

Safe care for people with cognitive impairment during COVID-19



Unfamiliar environment

- Staff wearing PPE
- Possible absence of carers
- Social distancing



Increased risk of adverse events due to

- Disorientation
- Delirium
- Agitation and aggression leading to sedation

Provide safe, high quality care

1

Agree to goals of care.

Discuss treatment options and preferences with the person and their substitute decision-maker.

2

Involve the carer.

Encourage participation and ask how to reduce the person's distress.

3

Prevent delirium.

Avoid physical restraint, mobilise, keep hydrated, orientate and provide meaningful activities.

4

Treat appropriately.

Find underlying causes. Use non-pharmacological strategies first and only use antipsychotics as a last resort.



Download the fact sheet at:
safetyandquality.gov.au/cognitivecare-covid

CARING FOR COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT

