


VBM Eligibility Criteria for Referral Checklist

Before referring to the Virtual Behavioural Medicine (VBM) program, please ensure your patient meets the following criteria:

Required Eligibility Criteria


Diagnosis of Dementia

- Patient with a **confirmed diagnosis** or **strongly suspected** diagnosis of dementia.
- Primary concern is the presence of **severe unmanaged neuropsychiatric symptoms**, such as aggression, agitation, hallucinations, and paranoia.




Consent from a Power of Attorney (POA), Substitute Decision Maker (SDM), or Public Guardian and Trustee (PGT)

- **Consent from a Power of Attorney (POA) or PGT, or Substitute Decision Maker (SDM)** is required, as patients are incapable of making healthcare decisions at this stage.



Stable Medical Condition


- Patients should be stable from a general medical perspective.
- Exceptions may apply for those referred while in acute care.



Additional Factors for Considering a Referral to VBM


Risk of Harm

- Patient exhibiting neuropsychiatric symptoms/responsive behaviours that present a risk of harm to themselves or others due to dementia-related symptoms.



Transition to New Care Setting

- Patient transitioning to another sector or place of care where neuropsychiatric symptoms/responsive behaviours may pose a barrier to a successful transition.



Tertiary Specialized Behaviour Support Beds (CASS Beds)

- Patient for whom an application for a CASS bed is being considered.

