

Refreshing the Admiral Nurse Competency Framework



The Association for Dementia Studies worked with [Dementia UK](#) to refresh their Admiral Nurse Competency Framework. The Framework which has existed since 2003 was updated in 2012, but the role of Admiral Nurses has evolved greatly in the past few years. The range of settings in which Admiral Nurses currently work has become more diverse, and the complexity of the Admiral Nurse role is often underestimated. It was therefore decided that the Admiral Nurse Competency Framework should be refreshed to reflect these changes and become a practical resources supporting Admiral Nurses in their day-to-day work.

The Association for Dementia Studies, therefore, undertook a variety of activities to gather information regarding the requirements for the Admiral Nurse Competency Framework, involving the Admiral Nurses at every stage to ensure that the refreshed Admiral Nurse Competency Framework reflects their needs and is fit for purpose. When working on the new Admiral Nurse Competency Framework, the Association for Dementia Studies used the following as its guiding principles:

- 1 Streamline the framework whilst ensuring it still underpins practice
- 1 Incorporate the essence of the previous framework, but in a way that reflects the current practice context and makes it applicable to a range of settings
- 1 Articulate the complexity of the Admiral Nurse role
- 1 Use evidence-based reflective practice as the cornerstone of the framework
- 1 Ensure it supports the NMC revalidation process and appraisal processes within host organisations
- 1 Make it compatible with being uploaded into PebblePad

We are proud to say that the final version of the refreshed Admiral Nurse Competency Framework was formally delivered to Dementia UK in May 2016. In order to ensure that the Admiral Nurse Competency Framework becomes fully embedded into Admiral Nurse practice, the Association for Dementia Studies was then involved in a programme of roll-out activities from September 2016. This included presenting the Admiral Nurse Competency Framework at the Admiral Nurse Forum in a series of interactive workshops and attending Practice Development Days with every regional group of Admiral Nurses to help them understand the skills and processes required to fully engage with the Admiral Nurse Competency Framework.

The Admiral Nurse Competency Framework has been developed as an online PebblePad workbook, enabling Admiral Nurses to easily gather appropriate evidence in one central location within their own individual portfolios. These can be used to support the NMC revalidation process and appraisals within their host organisations.

For further information about our work around the Admiral Nurse Competency Framework see this [Dementia UK news item](#), the [project summary](#), or contact us at dementia@worc.ac.uk.

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