

# Living with the long-term impacts of encephalitis - The Priory Egerton Road

After suffering an acquired brain injury as a result of encephalitis Harry\* was admitted to The Priory Egerton Road for specialist long-term care.



After his immediate, acute treatment for encephalitis, Harry experienced the longer-term impacts of his acquired brain injury including episodes of low mood, suicidal ideation and erratic behaviour. Harry's interaction with others was also largely affected; he would have regular outbursts of anger towards staff and also developed repetitive tic-like movements.

Harry's treatment at Egerton Road included mindfulness exercises, sessions allowing Harry to express his feelings, group work such as psycho-education, social skills training and current affairs skills. Additionally, his team developed strategies to increase Harry's independence in terms of personal care and daily living activities.

This treatment was guided towards increasing quality of life in a safe and closely-monitored environment, building independence and social interaction skills.

## Harry's progress

Harry has made incredible progress since he was first admitted to Egerton Road - he shows no signs of facial tics, and no longer talks about harming himself or others.

He is able to go out for long walks alone, enjoys walking dogs and having meals out. Harry now participates in residents' meetings, offers ideas for trips out and has made friends. This has been significant progress from admission when Harry was observed as socially withdrawn and aggressive.

He is also far more independent with his daily routines; he cooks on a weekly basis and his confidence has grown tremendously.

Harry still requires regular input and encouragement from his team at Egerton Road to ensure that he retains the confidence that he has gained. He needs to be supported and encouraged with all aspects of daily living which he now appears to enjoy rather than sees as a chore. His cognitive abilities and his anxiety and depression levels have also greatly improved.

His outlook appears positive and he is looking forward to the future. His family are overwhelmed with the progress that he has made and say that they never thought that the day would come where they would look forward to Harry hopefully coming home to live with them one day.

*\*The name and image of our resident has been changed to protect identity.*