



Community and Mental Health Services

17 May 2023

#### **Studies**

<u>Using experience-based co-design (EBCD) to develop high-level design principles for a visual identification system for people with dementia in acute hospital ward settings</u>

We tested a modified co-design process to develop a set of high-level design principles for visual identification systems (VIS) for hospitalised people with dementia.

# <u>Treatment of hypertension and obstructive sleep apnea counteracts cognitive decline in</u> common neurocognitive disorders in diagnosis-related patterns

The aim of this study was to investigate the effect of arterial hypertension (AH) and of obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) on cognitive course in the neurocognitive disorder (NCD) cohort RIFADE which enrolled patients with NCD due to Alzheimer's disease (AD), vascular NCD (vNCD), and mixed NCD (AD+vNCD=mNCD). Multiple risk factors (RF), including AH and OSA, that contribute to the development of various kinds of dementia have been identified in previous studies.

# Hypericin as a potential drug for treating Alzheimer's disease and type 2 diabetes with a view to drug repositioning

Alzheimer's disease (AD) and type 2 diabetes (T2D) are two of the most common diseases in elderly population and they have a high rate of comorbidity. Study has revealed that T2D is a major risk factor of AD, and thus exploring therapeutic approaches that can target both diseases has drawn much interest in recent years. In this study, we tried to explore drugs that could be potentially used to prevent or treat both AD and T2D via a drug repositioning approach.

#### <u>Making an Advance Research Directive: An Interview Study with Adults Aged 55 and Older with</u> Interests in Dementia Research

Many people with dementia are interested in taking part in research, including when they no longer have capacity to provide informed consent. Advance research directives (ARD) enable people to document their wishes about research participation prior to becoming decisionally incapacitated. However, there are few available ARD resources.

#### Considering management behaviours to identify vulnerable caregivers of persons with dementia

Persons with dementia gradually disengage from daily activities, and therefore require increasing daily support. Caregivers face a dilemma as to whether they should encourage the persons with dementia in terms of initiative and autonomy, or supervise and take charge of tasks, which may cause distress for both parties. This study seeks to better understand how caregivers manage the disengagement of the persons with dementia and the repercussions on their caregiving experience.

#### Experiences of caregiving with Alzheimer's disease in the LGBT community

The goal of this paper is to develop a more thorough understanding of the experiences of LGBT older adults living with dementia and their caregivers.

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#### Early life adversity as a risk factor for cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's disease

Neurological conditions, including cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's disease (AD), impose a huge burden on society, affecting millions of people globally. In addition to genetic factors, recent studies indicate that environmental and experiential factors may contribute to the pathogenesis of these diseases. Early life adversity (ELA) has a profound impact on brain function and health later in life. In rodent models, exposure to ELA results in specific cognitive deficits and aggravated AD pathology. Extensive concerns have been raised regarding the higher risk of developing cognitive impairments in people with a history of ELA.

## Emotion-focused dyadic coping styles used by family carers of people with dementia during the COVID-19 pandemic

Emotional wellbeing of family carers and people with dementia is associated with not only how each individual copes with stress and conflict, but also by how they cope together. Finding ways to positively cope together was particularly important during COVID-19 lockdown restrictions, when other avenues of emotional support were less available. We explored how carers experienced and used emotion-focused dyadic coping styles during the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### Guidance

#### Intercultural dementia care guide

This guide aims to help health and social care workers provide dementia care, which corresponds to the needs and wishes of people from a wide range of ethnic groups, especially minority ethnic groups.

#### What Causes Memory Loss? Assessing Symptoms and Seeking Help

It can be difficult to know what to do if you've noticed changes in yourself or a family member or friend — particularly changes related to memory loss, thinking or behavior. It may just be normal forgetfulness, or it may be something more serious.

### Campaigns

#### Dementia Action Week: New campaign aiming to get Liverpool residents diagnosed

Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust is marking Dementia Action Week (May 15-21) by launching a new campaign across Liverpool designed to ease concerns about being diagnosed.

### **Learning Modules**

## <u>Improving access, experience and outcomes for people living with dementia from ethnic minority communities</u>

Reports show that people from ethnic minority communities are less likely to get an early or 'timely' diagnosis, access to treatment or receive support when diagnosed. This module is designed to help improve the access to, experience of and outcomes from dementia care in England in order to close the health inequalities gap.

#### News

New research reveals one in three wait over a month to speak out about dementia worries

Widespread confusion over dementia symptoms vs signs of old age discovered in new Alzheimer's Society research launched this Dementia Action Week (15-21 May).

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#### Dismantling the stigma – How hearing aids are shaping dementia prevention

Hearing loss is a prevalent condition that affects millions of people worldwide, and its impact goes beyond just difficulties in hearing. Recent research has shed light on a surprising connection between <u>untreated hearing loss and dementia</u>, with hearing difficulties being identified as a potentially modifiable risk factor for cognitive decline.

#### Heartbroken Reading woman says dementia has 'robbed' her children of a father

Hannah Riches has a clear memory of the moment she made the decision to put husband Neil into a care home - when his dementia was so advanced she could no longer protect him.

#### 'Part of you dies as well': the toll of caring for loved ones with dementia

A new drug could slow the pace of Alzheimer's. Three people with experience of the disease explain their story and their hopes.

# <u>Alzheimer's Association Launches Enhanced Online Resources to Support Families Affected by Alzheimer's Disease</u>

CHICAGO, May 8, 2023 — The Alzheimer's Association has enhanced two online resources — ALZNavigator™ and ALZConnected® — aimed at supporting individuals living with Alzheimer's and dementia and their caregivers.

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