

**Doris - A case study of a person with Dementia**

Doris is a 78 year old lady who has lived in your care home for nine years. Doris has advanced dementia and relies on care staff for all aspects of her care. The only person to visit Doris is the local Parish Priest who gives Doris a blessing each week as she is no longer able to take communion due to swallowing difficulties. There is no next of kin, family or friends recorded for Doris.

Your staff have become close to Doris over the years and have seen the deterioration from mild to advanced dementia. Doris is nursed in bed and is no longer able to verbally communicate with staff, however your care staff have developed ways of communicating using their knowledge of Doris and reading her non-verbal communication.

A number of your care staff have reported a change in Doris’s condition stating she appears weaker and is sleeping for longer periods however they are unable to be more specific. You have requested a GP visit, although Doris’ regular GP is currently on sick leave. You and your staff have strong views that Doris should be cared for in your home and not admitted to hospital.

**1** Identify where this resident would be on your end of life care register and state your rationale.

**2** How would you facilitate an advance care planning discussion?

**3** Who would you involve in this discussion?

**4** Who would be the most appropriate person(s) to undertake and lead on this discussion?

**5** How would you communicate the outcome of this discussion?