

CASE STUDY Stroke

The Service User

Lily* was a ninety-nine year-old lady who suffered from short-term memory loss and poor mobility. Lily's health was quickly deteriorating, and as she lived alone, a stroke resulted in her being admitted to hospital.

Whilst in hospital, Lily was given a prognosis of having only weeks to live. She was discharged by the hospital and the local PCT contacted Interserve Healthcare to implement a twenty-four hour care package in Lily's home.

The Requirement

Interserve Healthcare worked closely with Lily's local District Nursing team to ensure that she received the care necessary to improve her situation and that she was prepared for the future. Lily's care package would assist with personal care, ensuring that she had a nutritionally-balanced diet and maintained an adequate fluid intake.

Individual care plans were written for each need identified, including a detailed assessment of her needs and any problems, the aims and objectives of the PCT, and an intervention plan to achieve these objectives. At each visit we documented relevant information in each section of the care plan enabling a clear view of progress made.

The Outcome

Continuity of care was crucial, and due to Lily's short-term memory loss a Care Worker with extensive palliative care experience was arranged to visit her five days per week, with four others visiting her at night and at the weekends. This created stability for Lily and her family, enabling her to feel as comfortable as possible.

Interserve Healthcare provided care to Lily for eleven months, continually reviewing and adapting the care plans as her needs changed. She passed away peacefully in her own home, as was her wish. Her main Care Worker was with her and her family were informed immediately, which was their wish.

For the local PCT it was more cost-effective to provide Lily with care at home rather than pay the cost of frequent emergency hospital admissions, and it allowed Lily the choice of where she wanted to live.