end of life PARTNERSHIP

Advanced Dementia Support Team

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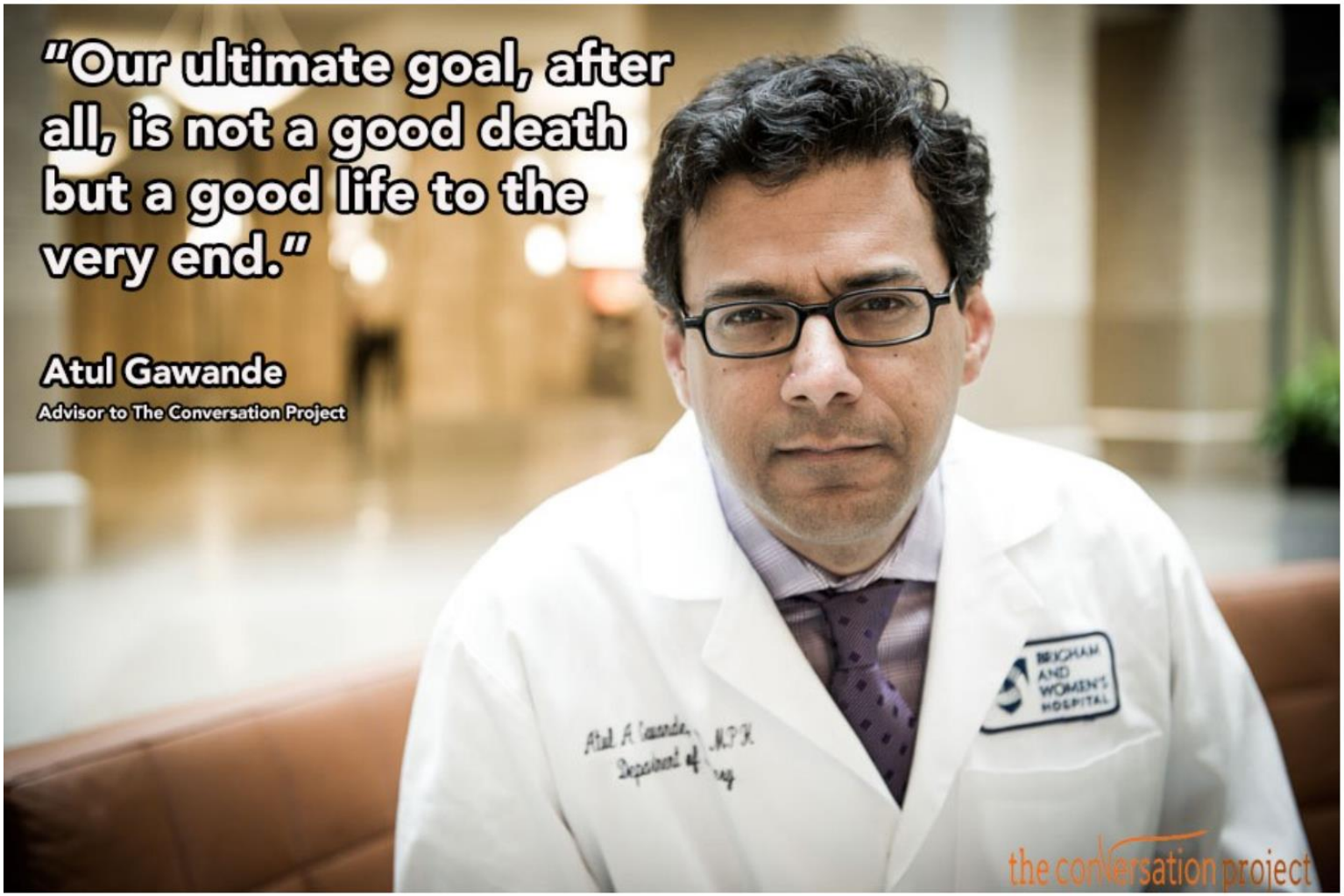

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Why was the team created?

"Approximately one third of people aged over 60 years will die with dementia, many with complex physical and psychological needs. Yet many receive poor quality care towards the end of life"

(NHS England *Actions for End of Life care 2014/16)*

How was the team created?

Working collaboratively, creatively and intelligently with Partners

NHS
Vale Royal
Clinical Commissioning Group

NHS
Eastern Cheshire
Clinical Commissioning Group

NHS
South Cheshire
Clinical Commissioning Group

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What is the aim of the team?

To improve end of life care for people with dementia and their carers

The elephant in the room

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Advanced Dementia Support Team

Debbie Callow Admiral Nurse RMN	Jenny Casson Occupational Therapist AHP	Sian Harrison Team Leader Social Worker (and back-ground in nursing)	Sara Jones Complimentary Therapist (and back-ground in nursing)	Nichola Wakefield Business Development Officer

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3 CCG's

2 Local Authorities

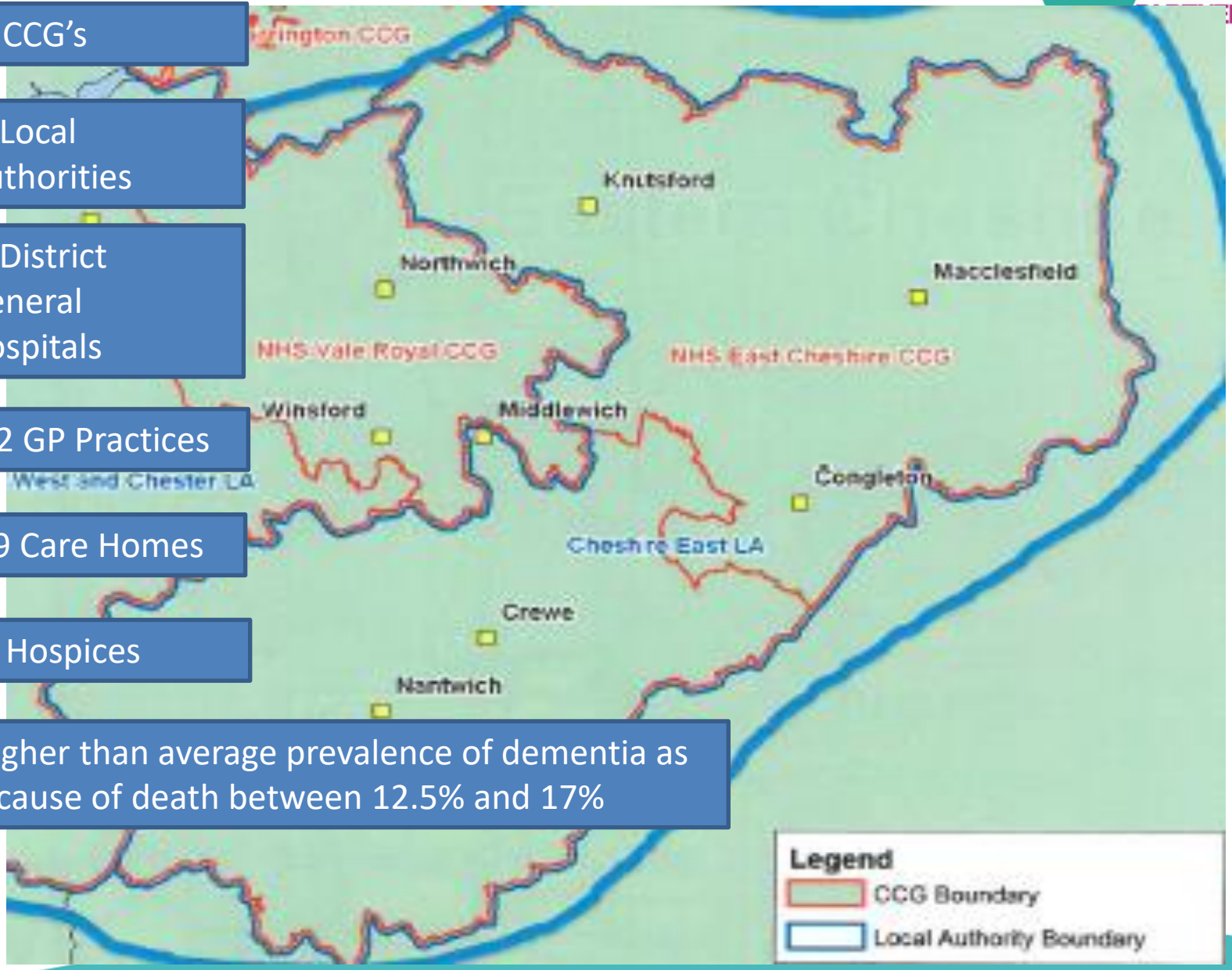
2 District General Hospitals

52 GP Practices

99 Care Homes

2 Hospices

Higher than average prevalence of dementia as a cause of death between 12.5% and 17%



We promoted a palliative approach to dementia care by:

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….changing attitudes - encouraging professionals, in particular, to think differently and challenge their own beliefs and those of the people they work with, not to judge, but to support

…increasing knowledge, skills and confidence – of carers, both professional and informal to understand more about dementia and end of life.

…supporting changes - in practical aspects, for example, by making hospitals and care homes more dementia 'friendly' and aware

…increasing awareness - of resources and services available for example Namaste Care.

Clinical Consultancy Role in the team

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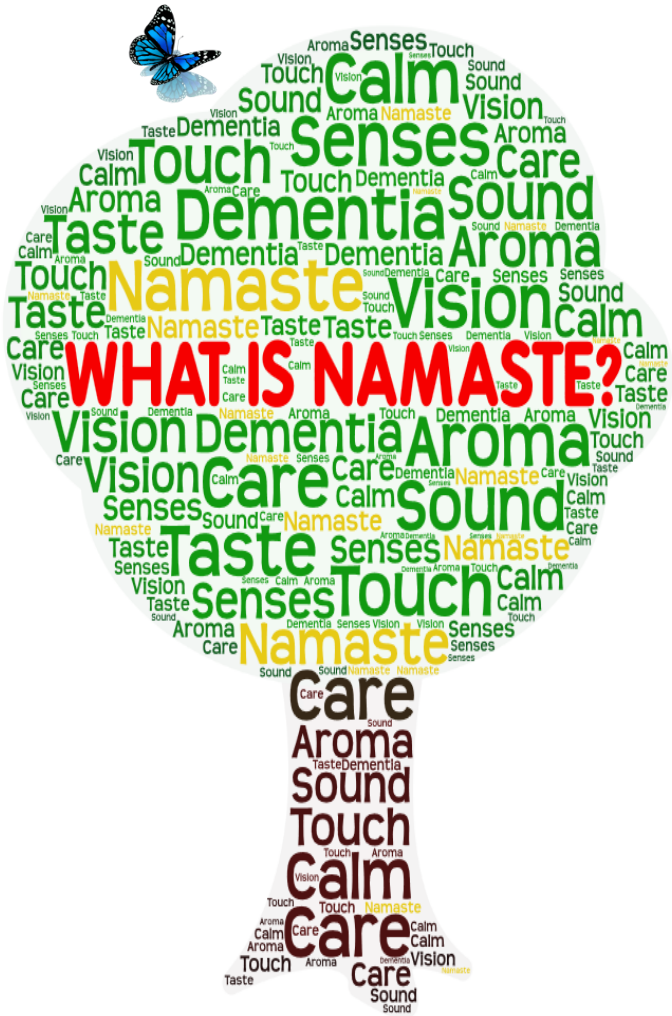
- This is a non clinical role, but enables the specialist team to utilise their skills and knowledge across a wide geographical area.

- Consultancy enables support to other professionals and family carers to improve the wellbeing for the person with dementia.

- Examples may include: **supporting all involved with fulfilling end o life wishes**, **ensuring a person dies in their preferred place of care**, **assisting staff and family to understand difficulties with behaviour and or communication**, **helping families to understand what is happening**, **being part of a best interests process**

NAMASTE



1. ‘Namaste’ originates from a Hindu word meaning ‘To honour the spirit within’, chosen for its depth of meaning by the founder of the Namaste Care Programme, Joyce Simard

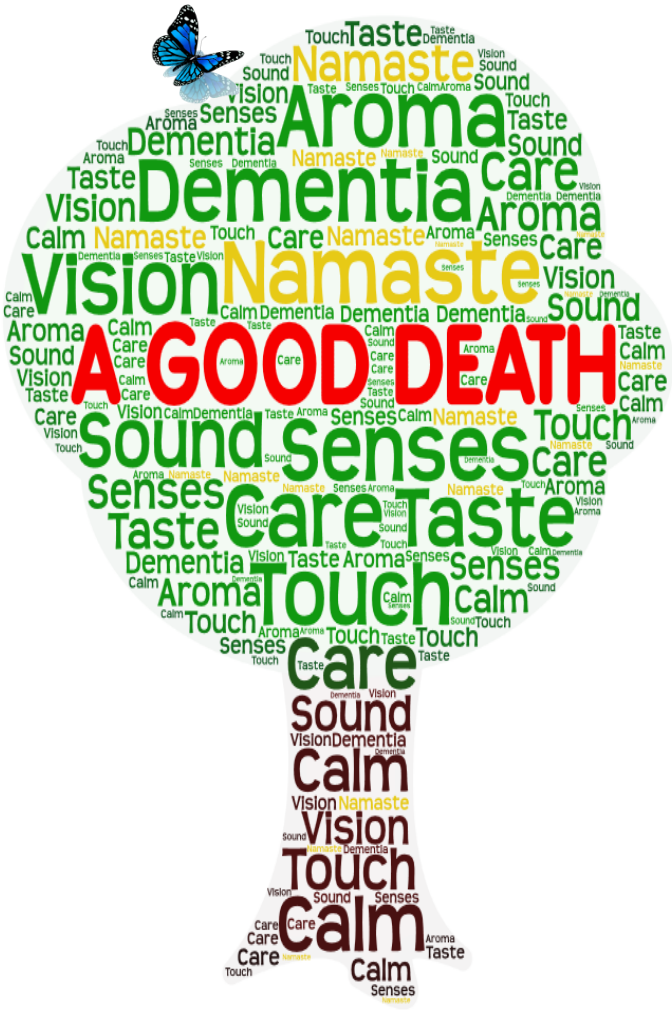
2. The Namaste Care Programme provides a way of enhancing gentle communication through the use of the five senses

   Touch, Vision, Sound, Taste and Aroma

1. Namaste allows the creation of a calming and supportive environment every day for people who have advanced dementia

1. The pace is slowed, with time for compassionate, social and person-centred engagement

   Namaste is about Quality of Life



1. "A lady suffered from anxiety and was crawling on the floor. We were going to give Oramorph (*liquid morphine*) but we tried using Namaste and used a lavender diffuser with music and touch. She became calm and slept"

1. "I had been giving Namaste in the last few days of a residents life. The family were present and mentioned how grateful they were for the Namaste Care at the funeral"

1. "The resident didn't have any family but because we all know how to do Namaste we turned her room into a Namaste room and took turns being with her until she died"

Impact Video Clip

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I found them to be the first professionals who really knew how things were going to go and was prepared to confront it…you need someone who knows what this disease is like".

Family Carer

"When I had a very difficult encounter I phoned up and had half an hour of, I suppose, supervision really because people, if they are not dealing with that group of patients, don't understand your stresses".

Health Professional

"It was all very successful and I have done another (DoLS) assessment since, and he is a lot better and the home said that it isn't necessary for him to be moved. So, yes, a bit of a success story that one".

Social Care Professional

What did people who used our service say?

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Bringing...

Together

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'Dementia care is essentially about kindness, good palliation and comfort' *(Treloar 2015)*

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