

# Dementia Related Behaviours?

## FIND THE C.A.U.S.E.

Consider each area, and if you need to, use assessments to learn more about the person's status and what the behaviour might be telling you.

# C

### COGNITION

- changes in memory, orientation, recognition of people or objects, language and comprehension or reasoning and insight

# A

### ABILITIES

- communication barriers
- changes to mobility
- ADL abilities
- restraint use
- loss of dignity
- sleep changes

# U

### UNDERLYING ILLNESS

- new or worsening symptoms of existing conditions (mental or physical)
- medication changes
- substance use
- allergies/intolerances
- pain?
- unwitnessed fall causing injury

# S

### SOCIAL

- consider life story
- emotional or social needs
- family, cultural or spiritual needs
- work history
- hobbies, interests
- need to feel valued and be productive
- trigger to a past trauma?

# E

### ENVIRONMENT

- noise
- temperature
- personal space/privacy over or under stimulation
- change in room or facility
- staff changes
- lighting, odours
- rigid routines



**Consider using these tools if they might help you understand the resident's situation:**

- Cognitive status (e.g. MMSE, MoCA, CPS)
- Patterns of behaviour (e.g. DOS, ABC Behaviour Mapping, CMAI, VPP care alert)
- Mood status (e.g. SIG E CAPS acronym, GDS, DRS)
- Pain assessment (e.g. PAINAD)
- Risk Assessment for Suicide Tool (RAST)

