

Antipsychotics tend to be effective at doses lower than those in young adults, though the risk of side effects is higher. Psychosocial interventions like cognitive behavior therapy and social skills training are useful. It is important to employ the principles of Positive Psychiatry including promotion of resilience, social connections, optimism, and healthy lifestyle in people with schizophrenia

Plenary Session 3: The importance and value of psychosocial care in dementia in historical perspective, with reflection and commentary

Rose Marie Dröes

Overview: Prof. Dröes will discuss the importance and value of psychosocial care and support for people with dementia and their informal carers. She will look back at new insights that have emerged in this field over the past decades through (inter)national research and practice innovation. For example, the importance of sufficient activation in long-term care facilities, insights into the causes of behavioral and mood disruptions in dementia and the influence of interaction with the environment on this, the importance of integrative person-centered care, in line with the needs and what is relevant for the individual person's quality of life, and the importance of good combined support for people with dementia and their careers, as shaped among others by the successful Meeting Centres Support Programme. Also the potential of assistive technology will be addressed. The lecture will conclude with a look at the future, the further development of psychosocial care in dementia through research, but also through education, and connection and exchange with practice, which are prerequisites for the successful implementation of innovations.

Plenary Session 4: Disease-Modified Drug

Masaru Mimura

Plenary Session 5: The role of social connectedness in the multifactorial demential syndrome. Does social life matter? - IPA/INTERDEM live webinar

Sube Banerjee and Marjolein de Vugt

Overview: Dementia is influenced by multiple factors. It is crucial to learn more about the impact of these factors. Here we focus on the role of social health, that might have different faces around the world. Join us on July 2nd in Lisbon Portugal at our 2023 IPA International Congress for presentations and discussion on this exciting topic. Eminent dementia experts will present data on the role of social health in dementia. In this webinar, participants will gain an understanding of how social life can impact dementia and the perspectives for interventions to prevent and live well with dementia. As with all programs in the IPA Webinar Series, this presentation is intended as an educational event on topics that are timely and relevant to the field of mental health for older adults.

Symposia

S1: Social health in the context of dementia

Symposium Overview:

The recognition of dementia as a multifactorial disorder encourages the exploration of potentially modifiable risk factors. Social health might play a role in cognitive decline and dementia. The Social Health And REserve in the Dementia patient journey (SHARED) project aims to unravel the interplay between social health and biological and

psychological factors on the trajectory from cognitive healthy. A multi-method approach is used, including the development of a conceptual framework for social health and its application in epidemiological and qualitative studies. Epidemiological studies in the SHARED project reveal potentially modifiable social health characteristics or markers associated with cognitive decline, dementia and mortality. This may shape new avenues for future interventions to prevent or delay cognitive decline and dementia and to enhance living well with dementia.

Conceptual framework for social health: identification of modifiable and protective and risk factors

Authors: Myrra Vernooij-Dassen, Eline Verspoor, Suraj Samtani, Perminder S Sachdev, M. Arfan Ikram, Meike W. Vernooij, Claudia Hubers, Rabih Chattat, Marta Lenart-Bugla, Joanna Rymaszewska, Dorota Szczesnia, Henry Brodaty, Anna-Karin Welmer, Jane Maddock, Isabelle F van der Velpen, Henrik Wiegelman, Anna Marseglia, Marcus Richards, Rene Melis, Marjolein de Vugt, Esme Moniz-Cook, Yun-Hee Jeon, Marieke Perry, Karin Wolf-Ostermann AND INTERDEM taskforce social health

Objective: The recognition of dementia as a multifactorial disorder encourages the exploration of new pathways to understand its origins. Social health might play a role in cognitive decline and dementia, but conceptual clarity is lacking and this hinders investigation of associations and mechanisms. Social health might provide a new perspective on social connectedness. The objective is to develop a conceptual framework for social health to advance conceptual clarity in future studies and to identify potentially modifiable risk and protective factors in the “Social Health And Reserve in the Dementia patient journey (SHARED)” project.

Methods: The methods include the process of building the conceptual framework. We used the following steps: underpinning for concept advancement, concept advancement by the development of a conceptual model, and exploration of its potential feasibility.

Results: Underpinning of the concept drew from a synthesis of theoretical, conceptual and epidemiological work, and resulted in the definition of social health as well-being that relies on capacities both of the individual and the social environment. In the conceptual framework the abstract definition has been elaborated into more precisely defined domains at both the individual and the social environmental levels. This allowed to identify domain related social health characteristics or markers in epidemiological data bases and to investigate associations between these markers and cognitive decline and dementia. The associated social health markers represent potentially modifiable risk and protective factors. Examples are “social engagement” in the participation domain at the individual level, and “frequency of contact” in the structure domain, “exchange of support” in the function domain and “loneliness” in the appraisal domain at the environmental level. The conceptual framework facilitated identification of domain related markers in the SHARED project, thus showing its potential feasibility.

Discussion: The conceptual framework provides guidance for future research and facilitates identification of potentially modifiable risk and protective factors. These may shape new avenues for preventive interventions. We highlight the paradigm of social health in dementia as a priority for dementia research.

How to measure social health in the context of cognitive decline and dementia - A systematic review on instruments.

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