Supplementary File 1: Qualitative Interviews

These semi-structured interviews will take approximately 30 minutes each. The interviews in sections A-C will be electronically recorded, and professionally transcribed. Transcript data will be managed using NVivo software. Framework analysis will then be applied to code the data. Information from section D interviews will be recorded through note taking. All participants will be advised that they may skip any questions they do not wish to answer, the interview can be put on hold, stopped or the participant can withdraw from the research project completely.

A – Patient Interviews

Inclusion/exclusion criteria: The study will include patients aged 65 years and over on study wards with a resolved episode of delirium. Patients will be excluded if: 1) they have a documented diagnosis of dementia in their clinical record; 2) the qualitative researcher deems the patient unable to give informed consent, or 3) the patient is not able to participate in an interview using English language

Background information

Age:_____ (years)

Gender: M/F/Other or not specified

Living arrangements, please describe where you live and with whom

What date were you admitted to hospital?

Was your admission planned or was due to an emergency?

What was the main reason/diagnosis for your admission?

Questions:

"We are asking you these questions because you suddenly became confused while you were in hospital. We would like to know about your experience of being confused."

Please describe what happened to you when you were confused. What do you remember?

What were the things that most helped you during this time?

What do you think caused you to become confused?

Would you like to suggest any changes to your treatment or care that would help others who become disorientated and confused in hospital?

B – Relative/carer interviews

Inclusion criteria:

Relatives or carers of patients with delirium, and who were present during the delirium episode.

Background information:

Age:____ (years)

Gender: M/F/Other or Not Specified

Please state your relationship with patient, e.g. spouse, relative, friend, and/or carer.

Questions:

"We are asking you these questions because a you are related to, or care for, someone who became disoriented and confused during their hospital stay. We would like to know about your experience as a relative/carer."

1) What do you think caused your relative to become confused?

2) What information were you given to help you understand what was going on?

3) Can you describe anything that you were able to do to help your relative?

4) Would you like to suggest any changes to their treatment or care that would help others who became disoriented and confused in hospital?

C – Staff Interviews 1: Implementation hospitals

Inclusion criteria: Registered Nurses working on study wards during Standard implementation

Background information

Grade:

Ward:

Years of service:

Have you had any specialist geriatric or psycho geriatric training? Yes/No

Questions:

"We are researching the implementation of the Delirium Clinical Care Standard in your hospital. We would like to know about your experience as a health professional providing care to patients in acute confusional states."

1) What is your experience and opinion of the interventions that have been introduced to reduce delirium on the wards?

2) Which of the interventions do you think has been most effective? Why?

3) Which of the interventions has been most difficult to implement? Why?

4) What has been the most significant change to your nursing practice following implementation of the Standard?

5) Do you have any suggestions for improving care for delirious patients?

C – Staff Interviews 2: Control hospital

Inclusion criteria: Registered Nurses working on control wards during Standard implementation in implementation hospitals

Background information

Grade:

Ward:

Years of service:

Have you had any specialist geriatric or psycho geriatric training? Yes/No

"We are researching the care of patients with delirium in your hospital. We would like to know about your experience as a health professional providing care to patients in acute confusional states."

1) What is your experience and opinion of any interventions to reduce delirium that have been introduced on the wards?

2) Which of the interventions do you think has been most effective? Why?

3) Which of the interventions has been most difficult to implement? Why?

4) Do you have any suggestions for improving care for delirious patients?

D – Implementation Team and Management Interviews

"We are researching the implementation of the Delirium Clinical Care Standard in your hospital. This involves estimating the costs of implementation and assessing the resource impact of better diagnosis and treatment. We would like to ask you some questions relating to the costs and resource use of implementing the Standard."

1) Details of the resources and activities relating to the implementation model

2) Details of the number and grades of staff involved in these activities and the time involved in these activities, including any preparation or travel time

3) External expenditure relating to the Standard implementation

4) Infrastructure and other costs (ie IT costs)

5) Ongoing costs relating to the Standard