

**OSAB : The Jigsaw Puzzle Activity**

1. **Manager/Employer – Pleasant Acres Retirement Village**

Jacinda has worked for the company for 8 years as a Senior Carer, supporting people over the age of 60 who have care and support needs. She has an outstanding employment record.

You have noticed that Jacinda is not completing her work tasks within set time limits, and appears to be less confident, which is very unusual for her.

You are aware of Jacinda’s diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis, and as such discussions took place with her in terms of reasonable adjustments in the workplace before she started her employment.

You call Jacinda in for a discussion about her work in order to find out why there has been a difference in her work output, and what support may be available to her.

Jacinda meets with you and tell you that she feels like she is struggling to remember things, has been to her GP to let them know, and is waiting to undertake some tests.

**Review this piece of information and:**

* **Identify any areas of concern.**
* **Are there any indicators that may suggest abuse? If yes, what are they?**
* **Consider whether you would share the information, and if so, with who?**

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1. **Health Professional – GP**

Jacinda (49) attends an appointment at the surgery. She tells you that she is having periods of time where she isn’t sure what she has done, saying she thinks she is having blackouts. She goes on to tell you that her memory isn’t as good as it once was and she is finding things in places she wouldn’t expect them to be, giving an example of her finding her deodorant in the fridge.

You ask Jacinda whether this has come on suddenly, or whether it has been happening for some time. Jacinda says she thinks it has been the past few months, and it is starting to worry her now.

You ask Jacinda whether she would be prepared to have some tests undertaken to see what might be going on.

Records show that Jacinda lives with her partner Alex, and their son Jordan (10). Jacinda was given a diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis two years ago.

You ask Jacinda whether Alex has said anything about what might be going on, and whether Jacinda would mind you having a conversation with Alex to find out her opinion. Jacinda says she doesn’t mind.

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1. **Education – Teaching Assistant**

In class today, Jordan (10 years) has shouted at another child, thrown his books on the floor and has left the classroom. You follow him, to find him upset and crying in the cloakroom. He tells you that the other child said that he is weird because he has two mums.

You take Jordan to the nurture room to give him some space to calm before he returns to the classroom. You ask him what made him so upset. He said that he didn’t like the other child saying what they did because he loves his mums. After a pause, Jordan tells you that when he is naughty, his mum hits him. You have not noted any injuries in the past.

Jordan is developmentally appropriate for his age. He is generally well behaved and engages well with activities. He has good peer friendship. He talks fondly about his mum Jacinda, but rarely says anything particular about his mum Alex.

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**4. Minor Injuries Unit – Nurse**

Jacinda attends the MIU at her local hospital with her partner, Alex.

You call Jacinda into an examination bay, asking if she would prefer to be examined alone, or whether she would like the person with her to be present. Alex says that she will stay with Jacinda as she is having a lot of difficulties with her memory and is having blackouts, and this is how she sustained the injuries she has.

Upon examination you find Jacinda has a cut to the side of her forehead and she tells you she is experiencing a lot of pain in her right upper arm. You ask Jacinda if she is able to tell you in her own words how she sustained the injuries. Jacinda said that she doesn’t know, apart from she is getting a lot of dizzy spells, with tiredness and memory loss. Alex (partner) informs that Jacinda was given a diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis two years ago and that it is clearly her condition worsening. Jacinda says that she can’t understand why things are changing so fast. Alex comments “are you sure, you do tend to have a bad memory? I’d say this has been happening for longer than you think”. Jacinda apologises to Alex. Alex then makes a comment to you that “she gets angry at little things. She’s too sensitive”

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**5. Local Voluntary Support - Home Visiting Officer**

A referral has come in for Mr Ahmed (85) who lives alone and is socially isolated. When you undertake a visit to meet him at his home, you gather information from him in order to assess what support he may need/want.

During the visit, Mr Ahmed tells you that his neighbour Alex pops into see him once a week and helps him by getting his shopping for him. He gives her his bank card and she knows his PIN, because he cannot get to the bank to get cash out. He said that his appetite isn’t what it was, so he only usually asks for some bread, milk, sandwich fillings and tins of soup. Occasionally he fancies a treat so asks for a cake.

You ask Mr Ahmed how long Alex has been helping him with this, and whether in his view it is helpful to him. He tells you Alex has been helping for about a year now and he wouldn’t know what to do if she didn’t help. He passes comment “come to think of it, I’m not sure where my bank card is?” He brushes off his comment saying “it will turn up, I’m sure”

Nearer to the end of your visit, Mr Ahmed said that he is a little concerned about Alex and her family because she has told him that her partner Jacinda is losing her memory and is having blackouts, that Jacinda’s personality seems to be changing. He goes on to say that he hears what sound like loud bumps at different times of the evening/night. He also hears raised voices and has heard what sounds like the boy crying. Which might be something to do with what Alex told him.

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