



Responsive Behaviours

For patients and visitors

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HEALTHCARE CENTRE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION,
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Assessment and Management of Responsive Behaviours

OUR GOAL

RUNNYMEDE HEALTHCARE CENTRE is committed to ensuring a safe environment for all patients and staff. The hospital uses best practices and standards to improve patient and prevent patient and staff injuries.

WHAT DOES RESPONSIVE BEHAVIOURS MEAN FOR ME AND MY LOVED ONE?

Responsive behaviours is a term used to refer to actions, words, or gestures that are a response by the patient to something negative, frustrating, or confusing in their social and physical environment.

Responsive behaviours happen from changes in the brain affecting memory, judgement, orientation, mood, and behaviour. Risk factors for developing responsive behaviours include history of delirium, dementia, brain injury, and cognitive impairment.

COMMON EXAMPLES OF RESPONSIVE BEHAVIOURS

- Hallucinations
- Paranoia
- Agitation
- Impulsivity
- Restlessness
- Yelling/swearing
- Aggression

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT RUNNYMEDE?

- All patients are assessed on admission and during their stay for responsive behaviours.
- Patient-centered care plans are developed for patients who show responsive behaviours by the interprofessional team.
- The goal is keeping patients, families, visitors, and staff safe.
- The patient's family or substitute decision maker (SDM) is made aware of the findings and any actions taken.

HOW DO I IDENTIFY A PATIENT WITH RESPONSIVE BEHAVIOUR?

Patients who demonstrate or have known history or physical responsive behaviours towards self or others will have an aggression/violence prevention (AVP) sign on the patient's door and also a sign above the patient's head of bed.

Ongoing assessment is done on a regular basis for the need to keep or remove the AVP sign. As part of the interprofessional team the patient and family is involved in the plan of care.

Be aware:

- Staff are aware that this is a very sensitive issue.
- No one will treat the patient or family members differently.
- If the patient's condition changes, the need of AVP sign will be reviewed by the interprofessional team.

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

Responsive behaviors can occur for many different reasons and can have different meanings.

Please tell the staff if you notice any changes in your loved one's behaviours in the following areas:

- Physical
- Verbal
- Emotional

AVP Sign

