Check out the resources we've created for you to use

Since the Network was launched 16 months ago, several resources have been developed at the request of Network members.

We want these resources to reach everyone affected by young onset dementia, anyone who commissions services and any individual who works with people diagnosed with the condition. Here is a reminder of what is available.

**Care Pathway** - a set of recommendations to guide policy makers, commissioners and practitioners in designing and delivering services. Most importantly, we hope they will empower younger people with dementia and their families to demand the services to meet their needs.

**Clinic Leaflet** - a resource given to an individual on receiving a diagnosis of young onset dementia, so they are informed about national organisations they can contact for information and support.

**GP Guide** - this guide, endorsed by the Royal College of GPs, aims to support GPs in recognising the symptoms of young onset dementia.

If you have any comments, have suggestions for other resources, or would like paper versions of the GP Guide or Clinic Leaflet then please contact us at network@youngdementiauk.org

Best wishes

Donna
National Development Manager

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**The London Assembly - Making London Dementia Friendly**

The London Assembly Health Committee has been investigating what support is available for people
living with young onset dementia in London and how the capital can be made more dementia-friendly.

Young Dementia Network members gave the committee their feedback and explained what it was like to travel around London, be in employment and receive a diagnosis and gave their opinion on how London could be made more accessible for people with young onset dementia.

A public meeting took place at City Hall on 28 February where two Londoners living with young onset, including Dianne who is pictured, shared their experiences with the committee. You can view a webcast of the meeting here.

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New topics added to the Research Area of our website

In November, we created a new Research section on our website that catalogues young onset focused research studies / articles. We grouped them under

* Children and young people
* Employment and work
* Post-diagnostic support

We have now added Learning Disabilities and Genetics to the research section. Please take a look and tell us what you think. Or if you know of any completed studies that are young onset dementia specific, and would like us to include them, then please get in touch.

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New book 'Young Onset Dementia' by two Network steering group members

Young Onset Dementia, written by Dr Hilda Hayo provides key information and insight into the experiences of people living with a diagnosis of young onset dementia.

Professor Jacqueline Parkes, who is also a steering group member, contributed to the book as did Alison Ward.

To find out more or to order your copy please click here

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Dementia Action Plan for Wales
The Welsh government has committed to providing support to people in Wales with dementia and their families by pledging to invest an additional £10 million a year from 2018/2019.

A Dementia Action Plan has been developed with people affected by dementia, including Network members Chris Roberts and Jayne Goodrick who were on the task and finish group informing the government on content.

Jayne said, ‘The Welsh government were a little hesitant to involve people affected by dementia at first, but once they listened to us, myself, Chris, and our friend Nigel who is also living with young onset dementia, they realised the richness and authenticity that our voices could bring to such an important document.

‘So much so, that the publication was put back until the Minister, Vaughn Gething, had secured £10.36m, per annum, for the next five years, with a review of progress after three years. That is £51.8m. This shows that Wales is serious about tackling the impact of dementia on our elders, the young onset, and all those caring for the people with, and without, a diagnosis.’

To read the full action plan please click [here](#).

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**Congratulations to Cardiff & Vale young onset dementia service**

In a previous newsletter we told you that Network members, Cardiff and Vale young onset dementia service, were nominated for an HSJ innovations in mental health award.

Well we are pleased to tell you that they won! We want to send our congratulations to the team - they are well deserved winners.

Simon O'Donovan, team leader of the service said, 'It was so nice to have recognition of our efforts as a team and we now want to build on this with some kind of publication to raise awareness of our service and what we offer, so that others can replicate our approach.’

Find out more about the service [here](#).

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**Training Course - how to engage people with young onset dementia in meaningful activities**

Are you a professional who would like to be more aware of young onset dementia and its rarer forms?  
Need valuable knowledge and understanding of behavioural techniques?
Would you like to deliver a Younger People with Dementia workshop in your local area?

Award-winning Berkshire charity Younger People with Dementia (Berkshire) CIO is offering a two-day course that aims to cover these topics. Network steering group member, Jacqui Hussey, helped set up the charity and is the chair.

For further information please click here

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Young onset research paper review

This article titled ‘Contribution of alcohol use disorders to the burden of dementia in France 2008–13: A nationwide retrospective cohort study’ has been reviewed by Dr Hilda Hayo. You can read her review here.

Wendy Mitchell who is living with young onset dementia, said about the piece,

'Such an important research topic, especially with the rise in of 'binge drinking' amongst the young. Availability of alcohol is such now, that it is common place. It's almost as if alcohol consumption has taken the place of cigarette smoking of earlier decades. Smoking became fashionable and the health risks unknown or ignored at the time. We are all aware of the effects smoking now has with significant reduction in smoking having been the result.

'Now alcohol is has taken over this mantle and many people are unaware of the health risks associated with heavy drinking. Hopefully research such as this will alert the public to the dangers and increase risk they're taking by excessive alcohol intake and effect it could have on their chance of dementia in the future.'

You can find the original research article by Schwarzinger,M, Pollock, B.G.,Hasan, O.S.M, Dufouil, C. & Rehm,J here.

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And finally, don’t let us lose contact with you!

On 25 May 2018, data protection laws will change. This will mean that unless our charity can show that you have chosen to receive our mailings, we may have to stop sending them to you.

Please take a moment to officially sign up as a Network member and confirm the mailings you wish to receive in future via this link.