



February 2023 Newsletter

Dear Friends of PriDem,

In the December newsletter, we told you about how our Clinical Dementia Leads (CDLs) in Barnet and Newcastle have been gathering useful resources. These resources include information about local healthcare, social care, and community services that can support people with memory and thinking difficulties. In this newsletter, we want to tell you about how some recent innovations to care and support will carry on beyond this research project.

In the Southeast

One aim of PriDem was to introduce changes to care and support that will last once the Clinical Dementia Leads (CDLs) in the Northeast (NE) and Southeast (SE) have left. In the SE in Barnet, Robyn Barker has now left her post as PriDem CDL but continues to work in Barnet and beyond as an Admiral Nurse. One innovation Robyn helped to set up was the **'One Stop Shop' review clinics**. Several people with memory and thinking difficulties and their carers attended on the same day for a review of their care and support needs and had the opportunity to speak with a range of professionals and support services (e.g., Age UK).

These 'One Stop Shops' are going to be continued by two of the GP practices in the SE.

Previously, Robyn had created a document listing the range of local services that can support people with memory and thinking difficulties. The template used to create this document has been requested by several boroughs outside of Barnet.

In the Northeast

In the Northeast at Newcastle, the Pridem intervention is drawing to a close. As it nears the end, the CDL in the NE, Rachel Watson, is focusing on **three main aspects**:

Continuing to **support primary care teams** with advice and guidance as needed.

Training social prescribers to work alongside GPs to help with annual reviews of peoples' care and support needs.

Ongoing discussions with GP practices to consider a future role for a specialist and how it can be funded

Research Update

Researchers in the NE and SE are currently carrying out **9-month follow up visits** with participants to complete health and wellbeing questionnaires. **We would like to thank** all of our participants for continuing to welcome us into your homes and/or meeting with us on Zoom!

These interviews give us valuable insight into the support and care participants are receiving. **Thank you to all** who have taken part in an interview. We are learning so much from you.

Update on Charitable Donations

On behalf of our participants who chose to donate to a charity as a 'thank you' for taking part, **donations have been made** to a range of charities and organizations including Alzheimer's Society, Dementia Matters, Parkinson's UK, and many more! **Thank you to all.**

Staff Updates

We have welcomed a **new researcher**, Lewis Benjamin, to the UCL team.



I recently joined the PriDem team as a Research Assistant. I have both a clinical and research background supporting a wide range of populations in primary care and the community. Alongside my role at PriDem, I am doing a PhD working alongside service users and healthcare staff to address mental health inequalities experienced by groups when accessing and navigating services.



Opportunity to join our Research Partnership Group

Your involvement in the PriDem project might have come to an end, but at the department of 'Primary Care and Population Health' at University College London (UCL) are looking for people who would like to work with us on a range of projects aiming to improve care and support for people living with memory and thinking difficulties.

We have a '**Research Partnership Group**' for our department made up of people affected by memory and thinking difficulties. Joining this group means that **you will be added to our mailing list and sent opportunities** to work with us on specific projects. This is different to taking part in research. It is more about providing **valuable advice to researchers**.



Opportunities may include taking part in **online zoom meetings** to discuss research projects and give your point of view about how they should be run. People are reimbursed for their time up to £25 per hour depending on the specific project. **There is no obligation to accept opportunities that we send you.**

Interested in finding out more?

Contact Sarah Griffiths: s.a.griffiths@ucl.ac.uk / Tel: 020 3108 6699 for an initial chat.

We look forward to updating you again in April 2023.