The poster is a visual representation of a 2-year improvement project on recognizing dying and delivering end of life care in NHS mental health complex care wards in Renfrewshire. Driven by staff's desire to continuously improve this area of practice, it aligns with the Dementia Strategy, standards, and the Strategic Framework for Action.

Baseline survey was undertaken with the MDT highlighting several themes. There is a complexity that is unique to people with dementia.

- Challenges
  - Recognising dying is complex and can be difficult, even more so when the person has dementia
  - Staff resilience
  - Assessment within complexity of advanced dementia and managing transitions
  - Staffing levels, concern about providing best care and patients not dying alone
  - Ward environment

- Suggested reasons why
  - Recognising dying is complex and can be difficult, even more so when the person has dementia
  - Staff resilience
  - Lack of experience, confidence, and knowledge
  - Mix of communication issues including managing expectations of relatives and expectations within the MDT, common language
  - Staff Levels and ward environment

- More training on end of life care and recognizing dying

Saying “Dying” is a bit like saying “Suicide” a few years ago; people were scared of the impact of using the word, so were used to having those kind of delicate conversations.

It can be difficult when you have patients who have been extremely frail and unwell for a long period of time and deciding when to accept end of life in line with the Dementia Strategy, standards, and the Strategic Framework for Action.