



May 2023 Newsletter

PriDem Intervention

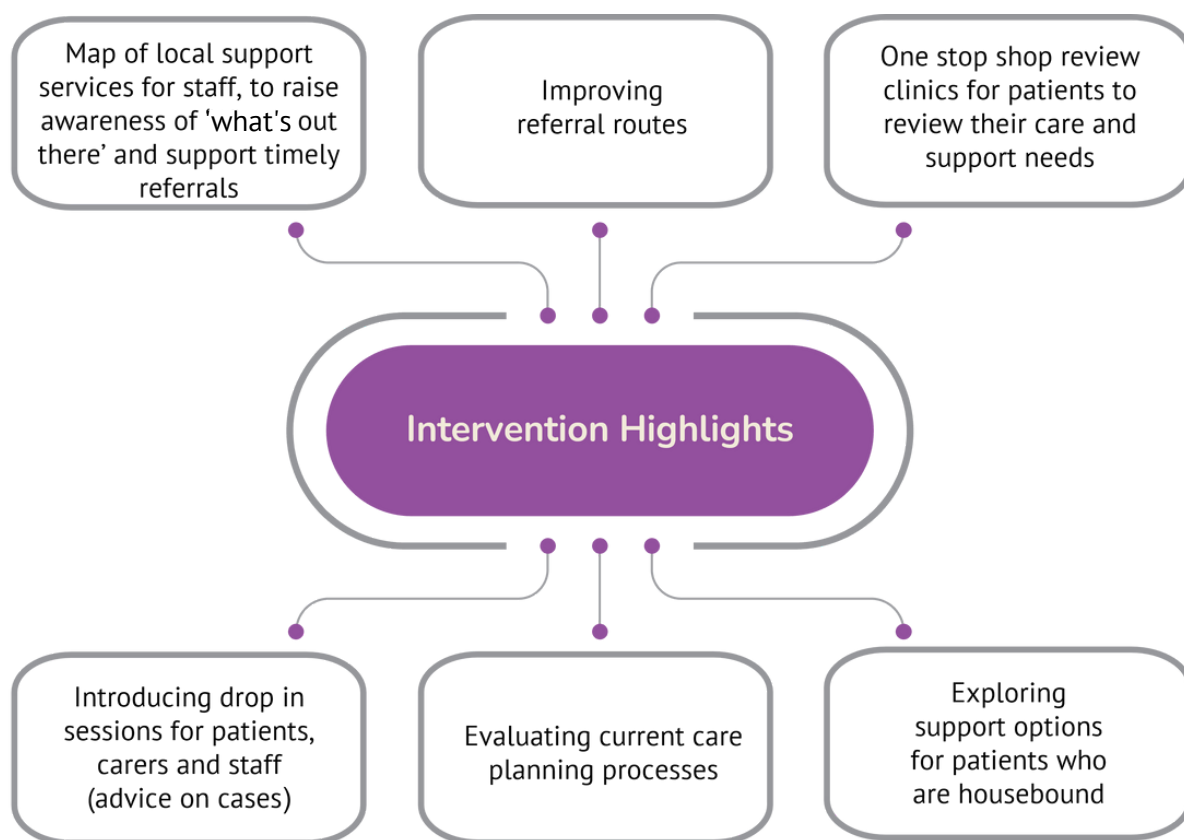
Welcome to this May 2023 edition of the PriDem newsletter. The study will end on September 30th 2023, and we wanted to update you on the work we are focusing on during our final months.

Intervention Update

Our Clinical Dementia Leads (CDLs) in both the Northeast and Southeast have finished delivering 12 months of the PriDem intervention in each area. One aim of PriDem was to introduce changes to care and support that would last once the CDLs have left.

One such innovation was a document listing the range of local services that can support people with memory and thinking difficulties. The template for this document was created by the CDL in the SE, Robyn. The document has been shared with a range of health and social care staff to increase their awareness of services and community support groups that they can refer people to.

Additionally, here are some of the **intervention highlights** that were achieved in some or all of the participating GP practices.



Research Update

Researchers in the Northeast and Southeast have almost finished visits with participants to complete the 9-month follow up 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 participants' experiences of care and support. **Thank you to all** who have taken part in an interview. **We are learning so much from you.**

Care Plan Audit

Another element of the PriDem project we have been working on is a '**Care Plan Audit.**' This does not relate to participants recruited into the study but involves a random sample of patients with memory and thinking difficulties from participating practices. Within this audit, we are looking at the quantity and quality of 'personalised care plans' for each patient. We compare the presence of a "personalized care plan" between a pre-Covid year (2018-2019) to the PriDem intervention year (2022-2023). We are looking to see if there is a change in the number of patients who have a care plan. We also are looking to see which areas of care are covered in the plan and how personalised the plans are. An example of a personalised care plan would be if the patients and carers were invited to consider their own priorities for care and support.

Data collection for the Care Plan Audit will be completed at the end of May and analysis will follow.

Staff Updates

Although the PriDem project is coming to an end, our researchers are continuing their study within the healthcare field.



Katie Flanagan, a PriDem Research Assistant at UCL, will be **starting a PhD** at UCL in October 2023. Her research will look at the potential use of virtual reality technology as a therapy for people with incurable illnesses.

Alex Hagan has recently secured a place on the **medicine programme** at Newcastle University. Alex will begin his studies in September and hopes to draw upon his experience working with the PriDem team to shape his clinical career.



We look forward to updating you in the next newsletter!