

This is an email from the Young Dementia Network sharing Network related news and information.



Lots for Network members to get involved with

Research projects, your opinion on future events and plenty of Young Dementia Network news

We have now reached over 2000 Young Dementia Network members!

The Young Dementia Network has had many achievements over the past two years and one of the most valuable things is that it enables members to connect with each other.

Through having so many members nationally and internationally I am able to connect people affected by young onset dementia, professionals and services so that peer support and best practice can develop.

It also provides me with a Network of people that I can go to for advice and options of support if I am contacted by somebody asking for help.

The more Network Members we have, the more routes of support we can make available to people affected by young onset dementia. So please encourage your friends, family and colleagues to join and help reduce the isolation that can be caused by the condition.

Best wishes

Donna
National Development Manager

We want to hear from you

On 21 June 2018, the Young Dementia Network held a research event attended by over 50 delegates, including people with young onset dementia, 'early career' researchers and experienced researchers.

Six topics emerged where it was felt more research relating to young onset dementia was needed

Children and young people
Family interventions
Employment
End of life

Technology
Health and social care professional education.

We plan to organise a follow up research event in 2019 and we would like to focus on three of these topics more closely. Please fill in this short survey to share your opinion on what we should focus on [here](#).



Network members present at Young Dementia 2018 conference

The Young Dementia 2018 conference in September attracted nearly 200 delegates.

There were presentations from Network members who are affected by young onset dementia, deliver young onset dementia services in Cardiff and the north west of England and who work in psychiatry and neurology. Plus I delivered a presentation about the Network's awareness raising project for GP surgeries.

Asides from the presentations, another highlight was the Creative Space which showcased poetry, books and art work by people affected by young onset dementia, many of whom are Network members.

Thank you to everyone for making the day so informative and interesting. We will use delegate feedback to make our 2020 conference even better.

Our GP waiting room materials might be in a surgery near you

On 29 October 2018, the Young Dementia Network launched an eight-week awareness raising pilot project in GP surgeries across Oxfordshire, Kent and Derbyshire.

The pilot will involve surgeries who have volunteered to take part across the three regions, displaying posters and leaflets about young onset dementia. Visitors to the surgeries and surgery staff will be encouraged to complete feedback forms on their thoughts about the resources, so keep your eyes peeled when you visit your local surgery as the Young Dementia Network posters and leaflets may be in there!

Feedback on this pilot will be shared early next year. If you are in any of these three areas and would like leaflets and posters for a GP surgery near you, please [email us](#).

If there are any Network members who have access to a cluster of GP surgeries in different areas then please contact us and we will see if we can run the pilot to your area too.

We hope to be able to run this on a national scale in 2019.



Get involved in research that takes just five minutes a day



Be a GameChanger and play your part in dementia research

Young Dementia Network steering group members, the Alzheimer's Society are looking for thousands of people across the UK to be GameChangers by downloading their app and playing fun, free, 'brain games' for five minutes a day, every day, for a month. It will help them understand more about how the brain works to support dementia research. Taking part is simple: Sign up, download the app and start playing!

Sign up today – www.alzheimers.org.uk/gamechanger



Every penny counts

The Young Dementia Network is a YoungDementia UK initiative.

We rely on the support of individuals and organisations who give their time and fundraise in support of the Network. If you would like to help us, you can donate online [here](#). When prompted mention the Young Dementia Network as the reason for your gift.

Thank you.

Young Dementia Network members involved in Royal College of Psychiatrists document

Over the past year, the Royal College of Psychiatrists has been working to update their document on young onset dementia in mental health services.

They have had a working group involving clinicians and researchers, many of whom are Young Dementia Network steering group members.

They have also spoken to members who are directly affected by young onset dementia.

To download a free PDF version of the report, please visit the Royal College of Psychiatrists website [here](#).

Young onset research paper review

In each issue of Young Dementia Network News, we share a review of a young onset related research article. This article titled 'Driving Cessation in Patients Attending a Young-Onset Dementia Clinic: A Retrospective Cohort Study' has been reviewed by [Dr Jacqueline Parkes](#). You can read her review [here](#).

[Wendy Mitchell](#) who is living with young onset dementia, said about the piece -

'Another research paper highlighting the significant lack of investment in what could be seen as critical data. The decision to remain or stop driving is often left to ourselves to decide. The findings in gender differences are also relevant and interesting. I too gave up driving, but was confident in my own decision and simply saw it as a nuisance rather than taking away my independence. However, surely the decision on our own safety towards ourselves and others road users should not be decided upon through gender differences

'The research clearly highlights the need for more official intervention in the decisions made of our capability to drive instead of leaving it to our own devices. But also the need for an instant access and eligibility for help in alternative modes of travel, be that through transport passes or blue badge access.

'I also believe it highlights the need for more research on personality in the way our previous character can determine the way we deal with a diagnosis and the decisions made.'

You can find the original research article by representatives from the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neurosciences, King's College London, London, UK; Psychiatry for the Elderly, Department of Health Sciences, University of Leicester, Leicester, UK; Mental Health Services for Older People, Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust, Leicester, UK [here](#).



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