# Have you heard about the Delirium Toolbox?

#### What is it?



- It is a non-pharmacological intervention
- Providing meaningful activities for patients to participate in
- Assists with managing behaviours of concern

## Why should I use it?



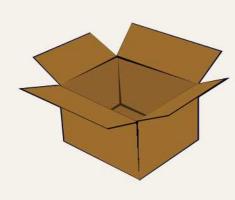
- Imagine being in a hospital bed all day with nothing to do. Your everyday routine and activities don't exist at hospital!
- Everyone needs to engage in something! Or else we get bored.
- This toolbox is one resource that can be used to manage behaviours or prevent behaviours from arising.

### Who can I use it with?



- Patients experiencing delirium
- Patients with dementia
- Patients with cognitive impairments
- Anyone who is wanting to participate in an activity that they enjoy

# What if there is nothing in the box for my patient?



- Think outside the box!
- What does the sunflower tool say?
- Have you asked them what is meaningful and engaging for them?
- Can you ask a family member what they enjoy doing?
- Can you get any family members or carers to bring something in for them?



### Where can I find it?

- You can find it on your ward!
  - Ask the nurse in charge where your delirium toolbox is stored.

# Delirium Management Strategies



**Always check** - Whether the person is in pain, hungry or thirsty

### **Communication**

- Always introduce yourself
- Speak slowly, clearly and repeat information if needed
- Ensure hearing aids/& or glasses are being used and are in working order
- Use gesture and body language
- Check if the patient requires a communication board





### **Sleep Wake Cycle/Routine**

- Find out & encourage normal sleep wake cycle/routine
  - e.g. Do they normally shower in the morning or night?
- Encourage patient to get out of bed for meals
- Open curtains/blinds during daytime to orientate to time of day
- Ensure that patient has regular toilet regime

# **Physical environment**

- Minimise room changes
- If over-stimulus is an issue consider a single room
- Assess for falls risk
- Use photos/familiar objects
- Consider the visibility of a clock
- Keep orientation board up to date





### **Available Resources**

- Work with family members & volunteers
- Use the Sunflower tool/TOP5
- Use the **Delirium Toolbox**
- Consider referral to Music therapy
- Escalate changes of behaviour with medical team