



Mission/Vision

Therapeutic Environment

Data Driven process

Competent Staff

Smooth Transitions of Care

Families as Partners

Non-Med Approaches

Physician Support

7. PROCESS FOR GRADUAL DOSE REDUCTION

Why the need for GDR?

The Maine Dementia Care Partnership chose GDR as the seventh principle believing that the other six principle need to be in place before executing GDR. Knowing the resident, creating a structured environment, anticipating resident needs, supporting their well-being, optimizing scheduling practices and routines that favor the resident's needs and ensure proper rest are all practices that can assure success once deciding to initiate a gradual dose reduction. The MDCP encourages organizations to work on these steps before initiating GDR based on the experience of members who have took the hasty step of GDR before training staff, engaging in person centered care, educating families, creating a therapeutic environment and establishing individualized interventions.

Processes:

Identify specific individuals for dose reduction based on CASPER and MDS data

Identify the alternative strategies that will be implemented to ensure comfort of the resident and success of the GDR

Indicators:

- Staff will have an array of strategies they will use to comfort and care for residents
- Staff will follow established policies pertaining to GDR
- Assurance that the strategies will be recognized in the individualized plan of care
- A review process that ensures the comfort of the resident and success of the GDR

Resources:

- A. Introductory Guidance
- B. Example Gradual Dose Reduction Policy
- C. Resident Prioritization Tool