



Executive Summary



→ Wander Management System

Introduction

Northern Ontario's older adult community is expanding rapidly, and with it, so does the number of NBRHC patients living with advanced neurocognitive disorders. The need to implement innovative programs and expand system capacity is undeniable. This project builds on the success of Dementia-Friendly Neighbourhoods, putting thoughtful patient safety at the forefront of care.

Current Challenges

Our hospital has long recognized the importance of safeguarding vulnerable patients with compassion, particularly those with advanced neurocognitive disorders like dementia, while respecting their independence.

Our current Wander Management System, designed to prevent unsafe wandering, has reached the end of its lifespan. A modern solution is needed to ensure safety, maintain dignity, and provide peace of mind to patients, their families and NBRHC care teams. When a vulnerable patient wanders away from a safe environment, the risks are significant.

The Solution

A new Wander Management System will provide a secure, effective way to protect older adults. The advanced system is designed to discreetly monitor residents while allowing them to move freely within designated areas. By integrating comfortable, wearable technology with a robust monitoring network, we will increase individualized patient safety without imposing unnecessary restrictions.

The Project

The estimated cost for this upgrade is \$305,000.00. Including in this cost are 58 durable protection tags and wristbands which are lightweight, comfortable and secure, advanced monitoring infrastructure to detect movement and trigger alarms, software, testing and training for seamless integration into NBRHC systems.

This system balances safety with autonomy, ensuring patients are protected without unnecessary confinement. It supports best practices in dementia care by minimizing distress and promoting confidence in daily routines. This project means a move towards a reliable, modern solution that meets the needs of today's aging population while building for the future.



“The system is a must for our unit. It has proved to be effective time and time again and it provides the freedom of mobility to our patients on the unit, while ensuring that they remain safe.”

Stephanie Allard
Registered Nurse, NBRHC

The Impact

With this new system in place, we will:

- Enhance safety by reducing the risk of patient wandering
- Support independence by allowing patients to move freely within their unit
- Reduce stress for families by providing reliable protection for their loved ones
- Strengthen staff confidence in their ability to prevent and respond to elopement risks

Conclusion

Every patient deserves care that respects their dignity while ensuring their well-being. With this investment, we will create a safer, more supportive environment for older adults and those who care for them.

Your support will make a lasting difference in the lives of patients, families, and healthcare providers. Together, we can ensure that vulnerable patients receive the protection they need without compromising their quality of life.

