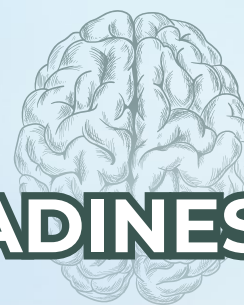


JCCPA 25th Anniversary Presents

International Conference of DEMENTIA INNOVATION READINESS



23-25 JUNE 2025 HONG KONG

> ARE WE READY FOR
NEXT CHAPTER?



Organisers:



賽馬會耆智園
Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing



香港中文大學醫學院
Faculty of Medicine
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



香港中文大學醫學院那打素護理學院
The Netherlands School of Nursing
Faculty of Medicine
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Co-organiser:

Funded by:



香港賽馬會慈善信託基金
The Hong Kong Jockey Club
Charities Trust

> TABLE OF CONTENTS

02 Apothegms and Messages

02	Apothegm from the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
03	Apothegm from the Secretary for Health
04	Apothegm from the Secretary for Labour and Welfare
05	Apothegm from Director of Social Welfare
06	Apothegm from the Chairman of the Elderly Commission
07	Apothegm from the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Mental Health
08	Welcome message from Director of Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing
10	Message from Vice-Chancellor and President of The Chinese University of Hong Kong
12	Message from Dean of Faculty of Medicine of The Chinese University of Hong Kong
14	Message from Chief Executive of Hospital Authority

16 About the Organiser

16	About Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing
----	--

18 Jockey Club “Brain Health” Dementia Screening and Community Support Project

21 About the event

21	General Information
22	Venue Map
23	Programme Overview

26 Keynote Speakers

26	Prof. Dawn BROOKER
27	Prof. Lesley PALMER
28	Prof. Anne Margriet POT
29	Dr. Andrew SOMMERLAD
30	Prof. Huali WANG
31	Mr. William (Bill) YEATES

32 Speakers

32	Ms. Grace CHAN
33	Prof. Helen Yue-Lai CHAN
34	Ms. Debbie CHEN
35	Mr. Charles C.Y. CHIU
36	Mr. Jason FOO
37	Prof. Amy FU
38	Prof. Timothy Chi-Yui KWOK
39	Prof. Florence Iat-Kio VAN
40	Dr. Gloria WONG
41	Prof. Ping-Keung YIP

42 Scientific Committee

42	Prof. Timothy Chi-Yui KWOK (Chairman)
43	Prof. Dawn BROOKER
44	Prof. Helen Yue-Lai CHAN
45	Prof. Wai-Chi CHAN
46	Dr. Kenny Chi-Man CHUI
47	Prof. Kenneth FONG
48	Ms. Florence Kwai-Ying HO
49	Prof. Rainbow HO
50	Prof. Dexia KONG
51	Dr. Allen Ting-Chun LEE
52	Dr. Jenny Shun-Wah LEE
53	Prof. Vivian Weiqun LOU
54	Prof. Marco Yiu-Chung PANG
55	Dr. Gloria WONG
56	Prof. Jean WOO
57	Prof. Doris YU
58	Prof. Peter P. YUEN
59	Prof. Yongping ZHENG
60	Ms. Bel Pui-Sze WONG (Secretary)
61	Ms. Clare Tsz-Kiu YU (Secretary)

62 Oral Presentation

62	Access to Care
66	Community Support
70	Early Detection and Diagnosis
74	Environment and Business
79	Strategy and Commitment

84 Poster Presentation

84	Access to Care
97	Community Support
99	Early Detection and Diagnosis
101	Strategy and Commitment
104	Poster Presentation Awards Voting Information

105 Supporting Organisations

Apothegm

Chief Executive
Hong Kong Special
Administrative Region



愛被耆老
德澤社群

賽馬會耆智園二十五周年誌慶

行政長官李家超



Apothegm

Secretary for
Health



集思啟智
健腦弘康

「集思啟未來」腦退化症國際會議特刊

醫務衛生局局長盧寵茂



Apothegm

Secretary for
Labour and Welfare



勞工及福利局局長孫玉菡



匡者澤遠
惠社功宏

「集思啟未來」腦退化症國際會議特刊

Apothegm

Director of
Social Welfare



社會福利署署長杜永恒

集思議策
扶老惠羣

「集思啟未來」腦退化症國際會議特刊

Apothegm

Chairman
Elderly Commission



安老事務委員會主席李國棟

馨溢紫荊
愛霑松柏

「集思啟未來」腦退化症國際會議特刊

Apothegm

Chairman
Advisory Committee
on Mental Health



精神健康諮詢委員會主席林正財

聯儕匯智
倡健弘康

「集思啟未來」腦退化症國際會議特刊

> Welcome Message from Director of Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing

On this extraordinary occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing (JCCPA), we warmly welcome you to the “Are We Ready for Next Chapter?” International Conference of Dementia Innovation Readiness.

Twenty-five years ago, conversations about dementia were often met with silence and hesitation. The landscape of geriatric care primarily revolved around frontline services, leaving a critical gap in public understanding and education. Recognising this, JCCPA embarked on a mission for comprehensive dementia care, trainings, public education and transform societal perceptions.

Today, we celebrate the positive outcomes of our efforts. There is a significant increase in awareness and understanding of dementia within our communities. More individuals are eager to learn about the condition, seek better services, and embrace a more compassionate approach to those living with dementia.

This conference is more than just a gathering of minds; it is a catalyst for innovation, collaboration,

and preparedness. We structure the conference across five domains: Access to Care, Community Support, Early Detection and Diagnosis, Environment and Business, and Strategy and Commitment, inspired by the Dementia Innovation Readiness Index developed by Alzheimer’s Disease International and the Global Coalition on Aging. In one of our recent innovative projects: the Jockey Club “Brain Health” Dementia Screening and Community Support Project, it exemplifies these principles, bringing dementia readiness to the next chapter with its innovative protocol and dedicated approach. Here, I would like to extend our deepest gratitude to The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust for their unwavering support and generosity, which has been instrumental in advancing our mission and initiatives.

We urge you to actively participate in the sessions, engage with fellow attendees, and contribute your valuable insights. Together, we stand prepared to forge a brighter path for dementia care and make a meaningful impact on the individuals we aim to serve.



Professor Timothy KWOK

S.H. Ho Professor of Geriatric Medicine
Professor, Department of Medicine & Therapeutics
and School of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Director, Jockey Club Centre of Positive Ageing

“ ***A catalyst for innovation,
collaboration, and
preparedness*** ”

➤ Message from Vice-Chancellor and President of The Chinese University of Hong Kong

“ ***Opening door to collaborations and sparking new solutions to address the complex challenges of dementia care*** ”

It gives me great pleasure to contribute a few words to the programme booklet of the International Conference of Dementia Innovation Readiness organised by the Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing (JCCPA) and The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) as one of the silver jubilee celebratory activities of JCCPA.

Being one of the leading causes of death, disability and dependency among older people globally, dementia is affecting millions of people around the world. The number of new cases is growing at an alarming rate every year, threatening not only patients' lives, but also the living quality of their carers and families. This reflects an urgent need for transformative change to dementia care.

The International Conference of Dementia Innovation Readiness brings together esteemed

academics, clinicians, and industry leaders to exchange insights and expertise across different domains, opening doors to collaborations and sparking new solutions to address the complex challenges of dementia care. The exciting line-up of speeches and discussions will inspire participants on new developments in dementia care and practice so as to enhance readiness for the next chapter of dementia innovation.

The Conference underscores the commitment of JCCPA and CUHK to pioneering innovative solutions to cater for the specific needs of those facing cognitive challenges. May I take this opportunity to wish the Conference every success in fostering constructive dialogue and collective action to stimulate the formulation of adaptable and effective strategies to improve the lives of individuals and families being affected by dementia.



Professor Dennis LO Yuk-Ming

Vice-Chancellor and President
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

➤ Message from Dean of Faculty of Medicine of The Chinese University of Hong Kong

It is my distinct honor to extend heartfelt congratulations to the “International Conference of Dementia Innovation Readiness”, meticulously organized by the Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing (JCCPA) and The Chinese University of Hong Kong. This pivotal event brings together global experts to address one of our most pressing healthcare challenges – forging a future where dementia care is compassionate, innovative, and truly person-centered.

As Hong Kong’s pioneer in specialized dementia care since 2000, JCCPA has revolutionized our caregiving approach through its unique “Services, Training and Research” model. Guided by a philosophy of walking alongside persons with dementia as companions – respecting their life stories and empowering them through tailored care – the Centre has established new benchmarks in cognitive healthcare. By prioritizing not only medical needs but also preserving dignity, autonomy, and quality of life,

JCCPA demonstrates how innovative care can redefine the experience of living with dementia.

This Conference’s focus on “readiness” could not be more timely. Dementia’s multifaceted challenges – from memory impairment to behavioral changes – extend beyond individuals to impact families and communities. JCCPA’s work proves that dementia care must be as comprehensive as the condition itself, integrating medical expertise, caregiver support, environmental design, and policy advocacy. As we explore innovations from early detection to gerontechnology at this Conference, we honor JCCPA’s vision of care that sees the person beyond the diagnosis.

May this gathering spark transformative collaborations that advance dementia readiness worldwide. My deepest appreciation to JCCPA for their leadership, and to all delegates contributing to this vital dialogue about building a more dementia-inclusive future.

“**Dementia’s multifaceted challenges – from memory impairment to behavioral changes – extend beyond individuals to impact families and communities.**”



Professor Philip W. Y. CHIU

Dean, Faculty of Medicine
Shun Hing Education and Charity Fund
Professor of Robotic Surgery
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

> Message from Chief Executive of Hospital Authority



“ The society should acknowledge the urgency of this public health issue and work together to address the care need for those impacted by dementia ”

On behalf of the Hospital Authority (HA), I am delighted to extend our warmest congratulations to the Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing (JCCPA) and The Chinese University of Hong Kong for organising the International Conference of Dementia Innovation Readiness.

With our aging population, the prevalence of dementia is expected to rise. According to the World Health Organisation, the total number of people with dementia worldwide is estimated to increase to 152 million in 2050. While in Hong Kong, the number of people aged 60 and above with dementia is projected to reach over 332 000 people in 2039 according to the Department of Health. Hence, the society should acknowledge the urgency of this public health issue and work together to address the care need for those impacted by dementia.

In this regard, the JCCPA has walked with the people with dementia for 25 years. As one of the first NGOs in Hong Kong specialising in dementia care, it is dedicated to providing one-stop integrated support services for patients with dementia as well as their caregivers. It also pioneers positive ageing

in community by offering training programmes for carers and medical professionals, and conducting research to enhance the understanding of dementia.

In HA, in addition to the medical support to alleviate the symptoms for patients, we also participate in the Dementia Community Support Scheme in collaboration with the Health Bureau and the Social Welfare Department, by providing services of patient referral and designing individual care plans for the patients concerned. Since patients in general continue to live and receive care and support services in the community, cross-sectoral and multi-disciplinary support is essential to ensure seamless care. HA will continue to work with our community partners to maintain patients' quality of life and alleviate their carers' burden.

Themed 'Are We Ready for Next Chapter?', this conference provides a valuable platform for local and overseas renowned experts to share insights and knowledge on the innovative advancement of dementia care. I wish the conference every success and all of you a rewarding and enlightening experience.



Dr. Tony KO

Chief Executive
Hospital Authority

> About JCCPA

Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing (JCCPA) is the first comprehensive dementia care service centre in Hong Kong, established in June 2000 with a donation of HK\$82.23 million from The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust (HKJC Trust), at a site in Shatin Hospital provided by Hospital Authority.

JCCPA's operation is overseen by a Board of Management comprising representatives from the HKJC Trust, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), and Hospital Authority, ensuring that we maintain top-notch service quality and lead the field in advancing dementia care through our innovative initiatives, extensive capacity building, and groundbreaking research.

Over the past two decades, we have successfully fostered a positive public attitude towards dementia by re-naming the Chinese term for the condition. We are committed to a restraint-free approach in our services through technology usage, ensuring the dignity of our service users. Our dedication extends to promoting a dignity-focused, autonomy-enhancing dementia care model to elderly service providers in Hong Kong, the Greater Bay Area, and the Asia-Pacific region.



6,000+
Service Users



360,000+
Service Attendance



127,000+
Training Attendance



96 Million+
Website Views

Guided by CUHK, we are dedicated to bridging global and local advancement in dementia care and practice. Our collaboration with esteemed scholars brings best practices in dementia care capacity building to local practitioners. Our partnership with local scholars in technology development to support the independence of people with dementia is widely adopted by service providers and corporations in Hong Kong, promoting a dementia-friendly community.

Our next 10-year development will focus on quality dementia care policy, service, and research development through local and international collaboration with governments and related organisations, universities, commercial sectors, and service providers; establishment of dementia-friendly communities in Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area; and technological advancements for dementia care.



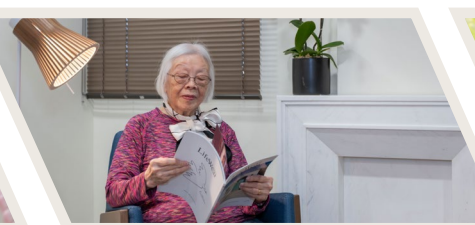
Specially-designed garden for horticulture and outdoor activities



Residential floor with 40 beds for comprehensive care



Day-care floor for cognitive and psychosocial activities



Facilities for self-supporting and restraint-free living



Training for muscle endurance, balance, and fall prevention

Organisers:



Funded by:



香港賽馬會慈善信託基金
The Hong Kong Jockey Club
Charities Trust



賽馬會「智康健」腦退化
檢測及社區支援計劃
Jockey Club "Brain Health"
Dementia Screening and
Community Support Project

➤ Jockey Club “Brain Health” Dementia Screening and Community Support Project

As individuals age, the potential development of dementia for themselves or their loved ones becomes a growing concern. Unfortunately, some hesitate to seek medical advice, thereby missing crucial opportunities for prevention, diagnosis, intervention, and support from healthcare professionals. Research indicates that individuals with mild cognitive impairment who do not receive any intervention within one year face a risk of 10-15% of progressing to dementia. It is vital for everyone to treat this issue seriously. Upon receiving a dementia diagnosis, timely intervention and appropriate support can significantly slow down cognitive decline, allowing more time for life planning and caregiving arrangements. The Jockey Club “Brain Health” Dementia Screening and Community Support Project adheres to the principles of “early detection, early diagnosis, and early intervention”. It aims to support individuals concerned about memory decline through initial screening and subsequent services.

“ **Early Detection, Early Diagnosis,
and Early Intervention** ”

Objectives

- Delays the cognitive decline in people with dementia and keeps them active in the community through “early detection, early diagnosis, and early intervention” approach
- Promotes holistic dementia care by adopting the esteemed five Pillar Model of Post-diagnostic Support by Alzheimer Scotland
- Builds a dementia-friendly society in collaboration with eight leading NGOs

To know more about this project:



Co-organisers:





> About the Event

General Information

Venue

Yasumoto International Academic Park, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (1 min walk from University MTR Station [East Rail Line] Exit D)

Security Checkpoint

CUHK has security checkpoints at the campus entrances. All personnel who enter the university must fulfil the following requirements in order to be granted entry:



Present the **confirmation email** we have sent to all attendees (Contact us if you do not have one)



Present your **identity document** (eg. HKID card or passport) and register at the checkpoint

Public Transportation

By MTR (Recommended)

Disembark at University MTR Station (East Rail Line) and reach Exit D (located in toward Lo Wu / Lok Ma Chau Line) or Exit A

By Bus

87S, 87K, 272K, 289K, 287

Disembark at University Railway Station Bus Terminus, walk through the University MTR Station (East Rail Line) and reach Exit A

Driving to Campus / By Taxi

For details, please refer to <https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/english/university/visitors.html>



Contact ICD Team

+852 2946 8139

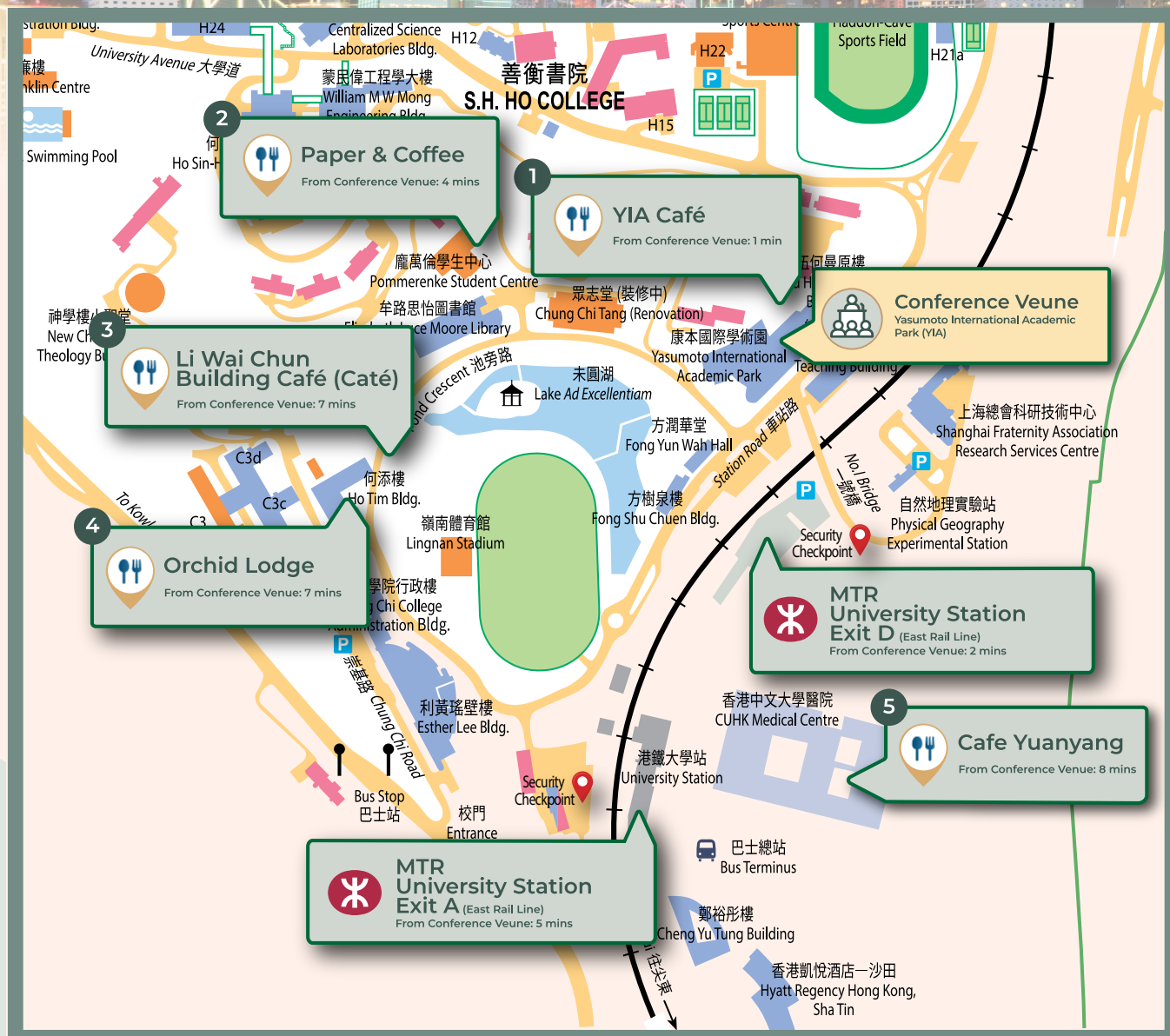
info@icd2025.org

www.icd2025.org

jccpahk

jccpahk

> Venue Map



Restaurant	Cuisine/ Food Type	Address
1 YIA Café	Coffee & Sandwich	101A, 1/F, YIA
2 Paper & Coffee	Japanese & Coffee	2/F, Pommerenke Student Centre
3 Li Wai Chun Building Café (Caté)	Hong Kong Style	Room G04, Li Wai Chun Building
4 Orchid Lodge	Hong Kong Style	Next to Ho Tim Building
5 Cafe Yuanyang	Hong Kong Style	LG/F, CUHK Medical Centre

> Programme Overview

PRE-CONFERENCE LEARNING TOUR CUM WORKSHOPS

23 June 2025 (Monday)

TIME	PROGRAMME	VENUE
09:00 – 14:00	Learning Tour: 1. Visiting Forward Living 2. Visiting Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing 3. Lunch Sharing	
14:00 – 14:30	Registration	Foyer, G/F
14:30 – 15:30 (CONCURRENT)	Workshop 1: Reconsidered: Dementia Person-centred Care – The Person Still Comes First Prof. Dawn BROOKER	LT2, G/F
	Workshop 2: Revisited: Distressed Behaviour (Behavioural & Psychological Symptoms of Dementia) Prof. Anne Margriet POT	LT3, G/F
15:30 – 15:45	Break	
15:45 – 16:45 (CONCURRENT)	Workshop 3: Reviewed: Care Partners (Caregivers) Support and Clinical Innovation Prof. Huali WANG	LT2, G/F
	Workshop 4: Reinforced: Dementia Architecture and Environmental Friendly Design Prof. Lesley PALMER	LT3, G/F
15:00 – 16:00	Workshop 5: Creating Your Own Holistic, Person-Centred Approach to Living Your Life (Special Workshop for People With Dementia and Care Partners) Mr. William (Bill) YEATES	Room 201, 2/F

The programme rundown is subject to revision

MAIN CONFERENCE

Venue: Yasumoto International Academic Park (YIA),
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

24 June 2025 (Tuesday)

TIME	PROGRAMME		VENUE
08:45 – 09:15	Registration		Foyer, G/F
09:15 – 09:40	Welcoming and Opening Speech		LT1, G/F
09:40 – 09:50	Opening Ceremony of the Conference and JCCPA 25 th Anniversary		LT1, G/F
09:50 – 10:20	Keynote Session	My Journey in Living a Better Life with Dementia <i>Mr. William (Bill) YEATES</i>	LT1, G/F
10:20 – 10:50	Keynote Session	Next Chapter in Holistic and Person-centred Care Model <i>Prof. Dawn BROOKER</i>	LT1, G/F
10:50 – 11:10	Break	Poster Presentation	Foyer, G/F
11:10 – 11:40	Keynote Session	Next Chapter in World-wide Development in Dementia Care <i>Prof. Anne Margriet POT</i>	LT1, G/F
11:40 – 12:15	Round Table Discussion		LT1, G/F
13:45 – 14:00	Registration		Foyer, G/F
14:00 – 14:25	Themed Session	Dementia Innovation Readiness I - Strategy and Commitment Strategy of Dementia Care Policies in Hong Kong - Lessons from TIP-CARD <i>Dr. Gloria WONG</i>	LT1, G/F
14:25 – 14:50	Themed Session	Dementia Innovation Readiness II - Early Detection and Diagnosis Discovering Blood Biomarkers for Early Detection of Alzheimer’s Disease and Amyloid Pathology Indication <i>Prof. Amy Kit-Yu FU</i>	LT1, G/F
14:50 – 15:15	Themed Session	Dementia Innovation Readiness III - Access to Care Tailored Care Services Across Different Stages of Dementia and Empowering Persons with Dementia and their Care Partners <i>Mr. Jason FOO</i>	LT1, G/F
15:15 – 15:30	Break	Poster Presentation	Foyer, G/F
15:30 – 15:55	Themed Session	Dementia Innovation Readiness IV - Community Support <i>Prof. Ping-Keung YIP</i>	LT1, G/F
15:55 – 16:20	Themed Session	Dementia Innovation Readiness V - Business Environment Advancing Dementia Readiness: Public and Workforce Strategies for Dementia-Friendly Communities in Macao <i>Prof. Florence Iat Kio VAN</i>	LT1, G/F
16:20 – 17:00	Round Table Discussion		LT1, G/F

The programme rundown is subject to revision

MAIN CONFERENCE

Venue: Yasumoto International Academic Park (YIA),
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

25 June 2025 (Wednesday)

TIME	PROGRAMME		VENUE
08:45 – 09:15	Registration		Foyer, G/F
09:15 – 09:55	Keynote Session	Readiness for Dementia Care Architecture and Collaboration with JCCPA Prof. Lesley PALMER	LT1, G/F
09:55 – 10:35	Keynote Session	Readiness for Dementia Care Policy and New Development in Chinese Society Prof. Huali WANG	LT1, G/F
10:35 – 10:45	Themed Session	Advocating for Dementia Community Resources: The Experience of the Taiwan Alzheimer’s Disease Association (TADA) (Pre-recording) Ms. Debbie CHEN	LT1, G/F
10:45 – 11:00	Break	Poster Presentation	Foyer, G/F
11:00 – 11:30	Themed Session	Readiness for Advance Care Planning in Dementia Care Prof. Helen Yue-Lai CHAN	LT1, G/F
11:30 – 12:00	Themed Session	Readiness for Legal Consideration and Planning in Dementia Care Mr. Charles C.Y. CHIU	LT1, G/F
12:00 – 12:30	Themed Session	Readiness for Geron-technology and Support in Dementia Care Ms. Grace CHAN	LT1, G/F
12:30 – 13:00	Round Table Discussion		LT1, G/F
14:15 – 14:30	Registration		Foyer, G/F
14:30 – 15:45	Oral Presentations (Concurrent Sessions)	Dementia Innovation Readiness I - Strategy and Commitment	LT1, G/F
		Dementia Innovation Readiness II - Early Detection and Diagnosis	LT3, G/F
		Dementia Innovation Readiness III - Access to Care	LT7, 2/F
		Dementia Innovation Readiness IV - Community Support	LT6, 2/F
		Dementia Innovation Readiness V - Business Environment	LT2, G/F
15:45 – 16:00	Break	Poster Presentation	Foyer, G/F
16:00 – 16:20	Keynote Session	Potential for Reducing Dementia: 2024 Update of the Lancet Commission for Dementia Prevention, Intervention and Care (Pre-recording) Dr. Andrew SOMMERLAD	LT1, G/F
16:20 – 16:45	Closing Remark	How Jockey Club “Brain Health” Dementia Screening and Community Support Project will Bring Dementia Innovation Readiness to Next Chapter Prof. Timothy KWOK	LT1, G/F
16:45 – 17:00	Award Ceremony	Best Oral and Poster Presentation Awards	LT1, G/F

The programme rundown is subject to revision

Keynote
Session

**Next Chapter in Holistic and
Person-centred Care Model**



Prof. Dawn BROOKER

Professor Emeritus in Dementia Studies,
University of Worcester, UK

Biography

Prof. Emeritus Dawn Brooker PhD MBE (UK) is internationally recognised for scholarship in practice development of person-centred dementia care and has long established working relationships with practitioners and scholars worldwide. Originally qualified as a clinical psychologist, Prof. Brooker has many years' hands on experience in health and social care. She was the founding Director of the Association for Dementia Studies at University of Worcester. Dawn is passionate about writing books and developing resources that reflect the complexity of dementia care but that make these accessible for the widest possible audience. Whilst at Worcester she developed the Care fit for VIPS free website <https://carefitforvips.co.uk/> based on her 2016 book on Person Centred Dementia Care. In 2019, she edited an updated edition of Tom Kitwood's seminal work on person-centred dementia care. Together with Dr. Keith Oliver, Prof. Brooker is the Reconsidering Dementia Book Series editor for Open University Press. She was made an MBE for services to those affected by dementia in the Queen's New Year's Honours in 2021.

Abstract

Providing holistic and person-centred care for people living with dementia requires clarity of vision and leadership if it is going to make a real difference to people's lives in the long term. Often, professionals and care workers describe their practice as "holistic" or "person-centred" but in reality it remains task-focused. I developed the VIPS framework to provide a blue-print for helping care organisations to be clear about "what good looks like". Leadership at all levels in a care organisation needs to be aligned around the same vision. The principles underpinning the person-centred model are the same whether one is leading a shift within a care-home or hospital ward, leading a project to develop life story work, leading on a new community centre or leading the dementia care strategy across a geographical region. To ensure that care remains person-centred requires leadership at all levels within and across the organisation to be in alignment. In this keynote I will discuss the concept of Ethical Leadership styles and how this can help us to lead truly person-centred dementia care. The provision of dementia care is changing with increasing numbers of people being diagnosed at earlier stages, new pharmacological treatments, technology and an increasing role for peer support. These all provide challenges as well as opportunities for the next chapter in care delivery. This presentation will consider the issues that are on the horizon for dementia care and how we can best prepare ourselves to meet these challenges.

Keynote
Session

**Readiness for Dementia Care
Architecture and Collaboration
with JCCPA**



Prof. Lesley PALMER

Professor of Ageing and Dementia Design,
Dementia Services Development Centre,
University of Stirling, UK

Biography

Prof. Lesley Palmer is an architect with 24 years of professional practice and a Professor of Ageing and Dementia Design at the University of Stirling. Palmer's field of interest is in environmental design for dementia and ageing. Palmer works globally, supporting people to design products, services and environments to support healthier cognitive ageing.

Palmer is a co-founder of Iridis, a university spin-out company with an emphasis on developing technologies and innovations in the built environment to support healthy ageing.

Palmer is also the founding director of INCH Architecture and Design, an award-winning non-profit architecture practice based in Glasgow, working to break-down economic inequalities in accessing architecture.

Abstract

I will explore the principles and origins of dementia-friendly design through the international research and enterprise work of the University of Stirling's Dementia Services Development Centre. I will discuss the adoption of these principles in a variety of countries and cultures, and provide observations on their suitability and readiness for implementation in Hong Kong. I will discuss these principles in the context of historic and current collaborations with the Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing (JCCPA) in both dementia care and design disciplines.

Keynote
Session

Next Chapter in World-wide Development in Dementia Care



Prof. Anne Margriet POT

Endowed Professor,
Erasmus School of Health Policy & Management,
The Netherlands
President, International Psychogeriatric Association

Biography

Prof. Anne Margriet Pot is an endowed professor at the Erasmus School of Health Policy and Management (ESHPM) in Rotterdam and a strategic advisor for Long-Term Care at the Health and Youth Care Inspectorate in the Netherlands. She also holds the position of extraordinary professor at Optentia, North-West University in Johannesburg, South Africa; she is the President of the International Psychogeriatric Association and co-chair the Lancet Commission on Person-centred Long-Term Care.

With a career spanning over 30 years, Anne has dedicated herself to enhancing the quality of long-term care, particularly for older individuals. Her extensive research, published in peer-reviewed journals, focuses on measuring and monitoring the quality of care and quality of life for older adults and their care partners. She is known for developing innovative interventions that leverage technology to improve mental health and well-being. During her time at the World Health Organization from 2014 to 2018, Anne contributed to global discussions on long-term care policy, expanding her impact on an international scale. Currently, at ESHPM, she is leading a research programme centred on regulation in person-centred and integrated long-term care, emphasising narrative methods. Anne's collaboration with the Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing (JCCPA) began in 2014 when she shared her expertise in dementia care and distressed behaviour management in a seminar organised by JCCPA in Hong Kong. Her unwavering commitment to advancing long-term care practices and her influential contributions to the field continue to drive positive change and innovation worldwide.

Abstract

The experiences of persons with significant declines in mental or physical capacities – including people with dementia – on the care and support they receive is not entirely positive, far from it. At times, people go so far as to conceal their own decline or pain, fearing that admitting it might lead to greater dependence on others, the need for care, or the prospect of moving to a nursing home. Many people are afraid of losing their independence, and want to have an influence on their circumstances, including the care and support they receive. They would like to be able to remain who they are and do what is valuable to them. However, the care and support they receive often ignores the importance of this aspiration. Care is approached from the perspective of the care provider, not from the client.

This presentation is about the paradigm shift that is needed to move from a service-oriented approach to a person-centred approach in long-term care and support and what is required to make this happen. What does this mean for how care and support are provided and what preconditions are required for this? The Healthy Ageing model of the World Health Organization, serves as the foundation to discuss how to enable people with significant declines in capacities and to enhance their functional ability and well-being and uphold their rights. This model also forms the basis for the United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing 2021-2030.

Keynote
Session

Potential for Reducing Dementia: 2024 Update of the Lancet Commission for Dementia Prevention, Intervention and Care



Dr. Andrew SOMMERLAD

Associate Professor, Division of Psychiatry,
University College London, UK
Consultant Psychiatrist, North London NHS
Foundation Trust, UK

Biography

Dr. Andrew Sommerlad is an Associate Professor at Division of Psychiatry, University College London and a Consultant Old Age Psychiatrist, supported by a Wellcome Trust fellowship. He is a member of the Lancet Standing Commission for Dementia Prevention, Intervention and Care which has produced key evidence on the potential for prevention of dementia through modification of lifestyle factors and summarised evidence on effective interventions and care for those who have dementia. This evidence has been incorporated into national guidelines, and cited as one of the key breakthroughs in dementia research by Alzheimer's Research UK. His research also aims to understand the nature, causes and consequences of social functioning impairment in people with dementia and approaches to improve social functioning for people with the earliest stages of dementia, to those with severe dementia in care homes. He will present evidence from the 2024 Lancet Commission report on Dementia Prevention, Intervention and Care. Dr. Sommerlad's presentation will be pre-recorded for the event.

Abstract

The 2024 update of the Lancet Commission on dementia provides new hopeful evidence about dementia prevention, intervention, and care. This presentation will summarise new research showing how cognitive and physical reserve develop across the life course and how reducing vascular damage is likely to have contributed to a reduction in age-related dementia incidence. There is also strengthening evidence that tackling many risk factors for dementia that we modelled previously reduces the risk of developing dementia and the session will also present the new compelling evidence that untreated vision loss and high LDL cholesterol are risk factors for dementia.

Keynote
Session

Readiness for Dementia Care Policy and New Development in Chinese Society



Prof. Huali WANG

Professor and the Chair for Clinical Research, Beijing Municipal Key Laboratory for Translational Research on Diagnosis and Treatment of Dementia, China
Director of the Dementia Care and Research Center, Peking University Institute of Mental Health

Biography

Prof. Huali Wang's connection with the Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing began in 2006 during her attachment at the centre, where she gained valuable insights and inspiration for developing dementia services in mainland China. Notably, she established China's first dementia care partner support group in 2000 and currently leads training programmes for community doctors, service providers, and dementia care partners in China. Her impactful contributions are reflected in five published books on dementia care, including "Smart Caregivers" and "China Memory Clinic Guideline."

Prof. Wang's innovative care model has garnered international recognition, with the World Health Organization's West Pacific Regional Office adopting elements for a toolkit on community-based dementia care in low- and middle-income countries. She also spearheads the National Platform on Clinical Dataset and Biobank of Major Mental Disorders and conducts groundbreaking research on Alzheimer's Disease biomarkers, revealing insights into the ApoE4 allele's impact on brain connectivity.

Abstract

Dementia is a growing public health concern worldwide, and China, with its rapidly ageing population, faces unique challenges in dementia care policy and service development. We will examine the evolution of the strategic framework in developing dementia care policy in mainland China. Also, we will explore the current dementia care policy, assess workforce preparedness for addressing the needs of persons living with dementia and their care partners, and highlight recent developments and innovations in community-based care models. Additionally, the presentation will discuss challenges and gaps in policy implementation. By analysing the evolving dementia care landscape, we aim to provide insights for healthcare providers and researchers on enhancing dementia care services and policy implementation in the region.

Keynote
Session

My Journey in Living a Better Life with Dementia



Mr. William (Bill) YEATES

Living Experience Associate Consultant,
Dementia Support Australia
Member of Advocate Program, Dementia Australia
Member of Global Review Panel for Accreditation of
Dementia Care, Alzheimer's Dementia International

Biography

After graduating from Pharmacy, Mr. Yeates entered the field of education where he was a school administrator and has taught senior Physics and Chemistry for over 35 years. In August 2019, at the age of 59, he was diagnosed with Younger Onset Alzheimer's Disease. Mr. Yeates has a keen interest in learning how to best manage his diagnosis on a daily basis and has created his own website where he enjoys helping and showing others who are also living with dementia, how it is possible to still lead a better life. Besides being a volunteer surf lifesaver, Mr. Yeates competes in masters Swimming, Finswimming, Pool Rescue and Surf Lifesaving Championships, at a local, state, national and international level. Last year Bill travelled to Fiji and participated in his first ever ocean swim.

Currently, Mr. Yeates is a member of Dementia Australia's Advocate Program and has been Vice Chair of Dementia Alliance International for the past two years. He is also a member of the World Health Organization Global Dementia Observatory Knowledge Exchange Focus Group, member of the Global Review Panel for Alzheimer's Disease International Accreditation of dementia care, member of the Public Involvement Panel for StepUp, member of the Advisory Committee for the NSW Trustee and Guardianship, member of SIESTA Lived Experience Advisory Panel (SLEAP), member of HammondCare Clinical Governance Committee and a member of Race Against Dementia Ignition Fund. Recently, Mr. Yeates accepted the role of Living Experience Associate Consultant with Dementia Support Australia. In the last few years, Mr. Yeates has started to share his experiences at national and international conferences as a way of raising awareness about dementia, focussing mainly on post diagnostic care and support via his holistic approach to life and the development of reablement plans.

Abstract

I soon realised that after being diagnosed with Younger Onset Alzheimer's Disease in August 2019, there was very little available in terms of a post diagnostic care and support programme that would show me how to manage my diagnosis on a daily basis. As I regarded my diagnosis as involving more than a cognitive decline, I decided that I would create my own holistic, person-centred approach that help me rebuild my concept of self. It is for this reason I created my "Tree of Awakening of your Positivity" which is based on the 4 aspects of self – Body, Mind, Heart and Soul. The "leaves of positivity" on my tree refer those actions, strategies and interventions that I have been using on a daily basis for nearly 5 years.

After being diagnosed with Younger Onset Alzheimer's Disease in August 2019, I quickly realised there was little in the way of a structured post-diagnostic care and support programme to help me manage my diagnosis. Viewing my diagnosis as more than just cognitive decline, I chose to create my own holistic, person-centred approach to rebuilding my sense of self. This led me to develop my "Tree of Awakening Your Positivity", which is founded on the four aspects of self - Body, Mind, Heart, and Soul. The "leaves of positivity" on my tree represent the actions, strategies, and interventions I have been using daily for nearly five years.

Through my presentation, I hope to show people living with dementia, their carers, families, clinicians, and researchers that while a diagnosis of Alzheimer's/dementia is undeniably life-changing and can have a challenging impact on you and your family. It does not mean life is over. With the right care and support, it is possible to live a more fulfilling and meaningful life. Using a series of short videos based on the leaves in my tree, I will demonstrate how I have adapted and continue to "live well with dementia" in a way that brings me joy and gives me purpose. My goal is to inspire others who are also living with dementia, to draw on your own skills, experiences, and preferences to make positive changes in your lives, set personal goals, and rediscover like I have, that you can "live well with dementia".

Themed Session

Readiness for Gerontechnology and Support in Dementia Care



Ms. Grace CHAN

Chief Executive,
The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

Biography

Grace Chan has dedicated 30 years to social welfare and is the Business Director of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service. She serves as a member of the Board of Directors and as the International Vice President of the International Federation on Ageing, reflecting her commitment to enhancing the lives of older adults. In 2013, she joined the Strategic Advisory Group of the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. As of 2024, she is also a member of the Elderly Commission and the Deputy Chairperson of the Social Workers Registration Board. Ms. Chan leads the development of innovative services, including the Gerontechnology Platform and the Jockey Club “Age at Home” Gerontech Education and Rental Service. In recognition of her contributions, she was named the Ageing Asia Global Ageing Influencer in 2019 and received the Most Successful Women Award from JESSICA in 2022 for her societal achievements.

Abstract

As the global population continues to age, the integration of gerontechnology in dementia care has become increasingly crucial. This presentation investigates the readiness for gerontechnology and its effectiveness in supporting dementia care, focusing on both social service frameworks and individual adoption levels. We analyse the current landscape of gerontechnology, highlighting its potential to improve the quality of life for individuals living with dementia while also providing essential support for care partners. By examining the barriers and facilitators influencing technology uptake, we identify key factors that impact the successful integration of gerontechnology in care settings. The presentation reveals that while there is a growing interest in technological solutions, several challenges remain, including accessibility, training, and awareness among care partners and service providers. To address these issues, we propose an actionable plan to enhance stakeholder engagement and facilitate gerontechnology adoption. By fostering a collaborative environment that encourages open communication and shared resources, we can create a supportive ecosystem that embraces innovation in dementia care.

Themed Session

Readiness for Advance Care Planning in Dementia Care



Prof. Helen Yue-Lai CHAN

Professor, The Nethersole School of Nursing,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Professor (By Courtesy), CUHK Centre for Bioethics,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Biography

Prof. Helen Chan's research interests focus on aged care and long-term care. She was a pioneer in the healthcare field, studying the acceptance and effects of advance care planning (ACP) in the Chinese population. She has developed a culturally sensitive ACP intervention and tested it among various patient groups, including dementia, cancer and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. She has also co-designed various educational materials with stakeholders to raise awareness and build capacity related to ACP in health and social care disciplines. These works have been adopted in diverse care settings and contributed to service and policy development at the regional and international levels. She was inducted as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing in 2021 and awarded the International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame by Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing in 2024 and other awards in recognition of her research capability and contribution to the society. Currently, she is an Editor for Journal of Clinical Nursing and an editorial member for Journal of Nursing Ethics. She also serves as an honorary advisor of elderly services for various non-government organisations, including Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation, Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association, Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing and Jockey Club Cadenza Hub, and a Council Member of Hong Kong Association of Gerontology.

Abstract

Timely and effective advance care planning (ACP) is essential for ensuring individual's values, preferences, and healthcare wishes are respected in future care. This is particularly relevant to empower people with dementia to articulate their preferences and make informed decisions about their care before they lose decisional capacity.

This presentation will share a clinical trial that examines the effects of a person-centred ACP programme. The findings suggested that it is feasible to engage people with dementia and their families in ACP and the participants generally appreciated the opportunity to plan ahead for the future. However, challenges in the clinical and socio-legal context were noted in the implementation process.

To address these challenges, various strategies to promote readiness for ACP within our community will be discussed to foster an inclusive environment that encourages open dialogue.

Themed Session

Advocating for Dementia Community Resources: The Experience of the Taiwan Alzheimer's Disease Association (TADA)



Ms. Debbie CHEN

Secretary-General of Taiwan Alzheimer's Disease Association

Biography

Ms. Debbie Chen is the Secretary-General of Taiwan Alzheimer's Disease Association (TADA), which was founded in 2002 to enhance the quality of life for dementia families. TADA has long been promoting various community family support services, also advocating self-advocacy, providing recommendations to the government and participating in national-level dementia policy research and implementation. In 2026, Taiwan is set to introduce the National Dementia Policy 3.0, marking another milestone in dementia care and support.

Ms. Debbie Chen has served in TADA for 16 years. she is also a Member of the Advisory Committee, Taiwan Ministry of Health and Welfare and a board member of the League for Persons with Disabilities. Her areas of expertise include dementia social support resources and services, research on the autonomy of people with dementia, dementia care, and consultation.

Abstract

The Taiwan Alzheimer's Disease Association (TADA) has been at the forefront of dementia advocacy since its establishment in 2002. With a strong emphasis on community-based dementia care, TADA actively promotes engagement among people with dementia and their care partners through initiatives such as the School of Wisdom and the Family of Wisdom. These programmes provide structured support to enhance interpersonal interactions, maintain cognitive abilities, and foster a sense of belonging.

TADA also plays a pivotal role in policy advocacy. Since 2008, with government support, it has trained over 70 organisations nationwide and successfully connected dementia care organisations across various cities to advocate for policy change. These efforts contributed to the launch of the National Dementia Policy in 2013, which introduced the "777 Dementia-Friendly" strategy. This policy prioritises improving diagnosis rates, strengthening care partner support, raising public awareness, and expanding community-based dementia care resources.

Currently, under Taiwan's National Long-term Care Plan and Dementia Policy, individuals aged 50 and above with dementia can access partially government-subsidised care services, including daycare centres, group homes, and over 540 Support Centers for People with Dementia and their Families (SPDF). Moreover, professional care partners must complete at least 20 hours of training before providing services.

To further strengthen dementia-friendly communities, TADA assists in developing and publishing dementia-friendly community guidelines and encourages more organisations to participate. With policy support and promotion, local governments formulated dementia-friendly community plans and promoting public awareness courses. Looking ahead to 2026, Taiwan's Dementia Policy and Long-term Care Plan 3.0 will focus on building an inclusive social environment and improving overall support.

Themed Session

Readiness for Legal Consideration and Planning in Dementia Care



Mr. Charles C.Y. CHIU

Consultant, So, Lung and Associates

Biography

Mr. Charles Chiu was admitted as a solicitor of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) since 1981. He was also admitted as a solicitor of England and Wales in 1985, a solicitor and barrister of Victoria and New South Wales, Australia respectively in 1986 and 1989.

In February 2003, he was appointed by the Chief Executive of HKSAR as the full-time Chairperson of the Guardianship Board of HKSAR, a position he held until January 2021. During his tenure, he chaired a total of 7,318 guardianship hearings. In addition to his numerous local and international presentations on issues of mental incapacity, he is the author of two books, "Enigma of Guardianship" published in April 2019 and "Mental Capacity and Related Issues" in December 2020.

He is regarded locally and internationally as an expert in the following areas of the law and practice:

(1) mental capacity assessment; (2) adult guardianship; (3) medical law with regard to mental incapacity; (4) court applications of committee and related orders; (5) will; (6) enduring (continuing) powers of attorney; (7) advance directive and care planning including estate administration; (8) contested family conflict cases over will/testamentary capacity and estate administration; (9) abuse of older people (including financial abuse). He was a Notary Public, a panel arbitrator and mediator of Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre and Fellow of Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. He was the Chairman of Haven of Hope Hospital and the Board Chairman of Haven of Hope Christian Service of Hong Kong. He was also member of Hospital Authority's sub-committees.

Abstract

To cope with older people/dementia care concerns in face of ageing tsunami, advance legal instruments and supervisory statutory systems have been built worldwide. Introduction will be led on local legal development of adult guardianship, roles of High Court, advance medical directives, systems enabling ageing in place, enduring and continuing powers of attorney and private special needs trust. Regarding adult guardianship, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities advocated a transition from Best Interests/Substituted Decision model to Supported Decision Making Model. A reference to international legal developments of Republic of Ireland, England & Wales, Singapore, and New South Wales of Australia will be led. As to enduring powers of attorney system, development of England and Wales, Singapore and Australian states of New South Wales and Australian Capital Territories will be compared with HKSAR.

Themed Session

Tailored Care Services Across Different Stages of Dementia and Empowering Persons with Dementia and their Care Partners



Mr. Jason FOO

Chief Executive Officer, Dementia Singapore Ltd.

Biography

Mr. Jason Foo is the Chief Executive Officer of Dementia Singapore Ltd. (previously known as Alzheimer's Disease Association), a social service agency set up in 1990 as a result of the growing concern for the dementia prevalence affecting Singapore. With a vision of building a dementia inclusive society in Singapore, Dementia Singapore provides a whole host of programmes and services to tackle the challenges of dementia and to support people with dementia and their families.

Jason had served on the Board of Alzheimer's Disease Association as a volunteer for 22 years before taking on the role of Chief Executive Officer in 2012. He is a Chartered Accountant by training with more than 25 years of experience in senior positions in the banking and financial industry before making the career switch to the social services sector.

Abstract

Dementia Singapore offers a comprehensive array of programmes and services designed to cater to people at different stages of dementia (very early stage to palliative care) based on their needs. Recognising that dementia is a progressive condition, these activities are thoughtfully crafted to enhance the quality of life, promote mental and physical well-being, and encourage social engagement among those affected.

As dementia progresses to its later stages, Dementia Singapore continues to provide care through a compassionate person-centred approach. Activities such as sensory, reminiscence, and touch-based interactions are used to connect with individuals through their remaining senses, focusing on what they are still able to do and not what they are no longer able to do. These initiatives focus on providing comfort, reducing agitation, and promoting relaxation for those who may have lost the ability to engage in more complex activities. Even in the later stages, the organisation strives to create an environment that is nurturing, compassionate, and respectful of the dignity of every individual.

Dementia Singapore also offers a 10-week empowering programme called Voices For Hope (VFH) which aims to empower persons with dementia and their care partners with positive attitude to accept their condition with focus on active interventions; and to understand the importance of advocacy by equipping them with the confidence to share their stories publicly. The graduates from VFH join an Alumni Network to continue this self-advocacy journey through organising activities, volunteering for public talks, symposiums and attending conferences. The goal is to change society attitudes and reduce the stigma of dementia.

Themed Session

Discovering Blood Biomarkers for Early Detection of Alzheimer's Disease and Amyloid Pathology Indication



Prof. Amy FU

Research Professor, Division of Life Science, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Associate Director, State Key Laboratory of Molecular Neuroscience, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Director, HKUST-Shanghai Sixth People's Hospital Joint Research Center for Brain Science R&D Director, Hong Kong Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases

Biography

Prof. Amy Kit-Yu Fu is a Research Professor in the Division of Life Science and Associate Director of State Key Laboratory of Molecular Neuroscience, Daniel and Mayce Yu Molecular Neuroscience Center, Center for Stem Cell Research, HKUST-SIAT joint Lab for Brain Science, Brain and Intelligence Research Institute, as well as, Director of HKUST-Shanghai Sixth People's Hospital Joint Research Center for Brain Science, at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. She also serves as the R&D Director of the Hong Kong Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases, an InnoHK Center.

Her research primarily focuses on understanding the mechanisms of Alzheimer's disease (AD) and developing therapeutic strategies. Prof. Fu has a notable publication record, with over 120 scientific papers in high-impact, peer-reviewed journals. Her significant contributions to the field include discovering the roles of cell-surface receptors in impaired synaptic functions and plasticity in AD, as well as understanding the mechanisms of microglia that underlie the impaired clearance of amyloid-beta in AD. Particularly, she has demonstrated the beneficial action of a cytokine, interleukin-33, and its receptor, ST2, in alleviating amyloid-beta pathology, and has elucidated their roles in regulating microglial state and function. These research findings provide crucial insights into the development of AD therapeutic strategies.

Prof. Fu has recently expanded her research focus to human studies, encompassing genomic, proteomic, and endophenotype analyses of AD. Her work in identifying novel biomarkers of AD has helped fill a key knowledge gap in this field. Additionally, she possesses extensive research experience in AD drug discovery.

Abstract

Alzheimer's disease (AD), the most common form of dementia, is marked by the accumulation of extracellular amyloid-beta (A β) plaques and neurofibrillary tangles. Recent developments in anti-amyloid drugs are promising for individuals with early-stage AD and mild cognitive impairment (MCI) individuals, who have evidence of brain A β pathology. This underscores the necessity for simple, accurate, and minimally invasive diagnostic methods, such as a blood test, to detect early AD and MCI. Accordingly, we conducted the first comprehensive screening of blood protein biomarkers for AD and established a set of biomarkers reflecting various biological pathways related to the disease. We then integrated these AD blood protein biomarkers into an assay chip to form a multiprotein diagnostic test for AD. This blood-based test accurately identifies MCI and early-stage AD in individuals of both Chinese and European descent and can detect A β pathology in the brains. The development of this blood test for AD and MCI holds considerable potential for advancing AD monitoring and management, enhancing subsequent care, and improving treatment assessments. Furthermore, it allows regular monitoring of A β changes in the brain, enabling the assessment of drug efficacy and optimisation of therapeutic strategies. Compared to existing pathological biomarkers for the disease, this test provides a comprehensive analysis of multiple biological pathways associated with AD. In summary, this blood-based biomarker test is a valuable resource for early detection, classification, and staging of AD, and it supports drug response evaluations in clinical settings.

Themed Session

How Jockey Club “Brain Health” Dementia Screening and Community Support Project Will Bring Dementia Innovation Readiness To Next Chapter



Prof. Timothy Chi-Yui KWOK

S.H. Ho Professor of Geriatric Medicine, Professor, Department of Medicine & Therapeutics and School of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Director, Jockey Club Centre of Positive Ageing

Biography

Prof. Timothy Kwok, a specialist in geriatric medicine, trained in the UK and later earned his doctorate. He is a Professor at The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and an honorary consultant geriatrician at Hospital Authority, also serving as Director of Hong Kong Jockey Club Centre for Osteoporosis Care and Control and Deputy Director of the CUHK Jockey Club Institute of Ageing.

Since 2004, Prof. Kwok has led Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing, establishing it as a leading dementia care centre based on person-centred care. He plays a vital role in dementia research, training, and raising public awareness to make Hong Kong dementia-friendly.

With over 200 research papers, his work focuses on dementia prevention, frailty in older adults, bone fracture risk, restraints reduction, and patient autonomy. His 2019 book, *Growing Old Gracefully*, explores dementia-friendly hospitals and active ageing strategies.

His research covers medical education, cognitive neuroscience, neurology, palliative care, and long-term care.

Abstract

The Jockey Club Brain Health Dementia Screening and Community Support Project focuses on dementia prevention through early screening, diagnosis, and care for seniors aged 60 and above at risk of Mild Cognitive Impairment and early dementia. Funded by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, this four-year initiative (2023–2027) collaborates with multiple organisations, including the Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing, NGOs, GPs, medical groups, diagnostic centers, and pharmacies, with evaluation by The Chinese University of Hong Kong’s Faculty of Medicine.

The project trains primary healthcare GPs to facilitate early diagnoses, provides peri-diagnostic support, and offers medical and psychosocial interventions for individuals with dementia and their care partners. Addressing long public hospital waiting times and fragmented care, it employs a comprehensive model integrating early intervention, family support, and community engagement to enhance dementia care in Hong Kong.

The initiative aims to screen 24,000 seniors, with assessments for 7,200 participants, backed by a dementia registry for research and policy development. Over 100 medical doctors have received geriatric consultant training to strengthen primary dementia care. Capacity building and governance standards will be established.

Through ongoing evaluation and collaboration with stakeholders, the project fosters positive ageing, advances dementia care, and improves well-being for individuals and families.

Themed Session

Advancing Dementia Readiness: Public and Workforce Strategies for Dementia-friendly Communities in Macao



Prof. Florence Iat-Kio VAN

President & Professor, Kiang Wu Nursing College of Macau

Biography

Prof. Florence Van, President of Kiang Wu Nursing College of Macau, was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy in Education by The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Registered nurse in Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR) Government. Her major teaching subjects are healthcare ethics and law and the changing health care context. Her primary research interests are in the areas of nursing education and nursing development. Prof. Van currently serves as a member of the advisory committee of Nursing Higher Education in Guangdong Province, as an advisor for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Specialist Nursing Alliance, as the chief advisor for the Zhuhai Nursing Association, and as a member of the Nursing Specialties Committee and the Education Committee of the Macau SAR Government. She is also the Vice-President of the Nurses Association of Macau, the Nursing Education Association of Macao, the Macau Alzheimer’s Disease Association, the Macao Carers Association and the Chinese Educators’ Association of Macau, among others.

Abstract

As dementia prevalence continues to rise globally, building dementia-friendly communities requires both public engagement and a well-trained workforce. Over the past decade, Kiang Wu Nursing College of Macau (KWNC) and Macau Alzheimer’s Disease Association (MADA) have actively pursued this goal. This abstract explores how advocacy, education, and professional training can drive dementia readiness, fostering inclusive environments for individuals living with dementia.

Advocacy efforts have focused on urging the government to prioritise dementia as a public health issue. Earlier in this century, professors from KWNC led to the establishment of MADA in 2010, which became a full member of Alzheimer’s Disease International (ADI) in 2013. MADA, together with other NGOs, worked diligently to advocate for dementia to be recognised as a public health priority. Additionally, KWNC launched “Benevolence Lights up My Later Life” - a systematic educational programme designed to deal with an ageing society in 2011. Through large-scale public education campaigns, over 10,000 individuals have participated in dementia awareness programmes, leading to greater community understanding. Simultaneously, accredited training programmes (e.g. Programme in Dementia Care Organiser) by Alzheimer’s Disease International have been developed to equip healthcare professionals and social service providers with essential dementia care skills. These programmes emphasise interdisciplinary collaboration and hands-on learning, ensuring sustainable improvements in dementia care services.

This presentation will highlight successful approaches to public engagement, workforce development, and dementia care education. By strengthening both public and professional competencies, we can build a society that is not only prepared for the challenges of dementia but also actively supports those affected by it.

Themed Session

Strategy of Dementia Care Policies in Hong Kong - Lessons from TIP-CARD



Dr. Gloria WONG

Associate Professor,
University of Reading, UK

Biography

Dr. Wong's research aims to apply knowledge in Psychology, Psychiatry and Social Work to improve wellbeing of people with mental health conditions. Her previous government consultancy has facilitated the routine provision of the Dementia Community Support Scheme, improving access to care and intervention for 2,000 families living with dementia every year. Since 2016, she has been leading as Co-Principal Investigator the JC JoyAge project, a collaborative stepped-care model tailored for the Hong Kong service systems, providing preventive care for thousands of older people at risk of depression. In 2024, Dr. Wong was awarded Rosie Young 90 Medal for Outstanding Young Woman Scholar for her societal impact. She has been awarded as Principal Investigator/Coordinator and Co-Principal Investigator a total amount of over HK\$3.22 billion. Her research has resulted in over 140 publications. Her latest book title is "Casebook of Dementia: A Reference Guide for Primary Care" by Cambridge University Press. Dr. Wong is currently an Executive Board member of Hong Kong Alzheimer's Disease Association and Director of Training for Cognitive Stimulation Therapy-Hong Kong, supporting professional training and public education in Chinese communities.

Abstract

With the world's greatest number of people with dementia, Chinese communities need evidence-informed policies for dementia care guided by the needs and expectations of stakeholders. TIP-CARD (Tools to Inform Policy: Chinese communities' Action in Response to Dementia) aimed to build capacity and support policy solution development for Hong Kong and other Chinese communities. Based on situation and SWOT analyses using the World Health Organization Global Action Plan framework, we have identified areas of strengths (awareness and friendliness, support for carers, risk reduction) and improvement (recognising dementia as a public health priority, diagnostic service and post-diagnostic support, information systems). Building on consensus from a Delphi study (n=190), stakeholders identified policy goals using Theory-of-Change, namely: Hong Kong (1) becomes dementia-friendly where families with dementia live with dignity, meaning, and good quality of life; and (2) has stabilised dementia prevalence through prevention. Proposed interventions cover five aspects: families living with dementia, social and health care, housing and environment, public and community, and policy and philanthropy. Information needed for planning interventions includes health and care records, dementia costs, intervention effectiveness in Chinese, and local epidemiological data. Data from 750 dyads suggest dementia care cost was HK\$60.9 billion in 2021 (70% of which informal care). A network meta-analysis of >500 interventional studies in Chinese populations suggested the availability of multiple effective pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions. These information tools provided a basis for modelling/projection and action planning. Local and international partnerships formed in the co-production process can serve as platforms for continued policy development and exchange.

Themed Session

Dementia Innovation Readiness IV - Community Support



Prof. Ping-Keung YIP

Distinguished Professor of Neurology,
School of Medicine, Fu Jen Catholic University
(February 2025 onwards)
Dean, School of Medicine,
Fu Jen Catholic University (February 2019-January 2025)
Consultant Neurologist, Neurological Center,
Cardinal Tien Hospital;
Fu-Jen Catholic University Hospital

Biography

Prof. Ping-Keung Yip currently serves as a Distinguished Professor of Neurology at the same institution (February 2025 onwards) and has been appointed as the Dean of the School of Medicine at Fu Jen Catholic University (February 2019-January 2025). He is also a Consultant Neurologist at the Neurological Center, Cardinal Tien Hospital, and Fu-Jen Catholic University Hospital, as well as an Adjunct Professor of Neurology at National Taiwan University.

Prof. Yip has a rich background in education and clinical services, having served as the Convener of Medical Education at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Ministry of Science and Technology, Chairman of the School of Medicine at Fu-Jen Catholic University, and Director of the Neurological Center at Cardinal Tien Hospital (August 2007-July 2009). He has also held significant positions at National Taiwan University Hospital, including Director of the Stroke Center and Chairman of the Department of Neurology.

In the field of dementia care, Prof. Yip is a founding member and board member of the Taiwan Catholic Foundation of Alzheimer's Disease & Related Dementia (1998) and the Taiwan Association (2002). He has also served as a board director of the Catholic Sanipax Socio-Medical Service & Education Foundation (2012-2021) and co-founded the Younger Onset Dementia Group (2009-2025).

His major research areas include medical education, service learning, cognitive neuroscience, clinical neurology, palliative care, and long-term care.

Abstract

Since most dementia cases receive home-based care, particularly in the early stages, a well-structured and appropriate community care model is essential for holistic dementia care and precision treatment. Non-pharmacological interventions play a crucial role in evidence-based medicine.

This report shares Taiwan's experience, focusing on the Dementia Prevention and Care Policy Guideline and Action Plan 2.0 by the Ministry of Health and Welfare, as well as innovative community care models under Long-term Care 2.0 (LTC 2.0). The policy aims to (1) enhance dementia care services, (2) expand dementia care resources, (3) strengthen community case management, and (4) promote dementia-friendly communities. A key aspect of Taiwan's model is the development of Dementia Shared Care Centres and Community Service Stations, these centres and stations are linked with different forms of home care service which provide valuable insights.

Dementia Shared Care Centres are primarily hospital-based, focus on (1) assisting care partners in different stages of dementia care, (2) providing guidance, information, and referral services to family care partners, (3) linking medical resources for dementia care, and (4) promoting dementia health literacy to create a safe and supportive environment.

Community Service Stations offer cognitive training, communal meals, and social engagement for individuals with suspected or mild dementia, similar to neighbourhood-based long-term care stations. Additionally, they provide support groups and care partner training programmes to enhance knowledge and skills of supporting people with dementia. They are mainly serving participants with very mild to mild dementia. Special unit equipped with trained professionals for caring participants having distressed behaviours are also set up.



Prof. Timothy Chi-Yui KWOK (Chairman)

S.H. Ho Professor of Geriatric Medicine
Professor, Department of Medicine & Therapeutics
and School of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, The
Chinese University of Hong Kong
Director, Jockey Club Centre of Positive Ageing

Biography

Prof. Timothy Kwok has rich experience in geriatric medicine field, he graduated from University of Leicester, UK and received specialist training in Geriatric and Internal Medicine in St George's Hospital in London before returning to Hong Kong. He obtained his doctorate in Medicine from the University of Leicester, UK in 2004. Prof. Kwok is a Professor of the Department of Medicine & Therapeutics, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and honorary consultant geriatrician of Hospital Authority. Besides, he is the Director of Jockey Club Centre for Osteoporosis Care and Control and Deputy Director of CUHK Jockey Club Institute of Ageing.

Prof. Kwok is the Director of Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing (JCCPA) since 2004. He established JCCPA into a comprehensive care centre in dementia based on the person-centred care, which has played a leading role in dementia service, training and research in Hong Kong. In recent years, Prof. Kwok is dedicated to enhance public awareness of dementia to develop Hong Kong into a dementia-friendly city.

Prof. Kwok has published over 200 research papers on the international journals through evidence-based research. Research topics currently underway include: the preventive strategies of dementia, bone fracture risk prediction, the frailty of older adults, restraints reduction and patient autonomy act, etc. Besides, the book "Growing Old Gracefully", which was dictated by Prof. Kwok, was published in 2019 and he has shared his experience and views on how to establish a dementia-friendly hospital and holistic strategies for active ageing.

His major research areas include medical education, service learning, cognitive neuroscience, clinical neurology, palliative care, and long-term care.



Prof. Dawn BROOKER

Professor Emeritus in Dementia Studies,
University of Worcester, UK

Biography

Prof. Emeritus Dawn Brooker PhD MBE (UK) is internationally recognised for scholarship in practice development of person-centred dementia care and has long established working relationships with practitioners and scholars worldwide. Originally qualified as a clinical psychologist, Prof. Brooker has many years' hands on experience in health and social care. She was the founding Director of the Association for Dementia Studies at University of Worcester. Dawn is passionate about writing books and developing resources that reflect the complexity of dementia care but that make these accessible for the widest possible audience. Whilst at Worcester she developed the Care fit for VIPS free website <https://carefitforvips.co.uk/> based on her 2016 book on Person Centred Dementia Care. In 2019, she edited an updated edition of Tom Kitwood's seminal work on person-centred dementia care. Together with Dr. Keith Oliver, Prof. Brooker is the Reconsidering Dementia Book Series editor for Open University Press. She was made an MBE for services to those affected by dementia in the Queen's New Year's Honours in 2021.



Prof. Helen Yue-Lai CHAN

Professor, The Nethersole School of Nursing,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Professor (By Courtesy),
CUHK Centre for Bioethics,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Biography

Prof. Helen Chan's research interests focus on aged care and long-term care. She was a pioneer in the healthcare field, studying the acceptance and effects of advance care planning (ACP) in the Chinese population. She has developed a culturally sensitive ACP intervention and tested it among various patient groups, including dementia, cancer and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. She has also co-designed various educational materials with stakeholders to raise awareness and build capacity related to ACP in health and social care disciplines. These works have been adopted in diverse care settings and contributed to service and policy development at the regional and international levels. She was inducted as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing in 2021 and awarded the International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame by Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing in 2024 and other awards in recognition of her research capability and contribution to the society. Currently, she is an Editor for Journal of Clinical Nursing and an editorial member for Journal of Nursing Ethics. She also serves as an honorary advisor of elderly services for various non-government organisations, including Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation, Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association, Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing and Jockey Club Cadenza Hub, and a Council Member of Hong Kong Association of Gerontology.



Prof. Wai-Chi CHAN

Clinical Professor, Department of Psychiatry,
The University of Hong Kong

Biography

Prof. Chan is a clinical professor at The University of Hong Kong (HKU) Department of Psychiatry. He is also the chief of service at Queen Mary Hospital, leading the psychiatric service in the Hong Kong West Cluster, and is the chair of specialty of Mental Health Services at the Gleneagles Hospital Hong Kong.

In 2016, Prof. Chan was elected to Fellowship of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, and in 2017, he was awarded an honorary membership of the World Psychiatric Association. Prof. Chan has been a council member of the Asian Society Against Dementia since 2017. In addition, he is a fellow of the Sau Po Centre on Ageing, a member of HKU Alzheimer's Disease Research Network, and an associate member of the State Key Laboratory of Brain & Cognitive Sciences, HKU.

His research focuses on longitudinal follow-up of older persons to identify the predictors of neurocognitive disorders, prevalence and interventions of behavioural and psychological symptoms associated with neurocognitive disorders, impact of supporting people with dementia and intervention, interventions for late-life depression, and psychiatric epidemiology.



Dr. Kenny Chi-Man CHUI

Deputy General Manager,
Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing
Co-director, Advanced Diploma Programme in
Dementia Care of the Faculty of Medicine,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Biography

Dr. Kenny Chui, a distinguished dementia care specialist, boasts an impressive academic background, having received three Master's degrees and culminating in his Doctor of Philosophy in Social Welfare focused on personhood dementia care from The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2019.

With over 20 years of experience, Dr. Chui has dedicated his career to addressing the needs of individuals with dementia and their families. His expertise spans various domains, from direct dementia services to academic research, consultative training, public education, project management, and advocacy. Dr. Chui's groundbreaking initiative, "DemenTitude® – the 16 principles of proper caring attitude in dementia", is a testament to his commitment to enhancing dementia education and fostering compassionate care practices.

Currently serving as the Deputy General Manager of Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing and the Co-director of the Advanced Diploma Programme in Dementia Care at the Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Dr. Chui contributes his efforts to enhance dementia services in Hong Kong. His partnership with the Dementia Services Development Centre of the University of Stirling led to the successful launch of a three-year Best Practice in Dementia Care Programme, aimed at bolstering staff capabilities in Chinese communities.

In 2019, Dr. Chui's exceptional work in the field of social work was acknowledged when he was named the 28th Outstanding Social Worker in Hong Kong. He was also appointed as an Honorary Lecturer at the University of Stirling and as an International Advisor of Dementia Alliance International. He was appointed as an expert panel member of the Hong Kong Guardianship Board in 2023.



Prof. Kenneth FONG

Professor, Department of Rehabilitation Sciences,
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Director, Research Centre for Assistive Technology,
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Biography

Prof. Kenneth Fong is Professor and Associate Head (Research, Innovation, and Knowledge Transfer), Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, and Director of the Research Centre for Assistive Technology, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU). He is also the management committee member of the Research Institute in AIoT, and management committee member of the University Research Facility in Behavioral and Systems Neuroscience (UBSN). He is now the Editor-in-Chief of Hong Kong Journal of Occupational Therapy. He received the Department Outstanding Teaching Award in 2011, the Department Outstanding Team Teaching Award in 2018, and the Faculty Team Teaching Award of the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences in 2010 and 2019 respectively. His undergraduate and postgraduate students have received numerous awards in both local and international competitions. Recently he received the 2024 best paper award from the UBSN of PolyU, and is awarded the 2024 World's Top 2% Scientists (Rehabilitation) by the Stanford University.



Ms. Florence Kwai-Ying HO

General Manager,
Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing
and Jockey Club Cadenza Hub

Biography

Ms. Florence Ho has been serving in dementia-care sector for over 20 years. She is the General Manager of Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing. Ms. Ho leads the professional team to provide quality care services, as well as expands and develops diversified, innovative and pilot projects to support the people with dementia. The projects include “The Jockey Club Discharge Support and Rehabilitation Programme” which aims to help people with dementia to rehabilitate and adapt to home life after hospitalisation, “The Jockey Club Post-diagnostic Support in Dementia Care Programme” which aims to provide support for people with mild cognitive impairment, mild dementia, and their care partners, “The Jockey Club Caring Community for Dementia Campaign” which aims to rally the general public and make use of technology to find people with dementia who have gotten lost, and the film “A Pair” to promote restraint free care services. Dementia affects not only the people living with it but also their entire family. Ms. Ho, therefore, actively develops various services to support care partners and promote dementia-friendly community, aiming to holistically take care of the welfare of the people with dementia. Her wish is to create dementia-friendly environment in Hong Kong to promote independent living in the community and also, to get rid of the restrainers which are heavily imposed on the persons with dementia in the age care facilities in Hong Kong.

In order to cope with the increasing number of people with dementia due to the growing ageing population, Ms. Ho actively explores and promotes local staff training, and introduces professional training courses from UK and other countries to the local staff, hoping to improve the overall quality of dementia-care services in Hong Kong.

Ms. Ho also serves as the General Manager of Jockey Club Cadenza Hub which focuses on health management of the middle aged to the elderly. The Hub aims to enhance the public awareness towards health and encourage the public to build healthy living styles as early as possible so as to better prepare for the healthy ageing.



Prof. Rainbow HO

Professor, Department of Social Work & Social
Administration, The University of Hong Kong
Director, Centre on Behavioral Health,
The University of Hong Kong

Biography

Prof. Rainbow Ho is a Professor at the Department of Social Work & Social Administration, and Director of the Centre on Behavioral Health at The University of Hong Kong. She has background in performing arts, biomedical sciences, and social sciences. Prof. Ho has extensive research and clinical experiences in holistic wellness and expressive arts therapies, as well as in the fields of arts, humanities, biomedical, and social sciences. She has been the principal investigator of many major research projects related to mind-body practices e.g., mindfulness, yoga, qigong and taichi, and arts-based interventions for healthy and clinical populations across the life span.

Prof. Ho has published more than 200 academic papers, book chapters, and encyclopaedias related to behavioural health, integrative health practices, mind-body medicine, and arts-based therapies. She is also a highly sought-after keynote speaker at major international conferences related to psychotherapy, creative arts therapy, behavioural health, and holistic medicine.

Prof. Ho's work has been recognised as cutting-edge and highly original. She has received the research awards from the American Dance Therapy Association (2015 & 2019), the Outstanding Achievement Award and Research Award from the American Dance Therapy Association (2015), and the Research and Development Award from the Australia and New Zealand Arts Therapy Association (2016); she also received 2015 Social Sciences Outstanding Teaching Award, 2020 Outstanding Research Output Award, 2021 Knowledge Exchange Award and 2022 Outstanding Research Student Supervisor Award from The University of Hong Kong. Prof. Ho is currently the steering committee member and affiliate researcher of the World Health Organization Jameel Arts and Health lab, and also the core member of the International Research Alliance of Creative Arts Therapies, and Neurosciences Meets Dance in Therapy Network.



Prof. Dexia KONG

Assistant Professor,
Department of Social Work,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Biography

Prof. Kong is presently an Assistant Professor at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. She utilises both qualitative and quantitative methodologies to investigate the intersections of sociocultural characteristics, family support, and health among older adults and their family care partners globally, including the United States, mainland China, and Hong Kong. Alongside cross-national comparative research, another focus of her work is to support older adults and their family care partners in managing dementia, effectively adapting to the condition, and thereby enhancing the well-being of both individuals living with dementia and their care partners. Ultimately, the goal of her work is to create culturally appropriate dyadic interventions for older adults and their care partners afflicted with chronic illnesses in Chinese societies, including dementia and cancer.



Dr. Allen Ting-Chun LEE

Associate Professor (Clinical),
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
President, Chinese Dementia Research Association
Council Member, Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists

Biography

Dr. Allen Lee is a tenured Associate Professor (Clinical) in the Department of Psychiatry at The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). Driven by a strong commitment to moderating dementia incidence in our ageing society, Dr. Lee is dedicated to finding novel strategies to help older adults lower their dementia risk.

Among his major research achievements is a large-scale, territory-wide, population-based epidemiological study conducted alongside Prof. Linda Lam from CUHK and the Department of Health of the Government of Hong Kong. This study followed over 18,000 local older adults for more than 15 years, identifying previously unrecognised risk and protective factors for dementia and providing deeper insights into how these factors can be modified for dementia prevention. His work underscored the importance of intellectual activities in slowing cognitive decline, elucidated the relationship between depression and dementia, and identified visual impairment as a major risk factor for dementia.

His publications in high-impact international journals such as JAMA Psychiatry, The Lancet's eBioMedicine, and Age and Ageing have established him as a leading expert in dementia prevention. His work has attracted widespread attention from local, national, and international media, including TIME magazine and Consumer Reports. His research has been featured in JAMA Network Learning, NEJM Journal Watch, and cited in the Lancet Commission Report on Dementia Prevention in 2020 and 2024. He has also contributed to the World Alzheimer Report 2022 and authored five book chapters on dementia management.

In his professional roles, Dr. Lee serves as a Consultant at the CUHK Medical Centre, President of the Chinese Dementia Research Association, and a Council Member of the Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists. He was awarded the Distinguished Young Fellow by the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine in 2017 and received the highest postgraduate research degree, Doctor of Medicine (MD), from CUHK in 2022.



Dr. Jenny Shun-Wah LEE

Consultant Geriatrician, Department of Medicine,
Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole and Tai Po Hospitals
Honorary Clinical Associate Professor,
Department of Medicine,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Member of Advisory Board,
Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing and
Jockey Club Cadenza Hub

Biography

Dr. Jenny Lee graduated from The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and is a Consultant Geriatrician and the head of Geriatrics in the Department of Medicine in Tai Po Hospital and Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospitals. She is the immediate past President of the Hong Kong Geriatrics Society and the Chinese Dementia Research Association.

Dr. Lee obtained her Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree in CUHK under Prof. Jean Woo. She collaborates closely with CUHK Jockey Club Institute of Ageing in projects focusing on geriatric medicine and clinical services. She is active in research and has numerous publications in old age epidemiology, frailty, health services research, dementia, end of life care and nutrition.



Prof. Vivian Weiqun LOU

Professor, Department of Social Work and Social
Administration, The University of Hong Kong
Director, Sau Po Centre on Ageing,
The University of Hong Kong

Biography

Prof. Lou Vivian W. Q. is the Director of Sau Po Centre on Ageing, and Professor at Department of Social Work & Social Administration at The University of Hong Kong. Her research interests focus on family gerontology, in particular family support for dementia, stroke, end-of-life older adults, and social adaptation and mental health of Chinese older adults and family care partners. She has committed to cross-sector collaboration with community partners, social enterprises, and the market. Prof. Lou was appointed as a member of Elderly Commission and Statistics Advisory Board. She is now a member Community Investment and Inclusion Fund, Senior Police Call Central Advisory Board, and Elderly Academy Development Foundation of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government. She is a fellow of the Gerontological Society of America, and a Council member of Hong Kong Association of Gerontology and Consortium of Institutes of Family Limited. Prof. Lou is recognised as Healthy Ageing 50 leaders transforming the world to be a better place in which to grow older in 2022, Woman Change Maker in STEM in 2023, Ageing Asia Global Ageing Influencer 2024, Golden Age Foundation Smart Ageing Champion – Academia in 2024.



Prof. Marco Yiu-Chung PANG

Chair Professor and Head,
Department of Rehabilitation Sciences,
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Director, University Research Facility in Behavioral
and Systems Neuroscience,
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Biography

Prof. Marco Pang is Head of Department of Rehabilitation Sciences and Director of University Research Facility in Behavioral and Systems Neuroscience (UBSN). He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Therapy (Distinction) and his Doctor of Philosophy degree in Neuroscience from the University of Alberta, Canada. His research primarily focuses on stroke rehabilitation and has produced a wealth of publications in highly rated journals.

Prof. Pang's excellence in research work is internationally recognised. He was ranked among the world's top 1% most-cited scientists in the field of "Rehabilitation" for two years in a row since 2022, according to a study by a group of scholars in the Stanford University. In 2023, he was granted the World Physiotherapy International Service Award for Research, a highly regarded honour that is awarded only once every four years. Prof. Pang is the first physiotherapist from Hong Kong in history to receive this award. Being a popular speaker, Prof. Pang has been invited to deliver more than 150 lectures and workshops around the world.

Prof. Pang is a leading figure in the field of physiotherapy, both locally and globally. He was elected as the President of the Hong Kong Physiotherapy Association four times since 2017. Prof. Pang is the first physiotherapist from Hong Kong to hold the prestigious position as an Executive Board Member of World Physiotherapy in 2017-2019. He is currently the elected Chair of the World Physiotherapy Asia Western Pacific Region of World Physiotherapy.



Dr. Gloria WONG

Associate Professor, University of Reading, UK

Biography

Dr. Wong's research aims to apply knowledge in Psychology, Psychiatry and Social Work to improve wellbeing of people with mental health conditions. Her previous government consultancy has facilitated the routine provision of the Dementia Community Support Scheme, improving access to care and intervention for 2,000 families living with dementia every year.

Since 2016, she has been leading as Co-Principal Investigator the JC JoyAge project, a collaborative stepped-care model tailored for the Hong Kong service systems, providing preventive care for thousands of older people at risk of depression. In 2024, Dr. Wong was awarded Rosie Young 90 Medal for Outstanding Young Woman Scholar for her societal impact. She has been awarded as Principal Investigator/Coordinator and Co-Principal Investigator a total amount of over HK\$3.22 billion. Her research has resulted in over 140 publications. Her latest title is "Casebook of Dementia: A Reference Guide for Primary Care" by Cambridge University Press. Dr. Wong is currently an Executive Board member of Hong Kong Alzheimer's Disease Association and Director of Training for Cognitive Stimulation Therapy-Hong Kong, supporting professional training and public education in Chinese communities.



Prof. Jean WOO

Emeritus Professor,
Department of Medicine & Therapeutics,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Director, CUHK Jockey Club Institute of Ageing,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Co-Director, CUHK Institute of Health Equity,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Biography

Prof. Jean Woo graduated from the University of Cambridge in 1974. After medical posts in the Charing Cross, Hammersmith, and Brompton Hospitals in the UK, she worked in part time posts in general practice as well as research at The University of Hong Kong.

Prof. Woo joined the Department of Medicine at The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) in 1985 as Lecturer responsible for the development of the teaching and service in Geriatric Medicine, becoming Head of the Department in 1993 until 1999, Chief of Service of the Medicine and Geriatric Unit at Shatin Hospital from 1993 to 2012, and Chair Professor of Medicine in 1994. From 2000 to 2006 she was Head of the Department of Community and Family Medicine, from 2001 to 2005 Director of the newly established School of Public Health, and from August 2013 to July 2016 Chairman of the Department of Medicine & Therapeutics. She established the Centre for Nutritional Studies in 1997 using a self-financing model to carry out service, education and research; and the Centre for Gerontology and Geriatrics in 1998, offering self-financed courses in Gerontology and Geriatrics, as well as End of Life Care.

Currently she is the Co-Director of CUHK Institute of Health Equity, Director of the Jockey Club Institute of Ageing at CUHK, and Honorary Consultant of the Prince of Wales and Shatin Hospitals, Hospital Authority.

Prof. Woo's research interests include chronic diseases and geriatric syndromes, health services research, nutrition epidemiology and intervention, quality of life issues at the end-of-life, with over 1,000 articles in peer-reviewed indexed journals.



Prof. Doris YU

Professor, and Chair in Research,
School of Nursing, LKS Faculty of Medicine,
University of Hong Kong
Associate Director, Sau Po Center of Aging

Biography

Prof. Doris Yu is the Chair in Research at the School of Nursing, LKS Faculty of Medicine and the Associate Director of the Sau Po Center on Aging, The University of Hong Kong. Prof. Yu is the Fellow of American Academy of Nursing and the Gerontological Society of American. With a solid research record in healthy ageing and chronic disease management model for older adults, Prof. Yu has been awarded with over US\$15 million external research fund. Her research work on ageing has published widely in high impact international referred journals in nursing, gerontology and cardiology. She is listed as World's Top 2% Most Cited Scientist by the Stanford University from 2000-2024 and is the Editor of the Journal of Advanced Nursing. Prof. Yu is very enthusiastic to promote evidence-based practice. She has actively engaged in promoting evidence-based aged care. She serves as a number of expert advisory panels of both government and non-government sectors to support priority-setting for aged care policy and service. Over the years, Prof. Yu actively engages in science implementation and has developed various territory-wide evidence-based programmes to increase the preparedness of rapid population ageing in the educational and healthcare pursuits.



Prof. Peter P. YUEN

Dean, College of Professional & Continuing Education, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Biography

Prof. Peter P. Yuen is Dean of the College of Professional and Continuing Education of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU). He is also Professor in the Department of Management and Marketing of PolyU. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Cellular and Molecular Biology and Master in Business Administration degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and his Doctor of Philosophy degree in Health Economics from the University of Birmingham. He is a founding Fellow of the Hong Kong College of Health Services Executives, and an Honorary Fellow of the Australian College of Health Services Management. Prof. Yuen's research involves public policy formulation and evaluation, and health services management. He is also the Co-Editor-in-Chief of Public Administration and Policy, an Editorial Committee member of Asia Pacific Journal of Health Management.



Prof. Yongping ZHENG

Chair Professor, Henry G. Leong Professor in Biomedical Engineering, Department of Biomedical Engineering, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Director, Research Institute for Smart Ageing
Director, Jockey Club Smart Ageing Hub

Biography

Prof. Yongping Zheng, Henry G. Leong Professor in Biomedical Engineering, is currently a Chair Professor of Department of Biomedical Engineering in The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU), and he is also the Director of Research Institute for Smart Ageing and Director of Jockey Club Smart Ageing Hub. Prof. Yongping Zheng received the Bachelor of Science degree and Master of Engineering degree in Electronics and Information Engineering from The University of Science and Technology of China. He received Doctor of Philosophy degree in Biomedical Engineering from PolyU in 1997. After a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Windsor, Canada, he joined PolyU as an Assistant Professor and was promoted to Professor in 2008 and Chair Professor in 2019, respectively. He was the Associate Director of the Research Institute of Innovative Products in PolyU from 2008 to 2010. He served as the Founding Head of Department of Biomedical Engineering during 2012-2020.

Prof. Zheng's main research interests include biomedical ultrasound and smart ageing technologies. He was rated as the top 2% citation scholar in a survey conducted by the Stanford University in 2021-2023. He has trained 20 Doctor of Philosophy and 10 Master of Philosophy graduates as Chief Supervisor. He also owned more than 60 patent families, published over 310 journal papers, and wrote two books, a number of technologies invented by his team have been successfully commercialised. His inventions have won many international and local awards, including the inaugural Bank of China Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Prize in 2022.

Prof. Zheng is a Senior Member of The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), a Fellow of Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE), past Secretary of World Association of Chinese Biomedical Engineers (2017-2019), past Chair of Biomedical Engineering Division of HKIE, and Honorary Advisors of Hong Kong Federation of Senior Citizen Industries and Hong Kong Medical and Healthcare Device Industry Association. He also serves as the President of Guangdong Hong Kong Macau Chapter of the International Society of Gerontechnology.



Ms. Bel Pui-Sze WONG (Secretary)

Research Manager,
Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing

Biography

Ms. Bel Wong is an experienced researcher working on dementia research. She joined the Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing (JCCPA) since 2012 and currently holds the position of Research Manager. Ms. Wong completed her Master's degree in Social Sciences (Counselling) and her Bachelor's degree in Arts at The University of Hong Kong.

Ms. Wong's research interests are transitional care model for people with dementia, post-diagnostic support for people with dementia, restraint reduction in dementia contexts, and best practices in dementia care for formal and informal care partners. She is passionate about improving the quality of dementia care in Hong Kong by developing evidence-based dementia care and care partners training models.

Ms. Wong's research studies have been published in various peer-reviewed journals, and she has presented her works as oral and poster presentations at international conferences such as the International Psychogeriatric Association Congress and Global Conference of Alzheimer's Disease International. Ms. Wong is also involved in lecturing in the Advanced Diploma Programme in Dementia Care, which is organised by the Department of Medicine and Therapeutics, Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong and co-organised by JCCPA.



Ms. Clare Tsz-Kiu YU (Secretary)

PhD Candidate, University College London,
Division of Psychiatry
Post-Graduate Teaching Assistant,
University College London,
Division of Psychiatry

Biography

Ms. Yu is a PhD candidate in the Division of Psychiatry at University College London (UCL), specialising in the use of technology for dementia and prevention. Her PhD research focuses on developing a cognitive training game app aimed at preventing dementia, supervised by Prof. Sergi Costafreda and Gill Livingston. In addition to her PhD work, Ms. Yu co-supervises Master of Science students at UCL on research projects related to dementia prevention. With extensive experience in ageing and dementia research since 2015, spanning universities in both Hong Kong and the UK, Ms. Yu has authored more than 16 papers published in peer-reviewed journals.

Title Forest Bathing Intervention For Improving Wellbeing Of Family Carers Of People Living With Dementia: Initial Findings On Its Acceptability, Feasibility, And Effectiveness

Jacky CHOY¹, Joan Mo King HON², Amanda Chi YIK³, Chloe Ho Ching KWONG², Kelvin Ka Wai CHAN², Maggie Sui Ling MA¹

¹ The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China

² Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association, Hong Kong, China

³ Shinrin Yoku Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Purpose

Forest bathing intervention is a developing approach targeting anxiety, depression and overall psychological wellbeing. In view of the needs of family carers of people living with dementia and the availability of public green space in Hong Kong, we adapted the forest bathing intervention for family carers and its implementation in urban areas. This study aims 1.) to assess its acceptability and feasibility, and 2.) examine its effectiveness in reducing the impact of supporting people with dementia of care partner, depressive symptoms, and anxiety symptoms.

Methods

A non-randomised controlled trial with 107 dyads of family carers and people living with dementia was conducted in the community. The experimental group (n=54) and control group (n=53) received three sessions of forest bathing intervention and art activity intervention, respectively. We collected and analysed data on attrition, satisfaction, homework adherence, and changes in primary outcomes over six weeks.

Results

The intervention protocol was highly acceptable, with 17% attrition, 89% perceiving benefits for improving wellbeing, and 75% adhering to the homework protocol. It demonstrated high feasibility as the green spaces were highly accessible at no extra cost. Compared to the control group, carers who received the forest bathing intervention showed lower impacts of supporting people with dementia, depressive symptoms, and anxiety symptoms after controlling for demographic factors.

Conclusions

The modified forest bathing intervention can serve as an evidence-based group activity in community carer support services for improving carers' psychological wellbeing. Further investigations are required to explore its active ingredients, potentially including the dyadic participation of carer and people living with dementia, as well as the homework component that promotes self-practice.

Title Caring for Older Adults with Dementia in Rural China: Lived Experiences of Family Care Partners

Lingshuang JIANG, Dexia KONG

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Purpose

China has the highest prevalence of dementia globally. Dementia is more prevalent in rural areas than in urban ones, mostly because almost two-thirds of older persons in China live in rural regions. However, no previous studies have investigated the lived experiences of care partners of individuals with dementia in rural China. This study examines the experiences of both informal and formal dementia care partners in rural China, thereby bridging the knowledge gap.

Methods

This study included in-depth interview data from 25 family care partners and focus group data from 30 healthcare providers in a rural county in southwestern China. All interviews were recorded and transcribed verbatim. The data were analysed using the conventional content analysis approach by two experienced researchers with qualitative research experience. Discrepancies in coding were resolved by consensus.

Results

The main themes emerged from interviews with family care partners encompass limited knowledge of dementia, the filial piety paradox, challenges in supporting people with dementia, dynamics within family relationships, coping strategies, and unmet needs. Formal care partners highlighted special care needs of persons with dementia, barriers to early diagnosis, challenges in care delivery, and policy and service recommendations.

Conclusions

Dementia care partners in rural China, both informal and formal, face significant challenges in providing care. The findings underscore the pressing need to provide psychoeducational intervention strategies to assist family care partners of individuals with dementia in rural or resource-constrained regions, alongside the necessity for policy development and dementia-related training for healthcare providers.

Title Non-Medical, Community-Based Mental Capacity Assessments To Facilitate Lasting Power Of Attorney Applications In Singapore

Weiting JIANG, Donald YEO

Dementia Singapore, Singapore

Abstract

Purpose

In Singapore, the rising prevalence of dementia among adults above the age of 60 reflects an increasing number of individuals with declining cognitive function and mental capacity. Social policies were therefore introduced to enable adults and their families to plan for their future care needs, such as the Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) that allows individuals to appoint others to make decisions on their behalf regarding personal welfare and financial matters, in the event of losing mental capacity. However, care partners encounter significant barriers when applying for LPA for their loved ones with early dementia, including long waiting time for mental capacity assessment (MCA) appointments at hospitals and difficulty accessing relevant services after leaving the hospital system. To address these service gaps, a pilot psychological MCA service was set up in the community to conduct MCA and facilitate the LPA application process.

Methods

Various qualitative methods were adopted to gather insights from multiple stakeholders regarding the needs and gaps related to LPA applications among persons with dementia.

Results

The findings shed light on the needs and gaps addressed by this non-medical, community-based MCA service in Singapore, how it has supported persons with dementia in applying for LPA, as well as the development of a risk triaging framework to assess the suitability of cases for this service.

Conclusions

The development of the pilot MCA service offers a promising, innovative, community-based avenue for enhancing future care planning and long-term care outcomes for persons with dementia.

Title The Effectiveness Of An Online Training And Support Programme For Family Care Partners Of People With Dementia In China: Randomised Controlled Trial

Dingxin XU¹, Jinjie HE², Jing WANG¹, Jin WANG³, Lily Dongxia XIAO⁴, Chengguo GUAN⁵, Jinsong MAO⁶

¹Xi'an Jiaotong University, China

²Xi'an University, China

³The First Affiliated Hospital of Xi'an Jiaotong University, China

⁴Flinders University, Australia

⁵The Open University of Shaanxi, China

⁶HollySys Automation Technologies, China

Abstract

Purpose

In China, over 90% of people with dementia are cared for at home. However, the support system for family care partners is underdeveloped, leading to various health issues. This study aimed to evaluate the effectiveness of the Chinese version of iSupport, an online care partner support programme developed by the World Health Organization for family care partners.

Methods

A randomised controlled trial was conducted with 81 Chinese family care partners of people with dementia, divided into an intervention group (n=41) and a control group (n=40). The health-related quality of life, was assessed at baseline (T0), immediately after the intervention (T1, 3rd month), and three months post-intervention (T2, 6th month). Social support, self-efficacy, impact of supporting people with dementia, and the quality of life, and memory and expressions of unmet need of people with dementia were also evaluated. Comparisons were made using a repeated-measures analysis of the variance model.

Results

Sixty-four care partners completed the study. The intervention group showed significant improvements in mental-related quality of life (p<0.05), self-efficacy (p<0.001), social support (p<0.001), and impact of supporting people with dementia (p<0.001) compared to the control group. The intervention also significantly improved the quality of life for people with dementia (p<0.001). No significant differences were found between groups regarding the memory and expressions of unmet need of people with dementia (p>0.05).

Conclusions

The online iSupport programme significantly improves the quality of life, self-efficacy, and social support of Chinese family care partners while reducing the impact of supporting people with dementia. The study suggests that diverse intervention content, including treatment, rehabilitation, and supporting people with dementia, alongside continuous support, can alleviate the condition of people with dementia.

Title Caring Across Cultures: Unveiling Migrant Domestic Workers' Challenges And Insights In Dementia Care In Hong Kong

Dexia KONG, Cathy XIA, Lingshuang JIANG

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Purpose

In Hong Kong, families increasingly rely on migrant domestic workers (MDWs) to care for older adults, especially those living with dementia. Although these care partners are crucial for supporting individuals with dementia, their distinct experiences and challenges remain understudied. This research aims to fill this gap by exploring the daily supporting experiences of MDWs who care for older adults with dementia in Hong Kong. The insights gained aim to inform policy improvements to better support these frontline care partners.

Methods

Face-to-face in-depth interviews were conducted with 20 MDWs who provide care for older adults with dementia in Hong Kong. All interviews were audio-recorded and transcribed verbatim for analysis. Data analysis was conducted using NVivo software by a team of three experienced qualitative researchers, with discrepancies resolved through consensus.

Results

Key themes that emerged from the interviews with MDWs include: reasons why MDWs come to work in Hong Kong, navigating family dynamics, challenges in supporting people with dementia, coping strategies, motivations for supporting people with dementia, perceptions of dementia, unmet support needs, and attitudes toward the use of CCTV surveillance.

Conclusions

The study highlights the unique experiences of MDWs caring for older adults with dementia in Hong Kong. The findings highlight the urgent need for comprehensive and specialised training programmes tailored to MDWs, as well as the establishment of support networks to aid them in their supporting roles. Additionally, the study emphasises the importance of equitable treatment for MDWs and advocates for their active inclusion in the policy formulation of supporting people with dementia.

Title Importance Of Frontotemporal Dementia, A Younger Onset Dementia Awareness From Care Partner's View

Selene KWAN

Care partner of person living with younger onset dementia, Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Purpose

Frontotemporal dementia is a rare dementia affecting individuals aged 40-65, poses challenges during pivotal life stages of career and parenting. Dementia is commonly linked with memory loss in older people, so misconceptions of Frontotemporal dementia by families, communities, and medical staff with other illnesses cause difficulty in supporting people with dementia.

Methods

This study reflects my experiences as a care partner for my husband with Frontotemporal dementia, assessed through interactions with key groups: myself, my adolescent son, extended family and friends, community members (e.g., waiters, nursing home staff, counsellors), NGO staff supporting individuals with dementia, and medical professionals (e.g., doctors, nurses, paramedics, therapists). Data were gathered via observations and conversations, focusing on participants' education, prior knowledge or experience with dementia and Frontotemporal dementia, their initial perceptions of my husband's condition, and their responses after receiving an explanation of Frontotemporal dementia. The impact of caregiving and awareness on these interactions was evaluated qualitatively based on understanding, empathy, and support offered.

Results

Only a small number of individuals, even doctors, are familiar with Frontotemporal dementia. Individuals who have cared for loved ones with dementia are more receptive to understanding Frontotemporal dementia as a younger-onset condition. People often exhibit empathy once they understand my husband's condition, highlighting the importance of the development of dementia friendliness.

Conclusions

Lack of awareness about Frontotemporal dementia creates challenges for young families. This can lead to delays in offering optimal non-medical support and psychological counselling to young care partners, affecting how children cope and spend time with a parent with Frontotemporal dementia. Additionally, this lack of awareness contributes to social isolation among individuals with Frontotemporal dementia and their families. Comprehensive campaigns are needed to educate the public and the healthcare professionals to foster dementia-friendly environments in hospitals, nursing homes, and public spaces such as restaurants.

Title Voices For Hope - Empowering Persons With Dementia And Their Care Partners

Steven LEW

Dementia Singapore, Singapore

Abstract

Purpose

Voices for Hope (VFH) is a 10-week programme designed to empower persons living with dementia and their care partners with a positive attitude and a focus on active interventions. The programme aims to foster in them the confidence to share their lived experiences publicly. The goal is to change societal attitudes, reduce the stigma surrounding dementia and improve how people living with dementia are perceived and supported.

Methods

Each weekly session is three hours in length, involving on average five pairs per cohort. The programme structure consists of five pillars: Breaking the Silence, Dementia & I, Stigma and Impact, Living Well Despite Dementia, and Advocacy & Change. Participants are encouraged to share their stories, thoughts, and experiences with the aim of helping them build confidence speaking in group settings.

Results

A total of 147 participants across 18 cohorts have graduated from the programme since its inception in 2019. Graduates are encouraged to join the VFH Alumni Network group to continue their self-advocacy journey by volunteering their time to help organise relevant activities, attend related symposiums and lend their voices to further the dementia cause. Selected members are regularly invited to speak at advocacy events. Many have been featured in the media. Members have also collaborated with community partners and public services agencies on projects that benefit the dementia community.

Conclusions

VFH aims to support the growth of dementia self-advocates and the use of their voices to raise awareness, reduce stigma and ultimately help foster a more dementia-inclusive society.

Title Psychosocial Interventions To Increase Social Participation For People With Dementia Living In The Community: A Systematic Review

Zuyu WANG, Puyu SHI, Fern RODGERS, Gill LIVINGSTON, Angela HASSIOTIS, Andrew SOMMERLAD

University College London, UK

Abstract

Purpose

People with dementia participate less socially than other populations, which is linked to lower quality of life and neuropsychiatric symptoms. Psychosocial interventions to improve social participation are needed but the efficacy of current interventions is unclear. This study aims to identify interventions which improve social participation for community-dwelling people with dementia.

Methods

We searched Medline, Embase, and PsycInfo databases for studies until 4 November 2024. We included controlled trials reporting the effects of psychological or social interventions for any aspect of social participation, including but not limited to social contact and engagement, participation in leisure activities, satisfaction with these, and loneliness. Two researchers independently screened all studies for eligibility, extracted data and assessed the quality. We registered our review on PROSPERO (CRD42023445176).

Results

From 5,913 studies retrieved in our search, 15 studies fulfilled inclusion criteria with a total of 1,964 people with dementia; These include nine (60%) full trials and six (40%) feasibility or pilot studies. Dance movement therapy, social robot intervention (both feasibility and full trial), exergaming activity, cognition training, and individually delivered computerised cognitive training showed an immediate between-group difference in increasing social participation or reducing loneliness. Only a full trial of the social robot PARO showed persistent reduced loneliness at 1-month follow-up.

Conclusions

We found promising evidence for some psychosocial interventions immediately improving social participation or reducing social isolation in people with dementia in community settings, but current studies lack robust evidence for long-term effectiveness, underscoring the need for more rigorous research.

Title Integrating Ultrasomics Of Substantia Nigra With Clinical Attributes For Auto-Assessment Of Parkinson's Disease

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² Capital Medical University, China

Abstract

Purpose

Parkinson's Disease (PD) prevalence rising globally due to ageing. Early identification of at-risk individuals is crucial. Transcranial Sonography (TCS) shows promise for population-wide screening due to its wide accessibility and high affordability, and Substantia nigra (SN) echogenicity on TCS has proven strong associations with PD. However, current assessments of SN echogenicity are manual and subjective. Therefore, we aimed to develop and compare three clinico-ultrasomic artificial intelligence models for automated PD assessment.

Methods

We retrospectively enrolled TCS images from 324 patients suspected or diagnosed with PD. Experienced physicians identified a region of interest within the SN feature extraction. Clinical data were obtained from medical records, including age, gender, somnipathy, dysphagia constipation, etc. The dataset was divided into training (70%), validation (15%), and testing (15%) cohorts. Least Absolute Shrinkage and Selection Operator was employed to select informative features. eXtreme Gradient Boosting (XGBoost), Gradient Boosting Decision Tree (GBDT) and Light Gradient Boosting Machine (LightGBM) were applied. Performance was evaluated based on Area Under Curve (AUC) and accuracy (ACC).

Results

By combining both ultrasomic and clinical features, the XGBoost classifier (AUC: 0.962, ACC: 0.918) outperformed the GBDT classifier (AUC: 0.920, ACC: 0.837) and LightGBM (AUC: 0.955, ACC: 0.878) on the testing set in distinguishing between PD and non-PD patients, highlighting XGBoost's superiority in leveraging complementary ultrasomic and clinical features.

Conclusions

The study highlights the potential of integrating TCS-based SN ultrasomic features with clinical predictors for objective and automated PD discernibility.

Title Step Counts Are Differentially Associated With Depressive And Anxiety Symptoms In Older Adults At Risk Of Dementia

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Abstract

Purpose

Given the increased likelihood of depressive and anxiety symptoms in individuals at risk for dementia (subjective cognitive decline [SCD] and mild cognitive impairment [MCI]), innovative approaches to monitor mental health are essential. Advances in wrist-worn wearable technology provide an opportunity to harness real-time, passive, and objective data. This allows us to explore the association between step count (measured from wrist-worn wearable) and depressive and anxiety symptoms in this at-risk group.

Methods

Baseline data from 629 older adults with SCD or MCI from an ongoing trial were utilised. Participants wore wrist-worn wearables for two weeks, from which an average objective step count was calculated. Depressive and anxiety symptoms were assessed using the Hospital Anxiety Depression Scale. Associations between steps, depressive and anxiety symptoms were assessed separately via linear regressions adjusted for key covariates. Sensitivity analyses examined whether associations differed by sex, clinical group (SCD vs. MCI) and symptom severity (clinical vs. non-clinical).

Results

Higher step counts were associated with fewer depressive symptoms ($\beta=-0.11$, 95% CI: -0.17 to -0.05, $p<0.001$), however, this association was no longer significant after further adjusting for mobility problems. Higher step counts were associated with more anxiety symptoms ($\beta=0.99$, 95% CI: 0.03 to 0.17, $p=0.006$), and remained after adjusting for mobility. Sensitivity analyses supported the main analyses with no group difference.

Conclusions

Steps derived from wrist-worn wearables could be explored as a proxy marker for depressive and anxiety symptoms, aiding early detection of these symptoms and intervention.

Theme | **Early Detection and Diagnosis**

Code: T11

Title AI In Online SAGE-Test: The First Results Of A New Algorithm Implementation

Ksenia SAFRONOVA, Katerina KRUGLOVA, Natalya RUSAKOVA

Nodementia.net, Russian Federation

Abstract

Purpose

To create an online SAGE screening tool for self-assessing cognitive health and enhance it through the application of artificial intelligence (AI) in order to raise awareness among Russians about dementia and the way of its prevention. It is now of vital importance as more than 1.5 million people in Russia have been diagnosed with dementia. Moreover, a nationwide survey revealed that while 55% of participants are worried about the possibility of a family member developing dementia, 43% are not taking proactive steps to mitigate the risks for older relatives.

Methods

Evaluation applications testing; new AI model creating; analysing 10,000 images and preparing algorithms to train a fundamentally new AI model; conducting pilot testing and launching the algorithm.

Results

To enhance the algorithms used for testing and improve the precision of online SAGE test outcomes, Nodementia.net incorporated advanced pattern recognition technology that leverages a self-learning artificial intelligence model focused on drawing tasks. Specialists examined a collection of 10,000 images to develop algorithms that facilitate the training of this AI model, enabling it to assess drawing tasks with an accuracy rate of 80%. This functionality has been successfully integrated into the online assessment available on the Nodementia.net platform.

Conclusions

In order to minimise the likelihood of dementia among the Russian population, Nodementia.net has developed an online SAGE assessment powered by an AI algorithm. This innovation enhances the precision of the results, enabling individuals to complete the evaluation from home and receive instant feedback on their outcomes.

Theme | **Early Detection and Diagnosis**

Code: T12

Title The Integrated Digit-In-Noise Test For Rapid Screening Of Hearing And Cognitive Function

Lena L. N. WONG, Shangqiguo WANG, June H. C. TUNG

The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Purpose

We evaluated the effectiveness of a new test for rapid screening of hearing and cognitive function. The Integrated Digit-in-Noise Test (iDIN) measures Speech Reception Thresholds (SRTs) using 2- to 5-digit, with forward or backward recall.

Methods

The study involved 345 older adults, aged 76.9 ± 8.4 years, with a better ear pure tone average (PTA) of 37.13 ± 12.12 dB HL at 0.5, 1, 2, and 4 kHz. They completed the Hong Kong version of the Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) and the Cantonese iDIN, which included 3-digit sequences with forward and backward recall, and 5-digit sequences with forward recall.

Results

Among the participants, 189 had a better ear PTA greater than 35 dB HL. Using the 3-digit SRT, ROC curve analysis showed an AUC of 0.822 for detecting hearing loss > 35 dB HL. 140 participants passed and 205 failed the MoCA. The difference of 4.3 dB in performance between forward and backward recall of 3 digits resulted in an AUC of 0.830; and sensitivity and specificity at 0.79 in distinguishing those who pass/fail the MoCA. This difference in performance was not affected by hearing thresholds.

Conclusions

The 3-digit SRTs are effective for hearing screening; whereas the difference in performance between forward and backward recall of 3 digits indicates cognitive function. The iDIN test is brief, easy to administer and interpret, and could be used to separate the effects of hearing loss and cognitive function.

Title A Circadian Lighting System For Care Facilities For Older People: A Practical Example To Support Sleep And Wellbeing

Jille KUIPERS, Banly CHEUNG

LuxBalance, Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Purpose

Natural light can help to sync the human biological clock, unfortunately most people spend 90% of their time indoors leading to a constant state of twilight. Disrupted circadian rhythms and sleep disturbances are common among older individuals, particularly those with dementia, leading to impaired cognitive function, mood disorders, and reduced quality of life. Specific lighting solutions to support these people are few with less than 0.5% of lights designed for circadian support. Properly designed circadian lighting has the potential to entrain the body's internal clock, improve sleep, and enhance overall wellbeing in care settings for older people. This paper presents a novel circadian lighting system for care facilities for older people, grounded in established knowledge of circadian effects and visual illuminance requirements in interior spaces.

Methods

The product development was guided by a design thinking approach and a human-centred design approach. For the creation of specific lighting behaviour, a LightScript was developed. The following key aspects Circadian illuminance/ Visual illuminance/ Visual comfort/ Customisation are considered.

Results

A Circadian Lighting system was developed and installed. It could be widely implemented in care facilities for older people to promote better sleep, cognitive function, and overall wellbeing among residents. It also improves the work environment for staff.

Conclusions

This circadian lighting system has the potential to significantly improve wellbeing, and quality of life among older residents in care facilities. Further research is needed to evaluate the effectiveness of these lights. Infrared may - in a different product - also offer opportunities to impact human cells and mitochondrial adenosine triphosphate -ATP- synthesis.

Title “We Are Not Ready For Restraint Free.”: Decision-Making Experiences Of Family Members In Physical Restraint On Older People In Residential Care Homes

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Abstract

Purpose

Family members are involved in making decisions about physical restraint (PR), yet there is limited understanding of their experiences and attitudes regarding restraint practices for their older relatives living in residential care homes (RCHs). This study aims to explore family members' decision-making experiences concerning the use of PR on their relatives in RCHs.

Methods

A qualitative study with individual interviews was conducted. Purposive sampling was employed to recruit 27 family members of their older relatives in three RCHs in Hong Kong. Data was thematically analysed.

Results

Two major themes were identified: “Experiencing the process of consenting to apply PR” and “Overcoming tension between physical safety and emotional wellbeing”. Participants' decision-making process was rather quick, as they accepted the use of PR for maintaining their relatives' physical safety. They often tended to agree with the staff to apply PR and had no idea about interventions that could serve as alternatives to PR. However, they mentioned that they lacked comprehensive information before consenting to the use of PR on their older relatives. Frequent visits to their older relatives and proactive communication between staff and family members were perceived by the participants as beneficial to manage their conflicting their emotions regarding PR decisions.

Conclusions

This study provides increased awareness of family members' views surrounding the use of PR, showing that they are not ready for restraint-free care. Continued research is needed to develop practical guidelines and policy implications for RCHs to support family members in making informed decisions about applying PR on their older relatives.

Title Implementation Of Eden Alternative Person-Directed Care In Long-Term Care Setting: Bring Meaningfulness To Elders Living With Dementia

Stephanie LAW, Winson WONG, Raphael KEI, Queenie MAN

Forward Living, Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Purpose

This qualitative study aims to evaluate the effectiveness of the Eden Alternative in enhancing dementia care within a private home for older people in Hong Kong. By fostering a person-directed approach, the goal will be to improve residents' quality of life and care-partners' satisfaction.

Methods

A customer opinion survey methodology regarding The Eden Alternative Domains of Well-being will be conducted, targeting residents and their families to assess their perceptions of care quality following the implementation of the Eden Alternative. The survey will include questions related to emotional well-being, engagement in activities, and overall satisfaction with the care environment.

Results

The implementation of the Eden Alternative results in significant positive outcomes in customer satisfaction scores. Residents will likely report increased feelings of happiness and engagement, while family members will note satisfactory communication and transparency in care practices. The survey results are anticipated to indicate a marked positive outcome in overall satisfaction ratings, reflecting a positive recognition of care quality.

Conclusions

The findings will suggest that the Eden Alternative significantly enhances the quality of dementia care in long-term care settings. By prioritising relationships, autonomy, and meaningful engagement, this approach will benefit residents and improve family satisfaction with care services. Future research should explore the long-term impacts of Eden Alternative in Dementia Care and the potential for broader implementation across diverse care settings for older people.

Title Ageing At Home Village: Normalcy Is The Key To Living With Dementia With Grace And Self-Esteem

Sylvia NG

The Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Purpose

In Hong Kong, research indicates by 2039, more than three hundred thousand of older people aged over 60 will be living with dementia. With no cure for dementia, which leads to an urgency to study how our environment could play a role to alleviate and slow down symptoms of dementia. This research explores the possibility of appropriating the Dutch model of Dementia village in Hong Kong and creating a place that offers extended well-being for the dementia population as well as their care partners.

Methods

Hong Kong is a high density metropolis and the notion of a village is traditionally in more remote, older rural areas. The idea of a village should be about a closed, small settlement of people with a similar lifestyle and living together. It explores the benefits of a “dementia village” setting for people with dementia. Explore different typologies of dementia villages, taking into consideration cultural and economic differences. International cases studies will be conducted.

Results

Innately, we all thrive in a setting of a village where we engage with people with different backgrounds. This setting provides a place for people to have a healthy social life while having their own “home” environment. People with dementia could roam freely inside this gated development and they could develop friendships with neighbours; shop owners; health workers. Like a village, it provides places such as having a church or temple; supermarkets; barbers for all people who live in this special village.

Conclusions

Hong Kong could develop our own version of dementia village.

Theme | **Environment and Business**

Code: T17

Title A Novel Device With Visual And Auditory Feedback For Gait Assistance

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Abstract

Purpose

Dementia is a major health issue in Hong Kong, especially among older people. It results from brain cell damage caused by various diseases and conditions. Like Parkinson's disease and stroke, dementia can significantly impact a person's walking pattern. Visual and auditory cues can help people living with dementia to walk and navigate. To assist these low-mobility individuals, a detachable laser indicator was developed.

Methods

The detachable laser indicator is an innovative device designed to help users improve their gait and mobility. It uses laser projections (single or dual beams) and audio reminders to provide visual and auditory cues for maintaining proper gait. The device can be attached to a walking cane or frame and includes sensors to monitor the walking aid's orientation, control the on/off of the laser beam, track leg positions, and provide auditory prompts for gait initiation after inactivity. Users can customise settings of the indicator through a mobile app.

Results

The developed laser indicator has been developed and deployed to 18 care centres for testing by older people. Initial results indicated that users were satisfied with the performance of the device. However, the brightness of the laser beam needs to be enhanced for outdoor use.

Conclusions

The detachable laser indicator not only provides assistance to address the walking challenges faced by low-mobility individuals, it also served as a rehabilitation training device to restore normal gait pattern for those with neurodegenerative and cerebrovascular disorders.

Theme | **Strategy and Commitment**

Code: T18

Title Decade Of Dementia Care - Still Connecting The Dots!

Anand AMBALI

BLDE (Deemed to be University), India

Abstract

Purpose

Making a diagnosis of dementia a decade ago was a challenge. We at the geriatric clinic organised a mass screening programme, in the year 2014. The results of this camp made us start working on dementia care on larger and multiple scales.

Methods

We started a dementia clinic and started screening older people. We realised this was not enough, so we started organising awareness talks on dementia for senior citizens, nursing staff and the medical fraternity once every year. But again, care partner issues began popping up, so we started quarterly care partner meetings for family members of people living with dementia. Then, people with dementia began to get admitted to the hospital for various medical issues; the lack of training among nurses was obviously seen as they were struggling to provide a minimum standard of care. To empower nurses, we, in collaboration with the National Institute trained nurses and certified them. During the COVID pandemic, we managed persons living with dementia suffering from COVID-19 at their respective homes and monitoring on a daily basis.

Results

When we look back at our services in the last decade, we have found that we are connecting dots in dementia care, and the dots are understanding dementia, creating awareness, conducting screening programmes, organising training sessions and publications in local media and talking on radio.

Conclusions

We think that many dots remain to be connected in the coming years, in providing a dignified life for people living with various stages and types of dementia.

Theme | Strategy and Commitment

Code: T19

Title Development And Evaluation Of A Behavioural Activation-Based Mood Management Programme For Older People With Cognitive Impairments: A Pilot Pre-Post Study

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² Hospital Authority, Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Purpose

Apart from cognitive impairments, older people living with dementia experience psychological distress like depression and anxiety, which correlate with well-being and quality of life. However, cognitive deficits might hinder their gains from psychoeducation. Instead, Behavioural Activation (BA) has proven to support older people in engaging meaningful activities and contributing to well-being. Therefore, a BA-based mood management group programme was developed for older people with cognitive impairments to promote psychological well-being. This study aims to investigate the effect of the programme on psychological well-being among individuals with cognitive impairments, associated with mood problems.

Methods

The study was a within-subjects design. Participants were those 1.) older people under Occupational Therapy outpatient services and 2.) diagnosed with mild cognitive impairment or mild dementia. Recruited participants received a 5-session group programme over five weeks. Outcome measures were 1.) The 5-item World Health Organization Well-being Index (WHO-5), a self-rated scale to assess subjective psychological well-being, and 2.) Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS), a self-rated measure of depression in older adults.

Results

A pilot group with 7 participants was conducted by Occupational Therapists. Participants showed significant decline in GDS ($F=20.339$, $p=0.004$) after treatment, but no statistically significant changes in WHO-5 ($F=1.761$, $p=0.233$), which might be limited by short treatment period and small sample size.

Conclusions

Findings primarily added evidence to the programme on alleviating mood among older people with cognitive impairment. This could be explained by crucial components of BA such as exploring personal values, empowering engagement in pleasant and purposeful activities, as well as promoting social interaction.

Theme | Strategy and Commitment

Code: T20

Title Shing Kee Café: An Innovative Contextual Approach To Cognitive Stimulation For Older People With Cognitive Impairments

Mung Yan CHU, Hong Shing Cyrus LEE

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Abstract

Purpose

Shing Kee Café is an initiative with a contextual approach to empower older residents with cognitive impairments through a simulated Cha Chaan Teng. The programme provides cognitive stimulation aimed at improving attention, procedural memory, and executive functions. Occupational therapists conduct comprehensive assessments of the residents' cognitive and physical capabilities while considering their personalities and past experiences. The assessments allow for the strategic assignment of roles such as chef, bartender, waiter and cashier, each of which involves cognitive training tasks that encourage engagement and enhance cognitive abilities.

Methods

An exploratory study was conducted to evaluate the cognitive, emotional, and behavioural performance of eight residents with dementia who participated in this 20-session programme. Occupational therapists utilised a cohort study design and collected data through observations and interviews.

Results

Significant cognitive improvements were noted among participants. Attention spans increased from an average of 7 minutes to over 16 minutes ($p<0.001$). Executive function improved, with operational mistakes decreasing from a maximum of five per session to just one ($p<0.001$). Additionally, enhancements in procedural memory enabled participants to prepare advanced dishes and beverages.

Conclusions

The culturally familiar setting of Shing Kee Café fosters competence and engagement, and transforms cognitive training into a joyful experience. The programme has attracted media attention and volunteer support, promoting public awareness of cognitive impairments. The study shows that the programme not only enriches the lives of older individuals with dementia but also exemplifies an effective contextual approach to cognitive stimulation.

Theme | **Strategy and Commitment**

Code: T21

Title Usability Testing Of An App For Dementia Prevention: A One-Week Evaluation

Tsz Kiu Clare YU¹, Gill LIVINGSTON¹, Hee Kyung PARK¹, Aneesha SINGH¹,
James JAMISON¹, Richard BOCZKO², Vrushti MEHTA¹, Sergi COSTAFREDA¹,
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¹ University College London, UK

² University of Hull, UK

Abstract

Purpose

Dementia prevention is a global health priority, and developing scalable interventions to address lifestyle-related dementia risk factors is essential. Expanding access to prevention programmes for underprivileged populations at high risk is crucial. To address this, we developed the ENHANCE app, designed for individuals from less privileged backgrounds. It features brain games, videos, and self-monitoring questions, supported by a coach. The aim of this study is to evaluate the one-week usability of the ENHANCE app for older adults from less privileged backgrounds and identify factors impacting its use.

Methods

We recruited cognitively healthy older adults (aged 60-80) with at least one risk factor from food banks and ethnic minority community groups in London between Nov 2024-Jan 2025. Participants attended an introductory session with a coach, selected a risk factor to address, and received app guidance. They used the app independently for one week before sharing their experiences in an interview and completing a satisfaction survey. Data from interviews, surveys, and app activity logs were analysed using thematic analysis.

Results

We recruited 10 participants, all of whom used the app at least three times during the week and found it engaging and easy to use. Barriers included technical issues (e.g., video lag), a non-intuitive interface, unclear features, and low confidence with technology. Coach support was essential for successful use.

Conclusions

Preliminary findings suggest the app is acceptable and usable. Addressing technical and interface challenges, along with sustained coach support, could enhance user experience and long-term engagement. Full results will be presented at the conference.



Title The Effectiveness Of Cognitive Stimulation Therapy For Older Adults With Dementia In Hong Kong

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Abstract

Purpose

Cognitive Stimulation Therapy (CST), a non-pharmacological intervention, is an evidence-based treatment to relieve cognitive impairment symptoms in dementia. However, few studies have investigated its effectiveness in Asian populations. Therefore, the aim of the present study was to fill this research gap by focusing on older adults with dementia in Hong Kong via application of a culturally adapted CST protocol.

Methods

A total of 67 Chinese participants were recruited from local community centres, including 21 in the CST intervention group and 46 in the control group. The Delayed Match to Sample (DMS) task, a computer-based evaluation tool from the Cambridge Neuropsychological Test Automated Battery, was used to assess cognitive function performance of working memory and attention. The two-way repeated measures ANOVA were conducted using SPSS.

Results

A significant group-by-time interaction was identified for DMS task performance in the domain of latency, which reflects the variability in the time it took participants to respond correctly (at simultaneous presentations: $p=0.040$; at zero-second delay: $p=0.021$). Moreover, some latency performance was further moderated by gender (at 12-second delay: $p=0.031$). However, no significant group-by-time interaction was identified for DMS task performance in the domains of accuracy and errors.

Conclusions

In this pilot study, CST has shown promise in improving working memory in people with dementia. Moreover, gender appears to be an important moderator in regulating the effectiveness of the CST intervention in the Chinese population. Our findings provide new insights into understanding the cognitive processing when implementing the CST intervention in Hong Kong.

Title How Does Collective Memory Therapy Improve Cognitive Functions Of Individuals With Alzheimer's Disease?

Eng Ho LAM

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Purpose

Alzheimer's disease is a global concern, especially in regions with fast-ageing populations like Hong Kong. Innovative methodologies for relieving Alzheimer's disease symptoms are urgently required. Past studies have qualitatively examined the benefits of reminiscence therapy on older people with dementia.

Methods

This study extends this work by quantitatively evaluating the impact of collective memory therapy on cognitive functions in individuals with Alzheimer's disease. This project consists of five phases, using "PROVE" approach, involving Planning to address compliance and logistics requirements, Recording a memory-stimulating video, Onboarding volunteers for cognitive assessment, Validation (therapy workshops), and Evaluation (statistical analysis). In collaboration with a local Alzheimer's disease community centre, 20 individuals with Alzheimer's disease were recruited to view a collective memory therapy video daily for 30 minutes over three weeks to stimulate good memories from their youth. Cognitive functions were assessed using the Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) before and after the intervention.

Results

A statistically significant improvement of 12% in MoCA score was observed (11.88 ± 1.47 ; $N=17$, $p<0.05$) (by paired t-test and Wilcoxon signed-rank test).

Conclusions

This pilot study suggests that collective memory therapy could be a valuable non-pharmacological intervention for Alzheimer's disease in Hong Kong. Furthermore, this study has established a robust framework for conducting similar research in Hong Kong. Future research involving larger sample sizes and control groups is recommended to understand the potential of this therapy fully.

Title Regaining A Sense Of Reality In The Lives For The People With Moderate Stage Dementia Through Co-Creating Personalised Nanyin In Music Therapy Case Study

Yu Ting LEUNG

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Abstract

Purpose

One service user, who is in moderate stage of dementia and living alone, was referred to music therapy by case manager for depressive symptoms, lack of motivation and verbal repetition. The service user is illiterate, does not have any musical background and familiar songs and has hearing impairment.

Methods

Nanyin or “southern tunes” is a narrative song art presented in the Cantonese vernacular. Music therapist started by listening and reflecting the words of the service user in conversations. Then, the summary is edited and formed with the service user. By adding notes and rhythms of summary by the music therapist, different topics of nanyin are co-created, including the spouse, characters, work, children and life principles. Music therapist sang a line, and the service user sang along or followed with the next line.

Results

The service user improved social interaction, mood, and motivation after the intervention. For example, the service user smiled more and took the initiative in correcting the wordings in the summary. Also, the service user learnt and followed the rhythm while singing the personalised nanyin. While music therapist was singing the next line, the service user’s mouth moved along with it. Service user also provided new content of the topics. The family members showed positive feedback in music therapy on improved mood and motivation by writing an appreciation letter.

Conclusions

This case study showed the effectiveness in regaining the sense of reality of the lives of an older person with moderate stage dementia through co-creating a personalised nanyin with the music therapist.

Title Mobile Health Apps Supporting Cognitive Intervention Or Prevention Of Dementia In East And Southeast Asia: A Systematic Examination And Content Analysis

Keyu LI, Wing Sze WONG

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Purpose

Dementia is a global health problem, particularly among Asian countries. This neurocognitive disorder may lead to high dependency. Under this context, effective means to support people with dementia in managing the disease is vital. With advancements in mobile technology and the extensive reach of internet access, mobile health applications (mHealth apps) offer a cost-effective and feasible method of dementia management. Our study aimed to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of mHealth apps supporting cognitive interventions or preventions of people with dementia in East and Southeast Asia.

Methods

Keywords including “dementia”, “Alzheimer”, “cognitive impairment”, and “mild cognitive impairment” were used for mHealth apps search. Inclusion criteria for mHealth app involved: 1.) downloadable either in Google Play Store or App Store, 2.) published in East or Southeast Asian countries where older population percentage reached 14% or above, 3.) developed with the cognitive training for either Alzheimer’s disease, dementia, or Mild Cognitive Impairment, 4.) can be downloaded and used for free, or have a free simplified version, 5.) support English and at least one Asian language, 6.) last updated within 5 years. App quality was evaluated by Mobile Application Rating Scale (MARS).

Results

Ten apps were included for evaluation. Apart from using MARS, important features of the apps, including their target users, content, strengths and weaknesses, were summarised and compared.

Conclusions

This study provides insights to clinicians, researchers, or app developers into the features of these applications and useful information for healthcare professionals, people with dementia, and their care partners in the management process.

Title Uncovering The Language Of Emotion: Using Expressive Arts Therapy To Enhance Self-Awareness And Dignity In Persons Living With Dementia

Rachel Yun Ni LIM

Dementia Singapore, Singapore

Abstract

Purpose

Expressive arts therapy (ExAT) is a valuable approach to enhancing the emotional well-being of individuals living with dementia by enabling them to express complex emotions and experiences that might otherwise remain unspoken. Through creative mediums such as visual art, movement, music, and writing, ExAT enables participants to engage with their emotions meaningfully, fostering a sense of self-awareness and emotional release. Existing literature supports the positive impact of ExAT on emotional expression, self-awareness, and overall quality of life in individuals with cognitive impairments, including dementia. This approach helps individuals articulate feelings that may be challenging to express verbally but also promotes autonomy, dignity, and a deeper connection to one's identity.

Methods

This case study uses ExAT interventions guided by the Expressive Therapies Continuum (ETC), which combines visual art, movement, music, writing, and drama to facilitate emotional expression. ETC enables participants to engage meaningfully with their emotions through various art forms. Data were collected using the Bradford Wellbeing Profile (BWP) and a self-reported questionnaire, which assesses emotional well-being, engagement, quality of life, and participants' emotional experiences.

Results

Preliminary findings suggest that ExAT enables individuals to articulate emotions more effectively, promoting greater self-awareness. Clients demonstrated increased engagement with various art forms, which facilitated their ability to express emotional states. Data from the BWP revealed notable improvements in emotional well-being, alongside a stronger sense of self.

Conclusions

ExAT presents an innovative psychosocial intervention that enhances emotional expression, self-awareness, and dignity in dementia care. By providing a non-verbal outlet for complex emotions, ExAT fosters autonomy, supporting a more person-centred approach to care.

Title Fun And Dementia-Friendly Gymnastics: A Training Protocol To Enhance Engagement, Physical And Functional Abilities Of People With Dementia

Pak Yan Michelle LING, Nga Lai Alice KWONG, Ki Yan Sammy LI, Hon Wai Jonathan LAM

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Abstract

Purpose

Engaging people with dementia in physical activity plays a crucial role in improving their quality of life and minimising disability. In this paper, we will present the development of "Fun and Dementia-friendly Gymnastics", a programme specifically designed to encourage physical exercises among individuals with dementia.

Methods

Based on a model of engagement, a protocol integrating components of play, cognitive stimulation, fitness, motor movement and social participation was developed to offer centre-based gymnastics targeted for people with dementia.

Results

The gymnastics is part of a comprehensive training programme serving older people with dementia. A total of 6 one-hour gymnastics classes were conducted with 10 participants per group. The gymnastics classes cover elements of functional mobility, balance, attention, executive function and fine motor. The gymnastics has been tested and implemented in 80 people with dementia. This protocol serves as a framework for cognitive, physical and functional goals that the practitioners can modify based on participants' abilities and preferences. It also addresses the difficulties that staff encounter when organising group-based physical activities for participants with diverse demographic backgrounds and varying levels of physical and cognitive abilities.

Conclusions

Our "Fun and Dementia-friendly Gymnastics" has proven advantages in this context, as it allows for the customisation of activities to fit the diverse needs of individuals with dementia. It also enhances their engagement and psychosocial well-being. For implication, the gymnastics can be expanded to intergenerational gymnastics involving younger children and people with dementia. Future research is needed to develop tools to assess engagement in dementia.

Title Content Validity Of Shared Decision-Making Questionnaire (SDM-Q-9) Among People With Early-Stage Dementia: A Two-Round Online Delphi Study

Huanran LIU, Vivian W.Q. LOU
The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Purpose

Currently, we lack the perspective on how the people with early-stage dementia themselves perceived their involvement in the care arrangement decision-making process instead of the proxy from their family care partners. Guided by the person-centred care perspective, this study aimed to translate, adapt, and validate the Shared Decision-making Questionnaire (SDM-Q-9) for people with early-stage dementia.

Methods

After translating and back-translating the SDM-Q-9, a pilot study gathered feedback from people with early-stage dementia and their care partners. A two-round online Delphi study assessed the scale’s content validity using a nine-point Likert scale to evaluate importance, relevance, and clarity. Consensus and content validity indices (I-CVI and Ave-CVI) were calculated.

Results

The pilot study involved seven care partners and two individuals with dementia, leading to a simplification of the response scale from a 6-point Likert to a yes/no format due to comprehension challenges. In the Delphi study, three researchers, four practitioners, and two care partners participated. Initial feedback highlighted issues with clarity in two items (I-CVI=0.67 < 0.75), which were revised. After the second round, full consensus was achieved (I-CVI and Ave-CVI=1), confirming the scale’s importance, relevance, and clarity.

Conclusions

The adapted SDM-Q-9 demonstrates excellent content validity for assessing shared decision-making in early-stage dementia. This instrument can help explore decision-making involvement in people with early-stage dementia, with further validation recommended.

Title Deconstructing The Scepticism: Unveiling The Impacts Of Counselling For Person Living With Dementia

Ai Lay NG
Dementia Singapore, Singapore

Abstract

Purpose

This study addresses a gap in dementia care by exploring the effectiveness of counselling for persons living with dementia in the early stages. Dementia significantly impacts cognitive, emotional and social well-being of individuals, presenting complex challenges for people living with dementia. Despite the pressing need for counselling support to navigate these multifaceted issues, scepticism about the effectiveness of counselling for people living with dementia persists, and limits its provision. A key concern underlying this scepticism is whether people living with dementia, given their diminished cognitive abilities that may hinder comprehension and memory retention, can meaningfully benefit from counselling interventions. This study seeks to explore and illuminate the potential of counselling in improving the well-being of people living with dementia by providing a deeper and more nuanced understanding.

Methods

An integration of various counselling approaches will be utilised and adapted to enhance its relevancy for the people living with dementia. To gather quantitative data, the Bradford Well-being Profile and the Quality-of-Life Scale will be employed. Unstructured interviews will be conducted with people living with dementia and their care partners to gain qualitative insights into their perceptions on the effectiveness of counselling.

Results

Collectively, the gathering of diverse data will provide evidence-based insights into the impact of counselling on people living with dementia.

Conclusions

This research highlights the value of counselling in enhancing the overall well-being of people living with dementia. The findings have the potential to inform the development of tailored counselling services for people living with dementia while offering valuable insights into implementing effective and inclusive counselling practices that address their needs.

Title Measuring Interaction In Nonpharmacological Interventions For Dementia: An Integrated Review Of Methods

Ivy Meihua SU, Winsy Wing Sze WONG

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Purpose

Interaction facilitates the treatment of non-pharmacological interventions (NPIs) for people with dementia and may influence the outcome of NPIs. This integrative review aims to present an overview of methods used to measure interactions in dementia-related NPIs of people with dementia.

Methods

An integrated approach was adopted to identify original studies and reviews on interactional indicators demonstrated by people with dementia in NPI settings.

Results

Current results showed that interaction measurement includes the following four aspects: visual, physical, verbal, and cognitive indicators. Studies on sensory stimulations, which include animals, music, and robots, consider the interaction of people with dementia with interventions the direct indicator of therapeutic effects and evaluate interaction from multidimensional aspects. Visual, physical, and verbal indicators are frequently used as outcome measures. Visual indicator typically refers to the act of looking at the interventions (i.e., animals and robots). Physical indicators include touch, hug, and other interactive behaviours with robots or animals, as well as dancing and drumming in music therapies. Verbal performances generally include conversation, talking, repeating, and singing in music therapies. In contrast, cognitive performance is less frequently measured, where attention is measured in one animal therapy and short-term recall in one robot therapy.

Conclusions

Existing literature demonstrates a preference for physical and verbal performances that can be flexibly adapted to different interventions. The visual aspect is adopted in therapies involving robots or animals, where gaze is measured. The cognitive dimension is less employed, the subordinate indicators include attention and remembering.

Title Users' View And Experience In Using Cantonese-Speaking Smart Doll In Care Settings For Older People

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² Research Institute for Smart Ageing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Purpose

Doll therapy is a non-pharmacological method that uses lifelike dolls to comfort people with dementia, reduce anxiety, and evoke positive emotions. A locally developed Cantonese-speaking smart doll, shown to positively impact dementia-related distressed behaviours, has been developed. This doll has been used in various care settings for older people to gather feedback from stakeholders for evaluation and further enhancements.

Methods

Since 2020, the Cantonese-speaking smart doll was trialled in over 140 care settings for older people, serving over 160 persons with mild cognitive impairment and 700 with moderate to severe dementia for a period of 3-months. Workers received operational training before the programme started, and feedback was collected through a questionnaire after completion.

Results

Among the participating units, 94% completed the trial period. 51 units gave written comments concerning 7 aspects of usage, including the speech speed and loudness; interactivity; battery supply and charging; ease of control; available contents and recordings for use; emotional interaction and overall appearance of the doll. Among the 80 units that have completed the feedback questionnaire after the trial programme, 64% of them will recommend the smart doll to other units for use.

Conclusions

The Cantonese-speaking smart doll provided an affordable way to alleviate the impact of care partners in supporting people living with dementia. With the input provided by stakeholders, the developer will continue to enhance the doll design to address the local needs. Overall, users agreed that the use of this smart doll can improve the quality of care services for older people.

Title ADI Accreditation. “Recognising Standards; Strengthening Partnerships In Dementia Care”

Amalia Fonk UTOMO¹, Dawn BROOKER²

¹ Alzheimer’s Disease International, Netherlands

² Global Review Panel UK, Alzheimer’s Disease International

Abstract

Purpose

Launched in December 2020, the Programme helps Alzheimer’s and dementia organisations improve care through standardised training. Successful evaluation by Alzheimer’s Disease International (ADI) Accreditation Global Review Panel confirms that providers meet a global standard of dementia care training and learning provision. Open to ADI members, universities, and training colleges, it ensures a broad impact on dementia care.

Methods

Our Global Review Panel (GRP) comprises of multi-disciplinary dementia care experts that offer cultural and regional insights. Successful evaluation - comprising of an application, report, and a site visit - leads to ADI Accreditation. Accredited providers: Kiang Wu Nursing College: accredited January 25, 2021, after a 3-day virtual visit; Silverado Memory Care Communities: accredited December 22, 2022, after in-person visits; University of Bradford, UK: accredited December 22, 2022, after in-person visits; and University of Tasmania: accredited after a virtual visit on August 29 - 30, 2023. Ongoing potential pipeline from Europe, UK and Asia Pacific.

Results

Of the current ADI accredited providers, Silverado, United States, leads in dementia care provision and assisted living. Through their evaluation they have refined their training and involve individuals living with dementia in their programme development. Kiang Wu Nursing College, Macau, enhanced their education through training, collaboration, and postgraduate programmes with demand for enrolment now five times larger than course capacity. University of Bradford, UK, has integrated global examples of dementia studies in their curriculum to advance their teaching and improved student support.

Conclusions

After almost 3 years, this pilot programme needs support from individuals living with dementia, the private sector, academia, and governments. As pioneers of a person-centred approach to dementia accreditation, the support of these groups is crucial for the continued promotion of global and regional dementia training and ensuring that dementia remains a global health priority. Throughout the accreditation programme, there has been an increase in dementia awareness and an increase in understanding the importance that high-quality, culturally contextualised care partner training can be provided through the ADI Accreditation Programme.

Title Virtual Reality Intervention For Younger Onset Dementia Support: A Study Protocol

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² The Jockey Club Centre for Positive Ageing, Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Purpose

This study aims to evaluate the feasibility, acceptability, and potential outcomes of a virtual reality (VR)-based intervention designed to support emotional well-being in individuals diagnosed with younger onset dementia. The intervention focuses on relaxation through immersive VR experiences, which is particularly important as individuals with younger onset dementia often experience heightened anxiety and worries when adjusting to emerging symptoms.

Methods

This is a prospective, single-arm pilot study. Participants diagnosed with younger onset dementia will undergo a single VR intervention session. The session will involve self-selected, preferred natural scenarios (e.g., beaches, forests, or lakes) delivered through VR, coached with guided relaxation techniques. Assessments will include pre- and post-session measures of mood and anxiety levels using validated scales. Participant feedback on the VR experience, including usability, enjoyment, and perceived relaxation, will also be collected through structured surveys.

Results

The primary outcomes will focus on feasibility and acceptability, measured by participant satisfaction and adherence to the session. Secondary outcomes will include changes in mood and anxiety levels, as assessed before and after the intervention. Preliminary findings are expected to provide insights into the potential impact of VR-based relaxation on emotional well-being in individuals with younger onset dementia.

Conclusions

This protocol outlines a novel approach to addressing the emotional challenges faced by individuals with younger onset dementia through the use of VR relaxation techniques. Findings from this study will inform the feasibility of VR interventions and guide future research on their integration into supportive care strategies for younger onset dementia.

Title Moderating Role Of Position In The Relationship Between Dementia Knowledge And Person-Centred Care Among Nursing Staff In The Greater Bay Area

Jian Wei WU¹, Jiating SONG², Sok Leng CHE¹, Tan HUNG¹, Mingxia ZHU¹, Lin WEI², Zhixia ZHANG², Zhuyun LIU², Lai Long LEI³, Wai In LEI¹

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Abstract

Purpose

This study explores how nursing position (nurse vs. nurse aide) moderates the relationship between dementia knowledge and person-centred care (PCC) among nursing staff in the Greater Bay Area.

Methods

A cross-sectional study was conducted in hospitals and long-term care facilities in Macao and Guangdong from April to May 2024, involving 888 nursing staff (546 nurses, 342 nurse aides). Data were collected using the tools of Person-Centred Care Assessment Tool (P-CAT), the Dementia Knowledge Assessment Scale (DKAS), and the Confidence in Dementia Scale (CODE) etc.

Results

Multiple linear regression identified that self-rated health ($\beta=0.188$, $p<0.001$), DKAS ($\beta=0.156$, $p<0.001$), CODE ($\beta=0.251$, $p<0.001$), and the interaction term Position \times DKAS ($\beta=0.112$, $p=0.001$) were significant factors, explaining 32.3% of the variance in P-CAT scores (adjusted $R^2=0.312$, $F=32.011$, $p<0.001$). Subgroup analysis further revealed that the most important predictors of PCC were CODE ($\beta=0.291$, $p<0.001$) and self-rated health ($\beta=0.202$, $p<0.001$) among nurses, while DKAS ($\beta=0.335$, $p<0.001$) and CODE ($\beta=0.228$, $p<0.001$) for nurse aides.

Conclusions

The moderating effect of position was significant that the relationship between dementia knowledge and person-centred care was stronger among nurse aides than among nurses. These findings highlight that the relative importance of dementia knowledge differs between the two occupational groups. These suggest that targeted training programmes are needed for these two occupational groups to optimise person-centred dementia care.

Title Preliminary Report On The Programme Effectiveness Of “A Trip Of Memory - An Innovative Cognitive Stimulation Training Using Good Old Times On Bus For Older People With Sight Loss

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¹ Hong Kong College of Health Service Executives, Hong Kong, China

² The Hong Kong Society for the Blind, Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Purpose

Combining the innovative Cognitive Stimulation Training developed by Kowloon Home for the Aged Blind and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, the older people could do the assessment and treatment more effectively. As this whole process is tailored made based on the actual life experience of older people, they were more “immersive” into the training and just talking about their own stories.

Methods

The cognitive stimulating story telling programme comprised of 10 sessions (45 minutes per session). The partner team adopted several cognitive and language psychometric tests (e.g. HKMoCA-VI, CANELT etc.) as the outcome indicators under the research pre and post framework.

Results

The statistical result reflected that the pre and post treatment effect size is amazing. In according to the statistical analysis method, the programme had the Effect size (Cohen's d): HKMoCA-VI=0.66; Verbal fluency=1.12) which indicated a significant large treatment effect programme especially on the cognition and verbal domain for the older people.

Conclusions

To sum up the Hong Kong Society for the Blind programme “A Trip of Memory - An Innovative Cognitive Stimulation Training” is proven to be efficacious in improving the visual impaired older people 1.) Global cognition, 2.) Executive function and 3.) Verbal use of language. And all participants well appraise the use of story telling as the innovative way of cognitive training programme in the institutions for older people.

Title Virtual Dementia Centres

Elaine TAYLOR-WHILDE, Janine LANE, Robin WEIR

Nine Health Global, UK

Abstract

Purpose

Dementia is a huge problem affecting over 55 million people, with 10 million new cases diagnosed each year. By establishing virtual high technology diagnostic dementia centres (VDCs) the progression of dementia can be slowed, and risks decreased if therapeutic interventions are started early. The Office of Health Economics showed that delaying the onset of dementia by five years (UK) from 2020 could reduce the projected number of people with dementia in 2050 by one third (666,000); reducing the need for informal care by 566,000. The costs of care would be reduced from £59 billion to £38 billion in 2050; a saving of £21 billion. 2020 report of the Lancet Commission clearly identifies 12 modifiable risks including: education, traumatic brain injury, hearing loss, hypertension, alcohol consumption, obesity, smoking, depression, social isolation.

Methods

A Personalised Service using AI and other technologies. The centre will provide 1.) Clinical support around diagnosis, 2.) Cognitive training and games, 3.) Physical training and games, 4.) Socialisation on-line and in person, 5.) Virtual Shop (for tech and other dementia products), 6.) Cross generational support for families, 7.) Legal and financial advice e.g. Benefits and 8.) Training and research.

Results

We have attracted some funding to carry out people with dementia and carer focused design workshops and are applying for additional funding to establish the first centre.

Conclusions

We are seeking investment to set up our first centre and will be applying for research funding to evaluate the methods and approach used in these high tech centres.

Title Cross-Cultural Comparison Of Early Behavioural Changes In The Behavioural Variant Of Frontotemporal Dementia

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¹ KU Leuven, Belgium

² Peking University, China

Abstract

Purpose

The behavioural variant of frontotemporal dementia (bvFTD) is a neurodegenerative disorder characterised by behavioural disturbances. Early misdiagnosis is common due to overlapping symptoms with other psychiatric disorders and a lack of biomarkers. In recent years, social cognition has gained attention for being a potential early differential marker for bvFTD. Social cognition encompasses skills needed for social interaction, entailing an implication of normative compliance within specific cultural contexts. However, the role of culture in social cognitive decline remains currently unclear, leaving a critical gap in the literature. This study addresses this gap by exploring cultural influence on early behavioural and social cognitive symptoms of bvFTD by comparing individuals from two distinct cultures, Belgium and China.

Methods

Using retrospective interviews with care partners, we examine early-stage symptoms across ten domains of daily living, involving relationships, activities, and conviction. For each life domain, types of symptoms are excavated. Their specific manifestations during the early stage are compared across both cultures. In Belgium, 23 participants were recruited between February 2024 and July 2024. Data collection in China is anticipated to start in January 2025.

Results

Preliminary data will be shown at the upcoming conference, offering insights into how culture may shape early symptoms of bvFTD in daily life as reported through the lived experiences of care partners.

Conclusions

Not Applicable at the moment.

Theme | **Early Detection and Diagnosis**

Code: P17

Title Investigating The Relationship Between Cerebral Ventricle Diameters On Magnetic Resonance Images And Cognitive Functions In Older Adults

Yueyang WU, Shuai LI, YP ZHENG, Sai Kit LAM

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong, China

Abstract

Purpose

Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) is a detrimental neurocognitive disorder affecting ~15% of the older population aged >50 worldwide. Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) is widely used for MCI screening. In this study, we aimed to comprehensively evaluate relationships between cerebral ventricle diameters from T2-weighted Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans and cognitive functions measured by MoCA test in older adults.

Methods

Six cerebral ventricle diameters were measured from T2-weighted MRI of 48 older adults (male/female: 24/24; average age: 65), including frontal horn width (FHW), total inner brain diameters (TIDS), Evans index (EI), third ventricle width (3rd-VW), fourth ventricle width in anterior-posterior (4th-VW-AP) and transverse (4th-VW-T). The Spearman correlation test was performed to assess correlations between each cerebral ventricle metric and the total MoCA score. Mann-Witney U test was applied to reveal associations between participants' demographics (age, gender), total MoCA score, and cerebral ventricle metrics.

Results

The total MoCA score was correlated with FHW ($r=-0.307$, $p=0.034$), EI ($r=-0.400$, $p=0.005$), and 3rd-VW ($r=-0.575$, $p<0.001$) but not with TIDS, 4th-VW-AP, and 4th-VW-T. Besides, males tended to present greater FHW ($p=0.013$), EI ($p=0.018$), and 3rd-VW ($p=0.001$); participants aged>70 exhibited an inclination to have greater 3rd-VW ($p=0.002$) and lower total MoCA score ($p=0.005$).

Conclusions

The Spearman correlation test results suggested that diameter changes in the frontal horn and third ventricle are likely related to MCI. The Mann-Whitney U test results showed that males aged >70 are more likely to develop MCI and broader third ventricles.

Theme | **Strategy and Commitment**

Code: P18

Title Improving Dementia Care In Macau: By Introducing Special Needs Trusts And Legal Reform

Wai I NG

Kiang Wu Nursing College of Macau, Macao, China

Abstract

Purpose

This paper examines the ethical and legal imperatives for introducing Special Needs Trusts and optimising guardianship systems in Macau, addressing the burgeoning older population and ethical challenges in dementia care. Among all ethical issues in dementia care, money and property dispute has become one of the most difficult situation between people with dementia and their families and care partners, as the capability of people living with dementia in carrying out autonomy and decision-making is questioned especially in their late stage of dementia.

Methods

The proposed Special Needs Trusts not only offer financial management solutions but also align with ethical principles of autonomy, beneficence and nonmaleficence, ensuring dignified care.

Results

Legal reform is crucial to replace outdated interdiction systems, which may conflict with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, with a modern, trust-based approach that respects for the autonomy of people living with dementia and ultimately upholds dignity.

Conclusions

This shift is ethically justified, and promoting inclusive financing and integrating trusts into Macau's legal fabric, thereby enhancing the welfare and rights of older people and people living with dementia.

Title Accelerating Positive Ageing In Hong Kong Through Digital Twin Technology

Bernard SHIU

Deakin University, Australia

Abstract

Purpose

Hong Kong's ageing population poses significant challenges to its healthcare system. Digital twin technology, which creates real-time virtual models of individuals, offers a groundbreaking solution. By simulating health data and predicting outcomes, this technology enables personalised interventions and optimised resource allocation.

Methods

Collaborative Development: Form a multidisciplinary task force to design and implement pilot programmes targeting chronic disease management, fall prevention, and mental health in older adults. **Pilot Implementation:** Utilise wearable devices and health records to create individual digital twins for early detection and tailored interventions. **Ethical and Regulatory Frameworks:** Establish robust protocols to address data privacy, security, and ethical concerns while ensuring compliance with regulations. **Public Engagement:** Conduct awareness campaigns and training to ensure adoption among healthcare professionals and stakeholders. **Evaluation:** Measure outcomes using defined performance metrics to assess scalability and long-term feasibility.

Results

Expected benefits include earlier detection of health risks, improved quality of life for older adults, cost savings through prevention, and better resource allocation. Predictive models will aid policymakers in addressing ageing-related challenges.

Conclusions

Digital twin technology can transform ageing care in Hong Kong, enabling personalised care, sustainable resource use, and leadership in healthcare innovation.

Title Educational Indicator System Development Involving Dementia Awareness And Friendliness For Youth Based On The Delphi Method

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³ Shenzhen University, China

Abstract

Purpose

Literature reviews have revealed inconsistencies in the content and effectiveness of current dementia public education, highlighting the urgent need for scientific guidance. Therefore, this study aims to develop an educational indicator framework to enhance dementia awareness and dementia-friendly attitudes among youth, providing a reference for implementing dementia education programmes for young people in China.

Methods

A research team was established to conduct literature analysis and expert interviews, which facilitated the preliminary design of the education indicator system. The Delphi method was then employed for two rounds of consultations with 20 experts in relevant fields to finalise the indicators. Kendall's W and expert authority coefficients were used to assess the consistency and authority of expert opinions.

Results

The effective response rates for the two rounds of expert consultations were 85% and 100%, with expert authority coefficients of 0.830 and 0.897, respectively. The final indicator system comprised five primary indicators (Expected Outcomes, Training Content, Training Methods, Training Faculty, and Training Evaluation), 17 secondary indicators, and 44 tertiary indicators. The Kendall's W coefficients were 0.176 and 0.247 ($p < 0.001$), indicating good consensus among experts.

Conclusions

The educational indicator system developed in this study demonstrates scientific rigor and reliability, providing a foundation for the broader implementation of dementia-friendly education.

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