NIHR Three Schools’ Dementia Research Programme

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Dementia prevalence rates by age & gender

Prince, Knapp et al
*Dementia UK Update*, 2014
Cost per person by dementia severity

England; annual costs at 2015 prices

- **Mild, with care needs**: £21,425
- **Mild, no dependency**: £12,050
- **Moderate**: £32,325
- **Severe - community**: £41,975
- **Care home**: £42,550

Wittenberg et al. *Age & Ageing* 2019
Projected future costs of dementia care

- Total cost increase by 249%
- Unpaid care cost by 213%
- Social care cost by 303%
- Health care cost by 194%

For England £ billion at 2015 prices

Wittenberg et al Age & Ageing 2019
Dementia

- Dementia is a major global health challenge today...
- ... also a major care, family, employment (etc.) concern
- Responses to the dementia challenge are:

  1. cure (... but when?),
  2. prevention (only in the long term) and
  3. better care (but substantial current inadequacies)
Three Schools’ Programme
Background

• Three NIHR Schools brought together by DHSC/NIHR
• £3.5 million confirmed for dementia programme, Sep 21 – Apr 24
• Additional £1 million confirmed
• Rapid but robust commissioning processes

Mission:

• To develop the evidence base for dementia-related practice in England by commissioning and conducting high-quality research collaboratively across primary care, public health and social care
Progress (Sep 21 – Nov 22)

• Three calls for research proposals
  • 8 studies funded – completing 23/24
  • 1 research-related (scoping) award funded - completed
  • 7 proposals under review
  • c. £3.3 million committed

• One call for career development awards
  • 14 awards – completing 23/24
  • c. £430,000 committed
Range of topics (research studies)

- Risk prediction tool development
- Interventions for carers and homecare workers supporting continence
- Safeguarding across primary and social care
- Co-producing self-management resources
- Prevention and economic analyses of policy change
- Understanding primary care, public health and social care needs in underserved populations
- Social care support following diagnosis
- Carers’ assessments
- Social farms

All studies cover at least two School areas: primary care, public health, social care
Involvement with people living with dementia and carers throughout
• Strong criticism at the lack of support after diagnosis
• Danger that people image stereotyped portrayals of dementia
• Peer-led ‘A Good Life with Dementia’ course offers promise
• But what are the conditions that make the course successful?
• What makes for good (and bad!) peer – to – peer tutoring and learning?
• Extending to diverse communities.
Forthcoming activities

- Networking initiatives across award holders
- Proposed showcase conference, Nov 23
- Two further calls for applications:
  - Career development awards – launching Dec 22
  - Added value awards: limited to Programme award holders – launching Jan 23
- Further opportunities across Three Schools’ Mental Health and Dementia programmes (e.g. ECR Forum)
Contact

NIHR Three Schools’ Dementia Research Programme

via

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Thank you