

Improving lives together

# Neurocognitive Treatment and Care Pathway for Men

Blackbird Ward,  
Cygnet Hospital Taunton, Somerset



NEW  
accepting  
referrals

Blackbird Ward at Cygnet Hospital Taunton offers a specialist inpatient pathway for adults with complex neurocognitive conditions and the resulting psychiatric challenges they face.

Our pathway serves men previously stuck in a cycle of placement breakdowns or long-term hospitalisation. By combining neuropsychiatry, neurorehabilitation, and complex nursing, we offer a cohesive, clinically led alternative. Our interdisciplinary team works directly with families and health professionals to deliver truly integrated support.

For the men we support, we aim to offer:

- Improved quality of life
- Reduced risk and greater clinical stability
- Enhanced independence wherever possible
- Confidence for families and carers



Male



18+ years



15 beds

## Our service user profile:

- Men aged 18+ affected by neurocognitive conditions and behavioural complexity
- Legal frameworks including Mental Health Act with/without restriction orders, DOLS (Mental Capacity Act)
- May have complex physical health needs
- May have a forensic history
- May have history of repeated placement breakdowns
- With a diagnosis of:
  - Specialist Dementia including Alzheimer's, Frontotemporal, and Vascular
  - Neurodegenerative condition such as Huntington's Disease
  - Alcohol Related Brain Disease
  - Acquired Brain Injury including those sustained through trauma, anoxia, stroke, tumour, virus or infection

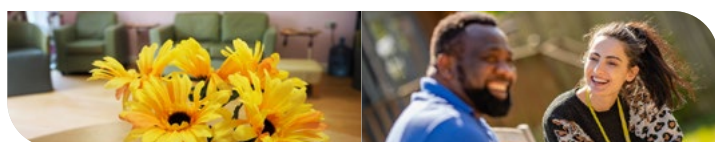
## Overview of care

Our pathway is built on understanding that many neurocognitive conditions are progressive or enduring, requiring a model that goes beyond recovery alone.

Through an integrated approach, we ensure care remains active, purposeful and person-centred. We achieve this through:

- Structured daily routines and meaningful activity
- Maintenance of communication and social engagement
- Support with mobility, independence and daily living skills
- Strong involvement of families and carers

By focusing on what matters most to each person, we help preserve identity, relationships and quality of life.



Each individual benefits from comprehensive care planning, medical and psychiatric oversight, targeted therapeutic interventions and continuous physical health monitoring and optimisation. We ensure that cognitive, emotional, behavioural and physical health needs are addressed simultaneously.

From the point of admission, we work in partnership to deliver clear, forward-thinking care planning that ensures individuals receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time.

Rated **Good** by the CQC

Good

Individualised therapy programmes



Pathway summary:

- > High staffing ratios
- > 1:1 weekly therapy
- > Treatment for psychiatric conditions
- > Overview and stabilisation of medication with monitoring of side effects
- > Assessment and management of physical health issues
- > Risk assessment and management

Co-produced model of care to underpin each individual's care planning



Large garden including space for outdoor activities



Supporting men with:

- Psychiatric disorders inc. psychoses
- Complex epilepsy
- Post-ictal psychosis
- Organic personality disorder
- Diabetes

Building community links



Maximising independence, comfort and wellbeing



Our team:

- > Consultant Psychiatrist
- > Nurses (RMN and RGN)
- > Occupational therapy
- > Physiotherapy
- > Neuropsychology
- > Speech and language therapy
- > Support workers



Make a referral

- 1 Referral made to your regional Business Relationship Manager or 0808 164 4450 / [chci.referrals@nhs.net](mailto:chci.referrals@nhs.net)
- 2 Assessment arranged and undertaken via our assessment team
- 3 Feedback provided on whether our service can meet the individual's needs
- 4 Assessment pack formulated including care plans and funding information
- 5 Admission agreed and plans for transition arranged with referring team following confirmation of acceptance of placement

Where are we?

Cygnets Hospital Taunton  
Orchard Portman, Taunton,  
Somerset, South West TA3 7BQ

Phone number:  
01823 336 457



CYG-2055 | Date of Preparation: 14/05/26

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Trust

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Respect

Care