



RARE DEMENTIA SUPPORT



In association with:



Younger People
With Dementia
Berkshire

We are holding our support group meeting for people with Posterior Cortical Atrophy (PCA) and their carers on:

Thursday 28th February 2019

2.00pm - 4.00pm

At the offices of;

**Younger People with Dementia Berkshire CIO
First Floor, Indigo House,
Fishponds Road,
Wokingham,
Berkshire
RG41 2GY
Tel: 0118 2072880**

1. Our first speaker is Dilek Ocal a Research Assistant/PhD Student at the Dementia Research Centre, UCL Institute of Neurology.

Dilek will give us a short 15 min talk about a new upcoming 7T study which aims to improve our understanding of Alzheimer's disease, particularly the changes in brain structure. Understanding Dementia depends on reliable knowledge of brain microstructure. So far, this microstructure can only be determined using invasive methods or post-mortem investigations. However, recent development of novel MRI methods and techniques has allowed researchers to obtain images of the human brain at a resolution never before possible. These new methods provide an opportunity to increase our understanding of Dementia, particularly the changes in brain structure at a microscopic level. Using these techniques, we may be able to see Dementia related changes at an early stage in the disease and thereby aid diagnosis, in addition to increasing our understanding of the microscopic structural differences in living people with typical Alzheimer's disease and Posterior Cortical Atrophy. The study involves three MRI scanning sessions and three different visits.

Dilek is planning on inviting 10 people with PCA to take part in the study therefore would welcome our feedback if anyone would like to volunteer. However as the study is still in its planning stages, the inclusion and exclusion criteria are still under discussion which makes it difficult to start participant engagements so will therefore just involve an informal introduction at present.

2. Our second speaker is Dr Keir Yong - <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/drc/drc-people/research-staff/dr-keir-yong#> will speak to the group about his new research. We have worked a lot with Dr Keir Yong and he has talked with our support group on many occasions. Dr Keir Yong is a research psychologist at the Dementia Research Centre, University College London. His interests lie particularly in investigating perceptual impairment experienced by individuals living with neurodegenerative conditions, ultimately to develop aids and strategies to minimise the effects of such impairment. One of his researches some of us in the group have helped with at the Pamela Lab was 'Seeing What They See'.

Dr Keir Yong is due to begin a new project funded by Alzheimer's Society. The project intends to develop strategies to support activities particularly reliant on reaching and coordinating movements, for example, during dressing activities or when picking up and handling objects. He would ideally like to consult with members of the group for our feedback on the project our experience of carrying out certain everyday activities and our thoughts on professionals to particularly engage with project findings.

Access to the venue:

Those that do not need the lift and can use the stairs please park at the back of the building where the entry door to YPWD can be found on the left-hand side, just ring the bell and someone will meet you.

For those needing to use the lift please continue to park at the front of the building and we will have someone on duty manning the door.

Tea, coffee and light refreshments will be served. We do hope you can join us.

Please RSVP by Friday 22nd February 2019 to:

Helen Shepherd: helen@shepherdcharles.com M: 07860 483814