any underlying conditions identified, and the impact and likelihood of any risk factors evaluated.

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| 1. Describe the actual needs of the individual, providing the evidence that informs the decision overleaf on which level is appropriate, including the frequency and intensity of need, unpredictability, deterioration and any instability.2. Take into account any aspect of continence care associated with behaviour in the Behaviour domain.3. Circle the assessed level overleaf.Mrs Lilley has been doubly incontinent for several years, and wears pads. She is compliant with personal care but sometimes gets faeces on her fingers and then rubs the bedsheets.She has had several urinary tract infections in the last year, which responded well to anti-biotic medication.She is often constipated, and daily Movicol is prescribed.An enema is needed two or three times a month. |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

3. Continence

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description | Level of need |
| Continent of urine and faeces. |  No needs |
| Continence care is routine on a day-to-day basis;Incontinence of urine managed through, for example, medication, regular toileting, use of penile sheaths, etc.ANDis able to maintain full control over bowel movements or has a stable stoma, or may have occasional faecal incontinence/constipation. |  Low |
| Continence care is routine but requires monitoring to minimise risks, for example those associated with urinary catheters, double incontinence, chronic urinary tract infections and/or the management of constipation or other bowel problems. |  Moderate |
| Continence care is problematic and requires timely and skilled intervention, beyond routine care (for example frequent bladder wash outs/irrigation, manual evacuations, frequent re-catheterisation). |  High |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

4. Skin (including tissue viability): Evidence of wounds should derive from a wound assessment chart or tissue viability assessment completed by an appropriate professional. Here, a skin condition is taken to mean any condition which affects or has the potential to affect the integrity of the skin.

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| 1. Describe the actual needs of the individual, providing the evidence that informs the decision overleaf on which level is appropriate, including the frequency and intensity of need, unpredictability, deterioration and any instability.2. Circle the assessed level overleaf.Despite being cared for in bed, Mrs Lilley’s skin has remained intact. Cavilon barrier cream is applied regularly to her sacral area, and she is turned every 2 – 3 hours. She uses an air mattress.Her eczema has been actively treated over the last 8 months. She is currently prescribed Hydrocortisone 1 %. Particular attention is needed to her inner elbows and behind both knees. There is some hairline loss. The GP has prescribed emollients in place of soap and moisturiser. Treatment of her long-standing bilateral oedema of lower legs/feet continues. Frusemide is prescribed and her legs are elevated in bed.Her Waterlow score is now 22. |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

4. Skin (including tissue viability)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description | Level of need |
| No risk of pressure damage or skin condition. |  No needs |
| Risk of skin breakdown which requires preventative intervention once a day or less than daily without which skin integrity would break down.OREvidence of pressure damage and/or pressure ulcer(s) either with ‘discolouration of intact skin’ or a minor wound(s). ORA skin condition that requires monitoring or reassessment less than daily and that is responding to treatment or does not currently require treatment. |  Low |
| Risk of skin breakdown which requires preventative intervention several times each day without which skin integrity would break down.ORPressure damage or open wound(s), pressure ulcer(s) with ‘partial thickness skin loss involving epidermis and/or dermis’, which is responding to treatment.ORAn identified skin condition that requires a minimum of daily treatment, or daily monitoring/reassessment to ensure that it is responding to treatment. |  Moderate |
| Pressure damage or open wound(s), pressure ulcer(s) with ‘partial thickness skin loss involving epidermis and/or dermis’, which is not responding to treatmentORPressure damage or open wound(s), pressure ulcer(s) with ‘full thickness skin loss involving damage or necrosis to subcutaneous tissue, but not extending to underlying bone, tendon or joint capsule’, which is/are responding to treatment.ORSpecialist dressing regime in place; responding to treatment. |  High |
| Open wound(s), pressure ulcer(s) with ‘full thickness skin loss involving damage or necrosis to subcutaneous tissue, but not extending to underlying bone, tendon or joint capsule’ which are not responding to treatment and require regular monitoring/reassessment.OROpen wound(s), pressure ulcer(s) with full thickness skin loss with extensive destruction and tissue necrosis extending to underlying bone, tendon or joint capsule’ or aboveORMultiple wounds which are not responding to treatment. |  Severe |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

5. Mobility: This section considers individuals with impaired mobility. Please take other mobility issues such as wandering into account in the behaviour domain where relevant. Where mobility problems are indicated, an up-to-date Moving and Handling and Falls Risk Assessment should exist or have been undertaken and the impact and likelihood of any risk factors considered. It is important to note that the use of the word ‘high’ in any particular falls risk assessment tool does not necessarily equate to a high level need in this domain.

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| 1. Describe the actual needs of the individual, providing the evidence that informs the decision overleaf on which level is appropriate, with reference to movement and handling and falls risk assessments where relevant. Describe the frequency and intensity of need, unpredictability, deterioration and any instability.2. Circle the assessed level overleaf.Mrs Lilley is cared for in bed. She is unable to mobilise and is unable to weight-bear. A full body hoist is used for transfers. She is unable to assist or co-operate with transfers because of her substantial cognitive impairment. Staff seldom get her to sit out in a chair because she becomes very distressed when the hoist is used.She has bed-rails. The risk of falls increased last year, because of her attempting to get out of bed, but no actual falls were recorded, as she did not have the strength to get out of bed. Staff need to check her regularly.She has contractures to both legs. Spasms are controlled with Baclofen. Her hands are closed.The staff perceive that there is an increased risk of pain on movement, so Co-dydramol has been prescribed. |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

5. Mobility

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description | Level of need |
| Independently mobile | No needs |
| Able to weight bear but needs some assistance and/or requires mobility equipment for daily living. | Low |
| Not able to consistently weight bear.ORCompletely unable to weight bear but is able to assist or cooperate with transfers and/or repositioning.ORIn one position (bed or chair) for the majority of time but is able to cooperate and assist carers or care workers.ORAt moderate risk of falls (as evidenced in a falls history or risk assessment) | Moderate |
| Completely unable to weight bear and is unable to assist or cooperate with transfers and/or repositioning.ORDue to risk of physical harm or loss of muscle tone or pain on movement needs careful positioning and is unable to cooperate.ORAt a high risk of falls (as evidenced in a falls history and risk assessment).ORInvoluntary spasms or contractures placing the individual or others at risk. | High |
| Completely immobile and/or clinical condition such that, in either case, on movement or transfer there is a high risk of serious physical harm and where the positioning is critical. | Severe |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

6. Communication: This section relates to difficulties with expression and understanding, in particular with regard to communicating needs. An individual’s ability or otherwise to communicate their needs may well have an impact both on the overall assessment and on the provision of care. Consideration should always be given to whether the individual requires assistance with communication, for example through an interpreter, use of pictures, sign language, use of Braille, hearing aids, or other communication technology.

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| 1. Describe the actual needs of the individual, providing the evidence that informs the decision overleaf on which level is appropriate, including the frequency and intensity of need, unpredictability, deterioration and any instability.2. Circle the assessed level overleaf.Mrs Lilley is unable to communicate any of her needs orally. She cannot point or use eye contact to indicate any of her needs or wishes.It is not known whether she has any increasing visual impairment; she wore glasses when first admitted to the Home, but it is impossible to undertake any assessment of her vision.The staff noted some hearing loss in the past, but it is impossible to undertake any assessment of her hearing.She sometimes grimaces, and sometimes is tearful, but it is impossible to know why. |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

6. Communication

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description | Level of need |
| Able to communicate clearly, verbally or non-verbally. Has a good understanding of their primary language. May require translation if English is not their first language. |  No needs |
| Needs assistance to communicate their needs. Special effort may be needed to ensure accurate interpretation of needs or additional support may be needed either visually, through touch or with hearing. |  Low |
| Communication about needs is difficult to understand or interpret or the individual is sometimes unable to reliably communicate, even when assisted. Carers or care workers may be able to anticipate needs through non-verbal signs due to familiarity with the individual. |  Moderate |
| Unable to reliably communicate their needs at any time and in any way, even when all practicable steps to assist them have been taken. The individual has to have most of their needs anticipated because of their inability to communicate them. | High |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

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| --- |
| 1. Describe the actual needs of the individual, providing the evidence that informs the decision overleaf on which level is appropriate, including the frequency and intensity of need, unpredictability, deterioration and any instability.2. Circle the assessed level overleaf.Although Mrs Lilley is often calm, without expressing any emotion, when she is restless it is impossible to reassure her because of her cognitive impairment. The staff have no idea what causes her distress.She is unable to communicate orally, so it is not known whether she is having any hallucinations or delusions. When distressed, she will often stare fixedly at the door, but the staff do not know why she does this.Citalopram continues to be prescribed because of her history of depression. She is sometimes tearful. |

7. Psychological and Emotional Needs: There should be evidence of considering psychological needs and their impact on the individual’s health and well-being, irrespective of their underlying condition. Use this domain to record the individual’s psychological and emotional needs and how they contribute to the overall care needs, noting the underlying causes. Where the individual is unable to express their psychological/emotional needs (even with appropriate support) due to the nature of their overall needs (which may include cognitive impairment), this should be recorded and a professional judgement made based on the overall evidence and knowledge of the individual. It could be argued that everyone has psychological and emotional needs, but this domain is focused on whether and how such needs are having an impact on the individual's health and well-being, and the degree of support required. If an individual has a severe level of need in the cognition domain they may not be able to consciously withdraw from any attempts to engage them in care planning, but careful consideration will need to be given to any evidence of psychological or emotional needs that are having an impact on their health and well-being.

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

7. Psychological and Emotional Needs

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| --- | --- |
| Description | Level of need |
| Psychological and emotional needs are not having an impact on their health and well-being. |  No needs |
| Mood disturbance, hallucinations or anxiety symptoms, or periods of distress, which are having an impact on their health and/or well-being but respond to prompts, distraction and/or reassurance.OR Requires prompts to motivate self towards activity and to engage them in care planning, support, and/or daily activities. |  Low |
| Mood disturbance, hallucinations or anxiety symptoms, or periods of distress, which do not readily respond to prompts, distraction and/or reassurance and have an increasing impact on the individual’s health and/or well-being.ORDue to their psychological or emotional state the individual has withdrawn from most attempts to engage them in care planning, support and/or daily activities. |  Moderate |
| Mood disturbance, hallucinations or anxiety symptoms, or periods of distress, that have a severe impact on the individual’s health and/or well-being.ORDue to their psychological or emotional state the individual has withdrawn from any attempts to engage them in care planning, support and/or daily activities.  | High |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

8. Cognition: This may apply to, but is not limited to, individuals with learning disability and/or acquired and degenerative disorders. Where cognitive impairment is identified in the assessment of need, active consideration should be given to referral to an appropriate specialist if one is not already involved. A key consideration in determining the level of need under this domain is making a professional judgement about the degree of risk to the individual.

Please refer to the National Framework guidance about the need to apply the principles of the Mental Capacity Act in every case where there is a question about an individual's capacity. The principles of the Act should also be applied to all considerations of the individual’s ability to make decisions and choices.

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| 1. Describe the actual needs of the individual (including episodic and fluctuating needs), providing the evidence that informs the decision overleaf on which level is appropriate, including the frequency and intensity of need, unpredictability, deterioration and any instability.2. Where cognitive impairment has an impact on behaviour, take this into account in the behaviour domain, so that the interaction between the two domains is clear.3. Circle the assessed level overleaf.Mrs Lilley has substantial cognitive impairment. She is completely unaware of basic risks (as evidenced by her trying to climb out of bed). She is completely disorientated to time and place. She spends all her time in her room, hardly ever being got out of bed because she is so distressed when the hoist is used.Staff report that she sometimes seems to vaguely recognise her daughter when she visits. |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

8. Cognition

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| --- | --- |
| Description | Level of need |
| No evidence of impairment, confusion or disorientation. |  No needs |
| Cognitive impairment which requires some supervision, prompting or assistance with more complex activities of daily living, such as finance and medication, but awareness of basic risks that affect their safety is evident.OROccasional difficulty with memory and decisions/choices requiring support, prompting or assistance. However, the individual has insight into their impairment. |  Low |
| Cognitive impairment (which may include some memory issues) that requires some supervision, prompting and/or assistance with basic care needs and daily living activities. Some awareness of needs and basic risks is evident. The individual is usually able to make choices appropriate to needs with assistance. However, the individual has limited ability even with supervision, prompting or assistance to make decisions about some aspects of their lives, which consequently puts them at some risk of harm, neglect or health deterioration. |  Moderate |
| Cognitive impairment that could, for example, include frequent short-term memory issues and maybe disorientation to time and place. The individual has awareness of only a limited range of needs and basic risks. Although they may be able to make some choices appropriate to need on a limited range of issues they are unable to consistently do so on most issues, even with supervision, prompting or assistance. The individual finds it difficult even with supervision, prompting or assistance to make decisions about key aspects of their lives, which consequently puts them at high risk of harm, neglect or health deterioration. |  High |
| Cognitive impairment that may, for example, include, marked short or long-term memory issues, or severe disorientation to time, place or person. The individual is unable to assess basic risks even with supervision, prompting or assistance, and is dependent on others to anticipate their basic needs and to protect them from harm, neglect or health deterioration. |  Severe |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

9. Behaviour: Human behaviour is complex, hard to categorise, and may be difficult to manage. Challenging behaviour may be caused by a wide range of factors including extreme frustration associated with communication difficulties or fluctuations in mental state.

Challenging behaviour in this domain includes but is not limited to:

* + aggression, violence or passive non-aggressive behaviour
	+ severe disinhibition
	+ intractable noisiness or restlessness
	+ resistance to necessary care and treatment (but not including situations where an individual makes a capacitated choice not to accept a particular form of care or treatment offered.)
	+ severe fluctuations in mental state
	+ inappropriate interference with others
	+ identified high risk of suicide

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| 1. Describe the actual needs of the individual, including any episodic needs. Provide the evidence that informs the decision overleaf on which level is appropriate, such as the times and situations when the behaviour to likely to be performed across a range of typical daily routines and the frequency, duration and impact of the behaviour.2. Note any overlap with other domains.3. Circle the assessed level overleaf.Mrs Lilley had until recently shown no recurrence of the difficult behaviours which had often been evident in 2011 and 2012. She had accepted all personal care interventions and had been very quiet. However, this year she has been more restless, and has been whimpering when staff approach her.She is cared for in bed.She has no awareness of her double incontinence. She will sometimes rub her anal area and then wipe her hands on the sheets.Staff had been very concerned when she was trying to climb out of bed. Bed rails were in place, and she did not have the strength to get out of bed, but her legs often got caught in the bed rails. She is no longer trying to get out of bed.She sometimes resists personal care interventions, but staff adopt a ‘reassure, leave, return’ approach and this is generally effective.The GP is currently considering whether to re-introduce the Quetiapine which had successfully been prescribed in the past. |

The assessment of needs of an individual with serious behavioural issues should include specific consideration of the risk(s) to themselves, others or property with particular attention to aggression, self-harm and self-neglect and any other behaviour(s), irrespective of their living environment.

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

9. Behaviour

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| --- | --- |
| Description | Level of need |
| No evidence of ‘challenging’ behaviour. |  No needs |
| Some incidents of ‘challenging’ behaviour. A risk assessment indicates that the behaviour does not pose a risk to self, others or property or create a barrier to intervention. The individual is compliant with all aspects of their care. |  Low |
| ‘Challenging’ behaviour that follows a predictable pattern. The risk assessment indicates a pattern of behaviour that can be managed by skilled carers or care workers who are able to maintain a level of behaviour that does not pose a risk to self, others or property. The individual is nearly always compliant with care.  |  Moderate |
| ’Challenging’ behaviour of type and/or frequency that poses a predictable risk to self, others or property. The risk assessment indicates that planned interventions are effective in minimising but not always eliminating risks. Compliance is variable but usually responsive to planned interventions. |  High |
| ‘Challenging’ behaviour of severity and/or frequency that poses a significant risk to self, others or property. The risk assessment identifies that the behaviour(s) require(s) a prompt and skilled response that might be outside the range of planned interventions. |  Severe |
| ‘Challenging’ behaviour of a severity and/or frequency and/or unpredictability that presents an immediate and serious risk to self, others or property. The risks are so serious that they require access to an immediate and skilled response at all times for safe care. |  Priority |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

10. Drug Therapies and Medication: Symptom Control: The individual’s experience of how their symptoms are managed and the intensity of those symptoms is an important factor in determining the level of need in this area. Where this affects other aspects of their life, please refer to the other domains, especially the psychological and emotional domain. The location of care will influence who gives the medication. In determining the level of need, it is the knowledge and skill required to manage the clinical need and the interaction of the medication in relation to the need that is the determining factor. In some situations, an individual or their carer will be managing their own medication and this can require a high level of skill. References below to medication being required to be administered by a registered nurse do not include where such administration is purely a registration or practice requirement of the care setting (such as a care home requiring all medication to be administered by a registered nurse).

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| 1. Describe below the actual needs of the individual and provide the evidence that informs the decision overleaf on which level is appropriate, including the frequency and intensity of need, unpredictability, deterioration and any instability.2. Circle the assessed level overleaf.All medication is administered by the RGN on duty. Mrs Lilley is compliant.Movelat gel is applied to alleviate discomfort from her knees.Sodium Valproate 200 mg is given three times a day.Frusemide 20 mg dailyAspirin 75 mg dailyCo-dydramol three times a dayBaclofenThe inhaler is Fluticasone and Salmeterol 25 mcg (used when required).Cavilon cream, Hydrocortisone cream 1% and Timodine cream are used.Oxygen therapy has been prescribed recently but has never been used. |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

10. Drug Therapies and Medication: Symptom Control

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description | Level of need |
| Symptoms are managed effectively and without any problems, and medication is not resulting in any unmanageable side-effects.  |  No needs |
| Requires supervision/administration of and/or prompting with medication but shows compliance with medication regime.ORMild pain that is predictable and/or is associated with certain activities of daily living. Pain and other symptoms do not have an impact on the provision of care. |  Low |
| Requires the administration of medication (by a registered nurse, carer or care worker) due to:non-compliance, or type of medication (for example insulin), orroute of medication (for example PEG).ORModerate pain which follows a predictable pattern; or other symptoms which are having a moderate effect on other domains or on the provision of care. |  Moderate |
| Requires administration and monitoring of medication regime by a registered nurse, carer or care worker specifically trained for the task because there are risks associated with the potential fluctuation of the medical condition or mental state, or risks regarding the effectiveness of the medication or the potential nature or severity of side-effects. However, with such monitoring the condition is usually non-problematic to manage.ORModerate pain or other symptoms which is/are having a significant effect on other domains or on the provision of care. |  High |
| Requires administration and monitoring of medication regime by a registered nurse, carer or care worker specifically trained for this task because there are risks associated with the potential fluctuation of the medical condition or mental state, or risks regarding the effectiveness of the medication or the potential nature or severity of side-effects. Even with such monitoring the condition is usually problematic to manage.ORSevere recurrent or constant pain which is not responding to treatment.ORNon-compliance with medication, placing them at severe risk of relapse. |  Severe |
| Has a drug regime that requires daily monitoring by a registered nurse to ensure effective symptom and pain management associated with a rapidly changing and/or deteriorating condition.ORUnremitting and overwhelming pain despite all efforts to control pain effectively.  | Priority |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

11. Altered States of Consciousness (ASC): ASCs can be caused by a range of clinical conditions, including Transient Ischemic Attacks (TIAs), Epilepsy and Vasovagal Syncope. General drowsiness would not normally constitute an ASC for the purposes of this domain.

|  |
| --- |
| 1.Describe below the actual needs of the individual providing the evidence that informs the decision overleaf on which level is appropriate (referring to appropriate risk assessments), including the frequency and intensity of need, unpredictability, deterioration and any instability.2. Circle the assessed level overleaf.Mrs Lilley has a history of collapse and ‘absences’ in 2012. There has been no formal diagnosis but epilepsy or transient ischaemic attacks were queried.Sodium Valproate was prescribed, and increased in July 2013 when Mrs Lilley’s twitching increased.There have been no recorded incidents of transient ischaemic attack since the last review.The Baclofen now prescribed controls the twitching. |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

11. Altered States of Consciousness (ASC)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description | Level of need |
| No evidence of altered states of consciousness (ASC). | No needs |
| History of ASC but it is effectively managed and there is a low risk of harm. | Low |
| Occasional (monthly or less frequently) episodes of ASC that require the supervision of a carer or care worker to minimise the risk of harm. | Moderate |
| Frequent episodes of ASC that require the supervision of a carer or care worker to minimise the risk of harm.OROccasional ASCs that require skilled intervention to reduce the risk of harm. | High |
| Coma.ORASC that occur on most days, do not respond to preventative treatment, and result in a severe risk of harm. | Priority |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

12. Other significant care needs to be taken into consideration: There may be circumstances, on a case-by-case basis, where an individual may have particular needs which do not fall into the care domains described above or cannot be adequately reflected in these domains. If the boxes within each domain that give space for explanatory notes are not sufficient to document all needs, it is the responsibility of the assessors to determine and record the extent and type of these needs here. The severity of this need and its impact on the individual need to be weighted, using the professional judgement of the assessors, in a similar way to the other domains. This weighting also needs to be used in the final decision. It is important that the agreed level is consistent with the levels set out in the other domains. The availability of this domain should not be used to inappropriately affect the overall decision on eligibility.

|  |
| --- |
| 1. Enter below a brief description of the actual needs of the individual, including providing the evidence why the level in the table overleaf has been chosen (referring to appropriate risk assessments), and referring to the frequency and intensity of need, unpredictability, deterioration and any instability.2. Circle the assessed level overleaf.No other significant care needs have been identified. |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

12: Other significant care needs to be taken into consideration

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description | Level of need |
|  |  Low |
|  |  Moderate |
|  |  High |
|  |  Severe |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Care Domain  | P | S | H | M | L | N |
| Breathing |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nutrition- Food and Drink |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Continence |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Skin (including tissue viability) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mobility  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Communication |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Psychological and Emotional Needs |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cognition |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Behaviour |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Drug Therapies and Medication  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Altered States of Consciousness |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other significant care needs  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Totals |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Assessed Levels of Need

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 2 – Care Domains

Please refer to the user notes

Please note below any views of the individual on the completion of the DST that have not been recorded above, including whether they agree with the domain levels selected. Where they disagree, this should be recorded below, including the reasons for their disagreement. Where the individual is represented or supported by a carer or advocate, their understanding of the individual’s views should be recorded.

|  |
| --- |
| Mrs Lilley’s daughter (Mrs Jones) was sent this Decision Support Tool for comment.She has emphasised her view that as a point of principle, her Mother should be fully funded by the NHS because of the extent of her needs, her total dependence on carers, and because the GP has said she needs continuing care.Mrs Jones has made no comment on the domain levels selected, but she has pointed out that the amount of time she spends, every day, in the Nursing Home (always feeding her mother at lunchtime) means that the assessors may have under-estimated the amount of time staff need to spend in caring for her Mother. |

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 3 – Recommendation

Please refer to the user notes

#### Recommendation of the multidisciplinary team filling in the DST

Please give a recommendation on the next page as to whether or not the individual is eligible for NHS Continuing Healthcare. This should take into account the range and levels of need recorded in the Decision Support Tool and what this tells you about whether the individual has a primary health need. Any disagreement on levels used or areas where needs have been counted against more than one domain should be highlighted here. Reaching a recommendation on whether the individual’s primary needs are health needs should include consideration of:

Nature: This describes the particular characteristics of an individual’s needs (which can include physical, mental health, or psychological needs), and the type of those needs. This also describes the overall effect of those needs on the individual, including the type (‘quality’) of interventions required to manage them.

Intensity: This relates to both the extent (‘quantity’) and severity (degree) of the needs and the support required to meet them, including the need for sustained/ongoing care (‘continuity’).

Complexity: This is concerned with how the needs present and interact to increase the skill required to monitor the symptoms, treat the condition(s) and/or manage the care. This may arise with a single condition, or it could include the presence of multiple conditions or the interactions between two or more conditions. It may also include situations where an individual's response to their own condition has an impact on their overall needs, such as when a physical health need results in the individual developing a mental health need.

Unpredictability: This describes the degree to which needs fluctuate and thereby create challenges in manging them. It also relates to the level of risk to the individual’s health if adequate and timely care is not provided. An individual with an unpredictable healthcare need is likely to have either a fluctuating, unstable or rapidly deteriorating condition.

Each of these characteristics may, alone or in combination, demonstrate a primary health need, because of the quality and/or quantity of care that is required to meet the individual’s needs. The totality of the overall needs and the effects of the interaction of needs should be carefully considered when completing the DST.

Also please indicate whether needs are expected to change (in terms of deterioration or improvement) before the case is next reviewed. If so, please state why and what needs you think will be different and therefore whether you are recommending that eligibility should be agreed now or that an early review date should be set.

Where there is no eligibility for NHS Continuing Healthcare and the assessment and care plan, as agreed with the individual, indicates the need for support in a care home setting, the team should indicate whether there is the need for registered nursing care in the care home, giving a clear rationale based on the evidence above.

### Decision Support Tool for NHS Continuing HealthcareSection 3 – Recommendation

Please refer to the user notes

|  |
| --- |
| Recommendation on eligibility for NHS Continuing Healthcare detailing the conclusions on the issues outlined on the previous page. This should include the following headings: Overview;Nature; Intensity; Complexity; Unpredictability; and Recommendation. |

Date of agreed MDT recommendation:

for CCG use only: Date of Eligibility Decision/Verification:

Signatures of MDT making above recommendation:

Health professionals

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Printed Name | Designation | Professional Qualification | Signature | Date |
| Damian Powell | Nurse Assessor | RGN |  |  |

Social care/other professionals

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Printed Name | Designation | Signature | Date |
| Dolores Pritchard | Social Worker |  |  |

