Dementia Support Australia

Funded by the Australian Government
A service led by HammondCare



Hospital to Aged Care Dementia Support program

Navigating transitions in care

Supporting someone you care for to transition from hospital to aged care or back home.

Supportive aged care placement when it's needed most.

Helping someone living with dementia transition quickly and smoothly from hospital back home or into aged care can greatly enhance their wellbeing.

Discover if the person in your care is eligible for this program through our simple assessment process.

The Hospital to Aged Care Dementia Support Program (HACDSP) aims to support older people living with dementia to optimise their wellbeing during their hospital stay and to successfully transition from hospital into an aged care setting that meets their ongoing care and support needs.

A person is eligible for the HACDSP if they:

- are an inpatient in an acute/sub-acute public hospital setting in an eligible location and participating site. For more information, visit dementia.com.au/HACDSP
- have dementia (diagnosed with dementia or suspected dementia/ diagnosis not confirmed or have a history of progressive cognitive decline).
- are over 65, or age 50 and over if they are an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person, or otherwise eligible to receive Commonwealth funded aged care services.
- have a current Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT) or Regional Assessment Service (RAS) assessment and are eligible to receive Commonwealth funded aged care services.
- agree to receive DSA services (or have the consent of their nominated person responsible for their care), including participation in the HACDSP.

Our team will support a smooth transition to the right place by:

- understanding social history by speaking to a guardian or key family members, and other care staff.
- meeting with hospital and aged care staff.
- working with medical specialists who have been involved in care.
- helping to engage with an identified aged care provider and share the assessment information and transition support with them.
- providing on-the-ground practical support whilst in hospital and once the transition has occurred. We do this through case support, tailored activities and behaviour support planning.
- continuing to provide onsite support as needed by a Dementia Consultant, Dementia Support Coach, and Family Liaison Officer with regular check-ins.

Giving consent

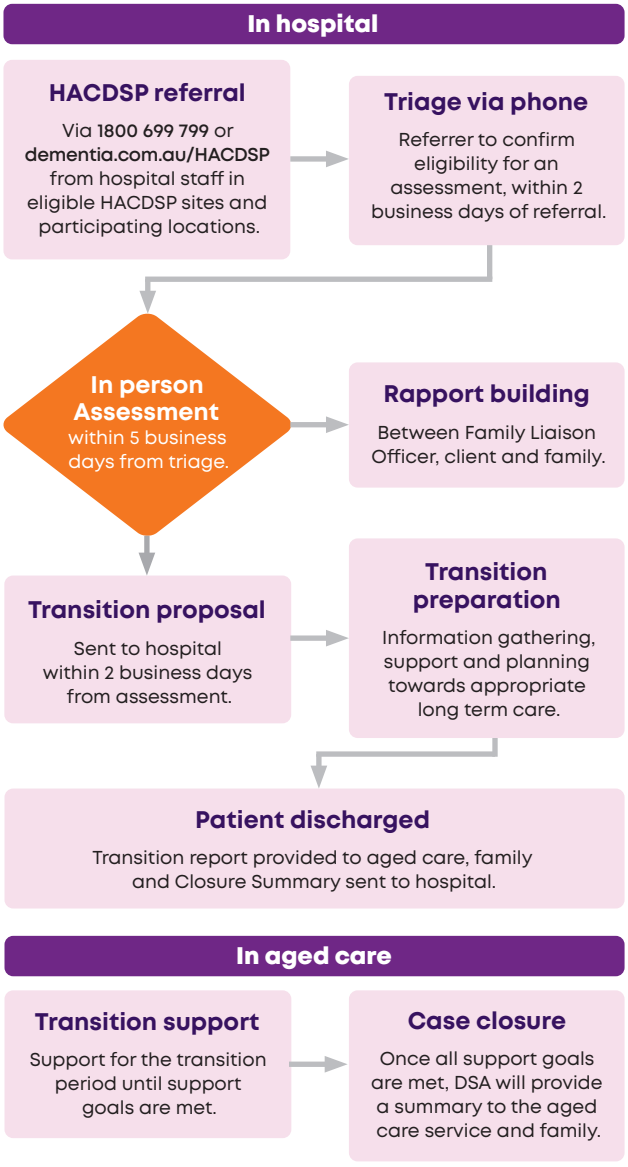
At DSA, we prioritise keeping people living with dementia informed and involved in their care decisions. When this isn't possible, consent is obtained from their legally appointed representative, either verbally or in writing, and confirmed by the DSA assessor through the assessment process.

How do I get support?

Referrals for this program are made by the hospital staff team. The eligibility assessment process guides individuals, families and hospital staff through the five steps of transitioning from hospital to appropriate aged care, providing tailored support at every stage to ensure a smooth and personalised experience.

For more information, visit dementia.com.au/HACDSP

HACDSP process: hospital to aged care



Contact us 24 hours a day, 365 days a year or chat with us now on our website

1800 699 799

dementia.com.au/hacdsp