

DELIVERING PERSONALISED CARE TO PEOPLE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA AND THEIR FAMILIES: A NEW INTERVENTION FOR PRIMARY CARE

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Background and purpose

Despite national and international emphasis on dementia strategies and guidelines, post-diagnostic support for people living with dementia in the UK remains highly variable. The aim of the PriDem project is to develop and test a new intervention for people with dementia and their families informed by existing literature and examples of good practice in England.

Methods

We reviewed existing literature, interviewed commissioners and service managers, and conducted case studies of six services providing unique approaches to post-diagnostic support for dementia. Findings suggested that there was no single model which addressed all aspects of post-diagnostic support well. Ideas for intervention were iteratively developed using the theory of change with our programme management group and our mixed stakeholder panel (the Dementia Care Community). A series of eight virtual task groups, involving all stakeholders, then critically reviewed the intervention and advised on implementation.

Results

Our complex intervention will focus on three main areas: developing systems, delivering tailored support and building capacity. Delivery of the intervention will be led/facilitated by a clinical dementia expert based in a primary care network. Resources to support implementation include a detailed list of components of post-diagnostic support (and examples of how these have been delivered successfully); example templates for annual review and care planning; and strategies for addressing potential barriers to implementation.

Conclusions

Delivering personalised post-diagnostic support for people living with dementia and their families requires a multifaceted and comprehensive approach. The intervention will now be tested to explore its feasibility and acceptability.