

Growing Concerns Tool for the Disability Sector

Supporting People with Intellectual Disability when you think they might be unwell.

Use this tool as a guide to know what to look for and what to do about, your concerns for someone with intellectual disability, when they are becoming unwell.

S	Seems different / not themselves/ less interested in things
T	Talks or communicates less / more / differently
O	Overall needs more help
P	Pain- is there something which might be causing them pain?
A	Ate less than usual
N	No bowel movement in 3 days (or diarrhoea)
D	Drank less than usual
W	Weight change
A	Agitated or nervous, more than usual
T	Tired, confused, drowsy, upset
C	Change in skin colour, coughing or breathless
H	Help with walking, moving, toileting, more than usual

Depending on the environment and the assistance available, write your concerns and observations next to these points and:

- Speak with the person (and their carer) about your concerns
- Speak with your supervisor
- Assist them to see their GP
- Ring Health Direct for advice
- Arrange for them to go to the Emergency Department if you are concern they are quite unwell.

NAME OF PERSON:

NAME OF SUPPORT WORKER:

DATE:

ACTION TAKEN:

If the person needs to see a health professional or go to hospital, there is also guidance on what information to gather before you go. See(local information)