# Dementia

## <u> Covid-19</u>

<u>Useful tips on the COVID-19 vaccine for people with dementia</u> This briefing includes useful tips for giving the COVID-19 vaccine without causing distress and how to explain the vaccination to someone who is living with dementia.

<u>Using Twitter to Understand the COVID-19 Experiences of People With</u> <u>Dementia: Infodemiology Study</u> There is an imminent need for governments to rethink using a one-size-fits-all response to COVID-19 policy and use a collaborative approach to support people with dementia. Collaboration and more evidence-informed research are essential to reducing COVID-19 mortality and improving the quality of life for people with dementia and their care partners.

### Systematic Review

<u>Psychosocial interventions to support the mental health of informal caregivers of</u> <u>persons living with dementia – a systematic literature review</u> This review found beneficial results for cognitive behavioural approaches, especially concerning the reduction of depressive symptoms. Besides this, leisure and physical activity interventions show some good results in reducing subjective caregiver burden. In order to improve effectiveness, research and practice may focus on developing more targeted interventions for special dementia informal caregiver subgroups.

### <u>Review</u>

Impacts of Low-cost Robotic Pets for Older Adults and People With Dementia: Scoping Review Positive impacts related to several psychosocial domains, including mood and affect, communication and social interaction, companionship, and other well-being outcomes. Issues and concerns associated with its use included misperceptions of the robotic pets as a live animal, ethical issues of attachment, negative reactions by users, and other pragmatic concerns such as hygiene and cost.

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# <u>News</u>

My Life Films launch TV platform for people living with dementia My Life TV has content specifically curated for the cognitive needs of the audience, it's basically Netflix for people living with dementia. There's a variety of content including animal and nature programmes, gardens, feelgood programmes, quizzes, archive news, popular TV programmes from 1960s & 1970s and more. They are offering this service free for three months and then a £4 per month subscription to cover their running costs.



### <u>Research</u>

### Uni researchers explore how assistive tech can help people with dementia

Experts at the University of Stirling are launching a new research project to find out how assistive technology, such as telecare devices, can better support residents in retirement living schemes and those living with long-term conditions such as dementia.

### **Studies**

### <u>Risk of dementia in adults with cerebral palsy: a matched cohort study using</u> <u>general practice data</u> There was no difference in the proportion of people with CP and matched controls who were diagnosed with dementia during the follow-up. While there was evidence for an increased hazard of dementia among people with CP, the fact that this association was attenuated after controlling for comorbidities indicates that this association may be explained by comorbidities rather than being a direct result of CP.

Family Caregiver Needs and Preferences for Virtual Training to Manage Behavioural and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia: Interview Study The objective of the study was to understand the needs of family caregivers for improving BPSD management and the extent to which caregivers perceived that STAR-VTF could address those needs.

Implementations of Evidence-Based eHealth Interventions for Caregivers of People With Dementia in Municipality Contexts (Myinlife and Partner in Balance): Evaluation Study This paper reports on the trialling of interventions within an Euroregion including Belgium, Germany, and The Netherlands. The experiences of implementing these interventions suggested that this implementation context was feasible regarding the required budget and infrastructure. The need to foster sense of ownership and self-efficacy in implementers will be integrated into future implementation protocols.

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Administering Virtual Reality Therapy to Manage Behavioural and Psychological Symptoms in Patients With Dementia Admitted to an Acute Care Hospital: Results of a Pilot Study This study aimed to determine the feasibility (acceptance, comfort, and safety) of using immersive VR therapy for people living with dementia (mild, moderate, and advanced) during acute care hospitalization and explore its potential to manage behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia.

Dementia and loneliness: prevalence and determinants for people living in the UK This post summarises recent findings from the IDEAL programme on the prevalence and determinants of loneliness in people living with dementia.

Insights into the role of diet and dietary flavanols in cognitive aging: results of a randomized controlled trial This study raises the possibility that at the population level, flavanol-based dietary interventions may have a beneficial impact on cognitive aging.

