

Dementia Case Studies

MAINTAINING INDEPENDENCE

The Challenge

Mary is an 84 year old widow with dementia who has lived in the city of Inverness all of her life. She lives alone and has two sons who live close by. She regularly becomes disorientated, not knowing what time it is or where she is. Mary often leaves her house in the early hours of the morning to go to the shops despite the fact that they are not yet open.

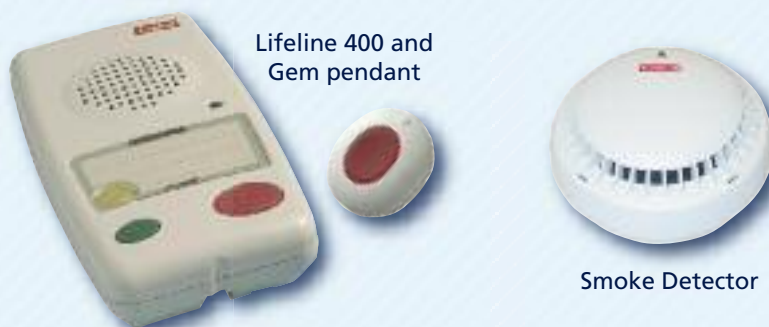
Mary attends day care four days per week, has a nightly Bed Round visit and two visits per week for bathing. Although she receives the Meals at Home service, and a visit from a home carer to help her reheat her main meal, she often tries to cook food in her microwave without assistance. This concerns her family as they believe that this is a significant fire risk.

Mary has always told her sons that she would like to remain living in her own home for as long as possible. Her sons are determined to uphold her wishes and were keen to have a telecare package installed to help address the identified risks and prevent admission to residential care.

The Solution

The telecare package installed included:

- Lifeline 400
- Gem personal pendant
- Property exit sensor
- Smoke detector
- Temperature extremes sensor



Mary was provided with a tailored telecare solution, which included a property exit sensor programmed to monitor the front and back doors of her home between 8.00pm and 7.00am. If either of the door sensors are activated during the time period set (night time), and Mary does not return to her home within 10 minutes, via the property exit sensor, the Lifeline will alert the Call Monitoring Centre who will then contact one of her two sons to attend. Smoke detectors positioned in the hallway and a temperature extremes sensor in the kitchen were also installed to detect for the microwave overheating and risk of fire.

The Outcome

Mary's sons are now reassured, knowing that they will be alerted should their mum leave her home and not return within a short period of time. This allows them to act quickly and ensure that she does not get lost outside her home. They also have the peace of mind that if Mary continues to cook without supervision, the telecare sensors are able to manage the associated risks. Mary has continued living independently at home for a year since the installation of her telecare package. Before her package was installed, her family gave serious consideration to move Mary into permanent residential care due to concerns about her health and safety. They now believe that without her telecare package and regular home care support, Mary would not have been able to remain at home for this length of time. **It has been recognised that the telecare package has not only resulted in a cost saving of approximately £15,908 against the cost of residential care, but has also improved the quality of life for Mary, her two sons and carers.**

WALKING FROM THE HOME

The Challenge

Joyce has dementia and lives with her elderly husband in Edinburgh and has a tendency to walk about during the night. Recently Joyce was admitted to hospital and it was understood that she was unlikely to return home due to the situation and lack of management of her walking issue.

The Solution

- Lifeline home unit
- Property exit sensor
- DDA pager



Joyce was provided with a telecare solution including a property exit sensor and DDA pager. Should Joyce try to leave the house, the property exit sensor automatically raises a call to her husband's DDA pager and gradually turns on the bedside light. This allows Joyce's husband to get to the front door or street to assist his wife to return home.

The Outcome

Without the telecare solution, Joyce would not have been able to return home from hospital and would have been placed into long-term residential care. However, with the solution in place, Joyce is able to stay living at home with her husband for as long as possible.



ENHANCING QUALITY OF LIFE

The Challenge

Jack is a retired farmer with severe dementia. He has been confined to his bed to ensure his safety. Jack wanted to be able to sit in his lounge watching his beloved farm animals in the fields and going on as he used to.

The Solution

- Lifeline home unit
- Chair occupancy sensor



A chair occupancy sensor was given to Jack so that he can sit at ease in his armchair instead of being confined to his bed. If Jack leaves his chair and does not return within a pre-set time period, an alert will be raised at the monitoring centre who can then check if Jack is alright and take the most appropriate action.

The Outcome

Jack's quality of life has been greatly enhanced since having the telecare solution installed and he feels much more settled. His relatives are also reassured that he is safe and that help is always on hand should he need it.

For further information please visit:

JIT

www.jitScotland.org.uk

Tunstall

www.tunstallhealth.com