

Dear Friends of PriDem,

Welcome to the third bi-monthly newsletter from the PriDem Research Team. There have been a lot of exciting developments over the last months.

PriDem intervention



One Stop Shop Review Clinic in Barnet

In the Southeast, the **'One Stop Shop Dementia Review'** was launched in one of the Barnet practices. There was a wonderful response! All patients and their carers invited so far have attended dementia reviews. They engaged with GPs and a range of dementia support services presented on the day, including Age UK, social prescribers, and a dementia advisor

Positive feedback

- One attendee commented on the usefulness of the information provided: **'Great idea and lots of great, useful information'**. Another person acknowledged the importance of being involved in developing a care plan: **'Good to have all the plan in hand in advance. Easy to make decisions in the future'**
- GPs noted that patients who were more newly diagnosed found **'What could make a difference?'** tool helpful for preparing for the review, but that it was not used by all. The practice team plan have made amendments to the PriDem tools for review
- Practice staff felt that it was a really good way of boosting relationships between staff and patients as well as relationships between the different teams providing care and support. Further 'One Stop Shop' initiatives are planned in the next months

Thank you to the experienced care coordinators who suggested the 'One Stop Shop Dementia Review'

More about PriDem intervention...

In the last two months, both CDLs, (Robyn Barker and Rachel Watson) have been providing support and training to the practice teams across the Northeast and Southeast of England.

- Support is offered to clinical staff through **drop-in advice clinics** in some practices
- **'Dementia Friends'** sessions with GP practice receptionists, secretaries, care coordinators are ongoing
- Tailored **training programmes** have been implemented; for instance, CDL Rachel Watson has delivered two sessions about dementia-related symptoms and the difference between delirium and depression to Social Prescribing Link Workers from four practices.

CDLs are also working closely with stakeholders to map local services and improve care coordination and sustainability of post-diagnostic support. For example:

- CDL Rachel Watson is working to improve the audit of dementia reviews, informing discussions about the current practice and 'work to do'
- **Dementia Directory of Services** with a list of support services available in Barnet for people with dementia and their carers was created for distribution on North Central London websites (nearly 100 practices in Barnet) and across health primary and secondary care, social and voluntary sectors



Information board in Barnet

PriDem Research Activity

Recruitment and baseline Quality of Life and wellbeing questionnaires with participants living with dementia and carers are now complete!

- We are very happy to have reached 75% of our recruitment target. A total of 60 people living with dementia and 48 carers have been recruited from participating practices across the Southeast and Northeast
- We are currently completing **4-month follow-up** visits with participating people living with dementia and carers
- Researchers are collecting care plan audit and service use data at participating practices. **Thank you to the lovely practice/operations managers and care co-ordinators for welcoming us into the practices, providing access to computers and assisting us when we have got stuck!**
- Researchers have been observing training sessions/team meetings to see how the intervention is working in practice. **We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for all your participation in these observations**
- As part of this investigation, interviews with CDLs have been conducted to obtain their views on how the intervention is going
- The research team are inviting some of you as a professional involved in people living with dementia care to talk to us about your experiences of the PriDem intervention

Research team news

The PriDem research team is a wider team of researcher and GPs based in London and Newcastle. We would like to introduce you some of the people you might have met in the last months.



Sarah Griffiths is the Study Manager for this phase of the PriDem project. She has a background in Speech and Language Therapy. She has experience of carrying out research in healthcare settings, including interviewing people who provide and receive care, to find out about their experiences. Sarah is particularly interested in the communication aspects of care and support for people with memory and thinking difficulties.

Emily Spencer has been a Research Assistant on the PriDem study since April 2021. She is also undertaking a PhD at UCL, investigating how GPs communicate with people with dementia and their carers about future care and later life.



Federica D'Andrea is a Post Doctoral Research Assistant. She completed her PhD on multi-sensory interventions at the University of West London and joined the University College London in April 2022. Federica is interested in innovative provision, quality of life promotion, ageing, and mental health.

Marie Poole joined PriDem research team in Newcastle in July. She is a Senior Research Associate with 15 years' experience of working with older people, their families and health and social care professionals. Marie is supporting the study research activities in Newcastle.



Greta Brunskill and **Alison Wheatley** from the Newcastle research team moved on to new roles at the end of June. They played a significant role in the development of PriDem intervention and a leading part in the recruitment and baseline in Newcastle. We wish Greta and Alison the best with their careers and ongoing projects.

We look forward to updating you again in December 2022.