



Community and Mental Health Services

10 August 2023

Studies

Dementia care navigation: Building toward a common definition, key principles, and outcomes Recognizing the unique and challenging needs of persons living with dementia and their care partners, several U.S. dementia care navigation programs have been developed and assessed in recent years. Collectively these programs demonstrate that persons living with dementia and their care partners benefit from dementia care navigation. Improved care system outcomes for the person living with dementia include reduced emergency department visits, lower hospital readmissions, fewer days hospitalized, and shorter delays in long-term care placement. Well-being is also increased, as there is decreased depression, illness, strain, embarrassment, and behavioral symptoms and increased self-reported quality of life. For care partners, dementia navigation resulted in decreased depression, burden, and unmet needs.

Young onset dementia: implications for employment and finances

People diagnosed with young onset dementia encounter significant challenges associated with employment, and individual and family finances. There is a need for more specific information and guidance from healthcare professionals around employment rights, income support and welfare benefits and the pension status for this group of people. Additionally, healthcare professionals should be cognisant of the additional financial burden people face in young onset dementia when advising on services which incur out-of-pocket costs.

Case Study

Supporting the continence of people living with dementia in hospital

NIHR-funded researchers are changing the course of continence care for people living with dementia in hospital after finding that usual care cultures are promoting incontinence.

Cochrane Review

<u>Interventions for preventing and reducing the use of physical restraints for older people in all long-term care settings</u>

Organisational interventions aimed to implement a least-restraint policy probably reduce the number of residents with at least one PR and probably largely reduce the number of residents with at least one belt. We are uncertain whether simple educational interventions reduce the use of physical restraints, and interventions providing information about residents' fall risk may result in little to no difference in the use of physical restraints. These results apply to long-term care institutions; we found no studies from community settings.















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Research

The Angela Project: Good practice in young onset dementia

The Angela Project was a three-year research study carried out by the universities of Bradford, Northampton, Surrey and UCL. It was the largest study of young onset dementia ever carried out in the UK and was designed to look at how diagnosis and post-diagnostic support for people living with young onset dementia can be improved.

Surveys

Involvement opportunity for clinicians and people affected by young onset dementia

The Research Innovation Team at Alzheimer's Society is exploring how they can improve access to a timely and accurate diagnosis, particularly for younger people. They are looking to develop a solution that enables clinicians and their patients to access more valuable health data in their appointments. They are keen to understand what information is most valuable for clinicians to have access to in appointments. They would value input from clinicians by completing this form to help inform what the solution looks like.

They are also keen to understand whether people living with and affected by dementia would be comfortable recording health data before appointments. They would value people affected by young onset dementia sharing their views by <u>completing this form</u> to help inform what the solution looks like.

Dementia Carers Count – Family Carers Survey 2023

Dementia Carers Count want to ensure that family carers who support people living with dementia get the health and social care services they need. Their Family Carers Survey 2023 gives participants the opportunity to share their experiences and help to shape services. The survey closing date is Friday 15th September 2023. Take part here.

Conference

'From research to practice: Solutions to improve dementia and ageing care'

The fifth Annual Liverpool Dementia and Ageing conference takes place on Wednesday 25th October 2023. A number of free tickets are available for people living with dementia and unpaid carers. Find out more or register here.

Webingr

<u>Primary progressive aphasia: supporting people with language-led dementias to have better conversations</u>

On Wednesday 6th September 2023 from 1-2pm, the Liverpool Dementia and Ageing Research Forum is hosting a webinar featuring Dr Anna Volkmer of University College London (UCL) who will talk about her work supporting people with language-led dementias. Sign up here.















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News

'Smart' socks that track distress in people living with dementia could transform care

A new project led by Dr Shlomi Haar (UK DRI Care Research & Technology Centre) will test whether a sock which combines sensors with artificial intelligence could help carers detect agitation and prevent falls in people with dementia. The innovative 'SmartSocks' track heart rate, sweat levels and motion to give insight into the wearers wellbeing, providing accurate insight into a person's cognitive state, and distress levels.

Identifying dementia in people with hearing loss

Researchers have developed the first reliable test for dementia in people with hearing loss. The test is an adapted version of a standard test for dementia. It is accurate in people with and without hearing loss.

Families caring for dementia patients in UK reaching crisis point, says charity

Soaring numbers of families struggling to care for someone with dementia have hit a "crisis point" with nowhere to turn for help when their loved one puts themselves or others at risk of harm, a charity has said. More than 700,000 people in the UK look after a relative with dementia. Many feel they can no longer cope with alarming situations where they or their relative are at immediate risk of being harmed, according to Dementia UK.









