

and use the implementation plan more effectively (demonstrating collective action). Teams were less likely to engage in the collective action or reflexive monitoring required to improve care integration if they did not feel engaged with their learning collaborative.

Discussion: Learning collaboratives hold promise as a strategy to improve cross-sector service collaboration for people with YOD and their families but must maximise group cohesion and shared commitment to change.

Impairment in Awareness and its Domains Vary According to the Age at Onset of Dementia

Authors: Marcia Cristina Nascimento Dourado¹, Maria Alice Tourinho Baptista¹ and Felipe de Oliveira Silva¹

1. Center for Alzheimer's disease, Institute of Psychiatry, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Introduction: Awareness is the recognition of changes caused by deficits related to the dementia process. Awareness is related to a given object, like memory functioning or functional status. Objects of awareness can be grouped into a range of domains, including cognition, functional ability, emotional and social functioning, and behavioral difficulties. Preserved awareness in people with young onset dementia (YOD) has been reported; however, there is a lack of research investigating whether there are differences in the domains of awareness impairment according to the age at onset of dementia. This study compared the differences in awareness and its domains and examined associations with cognition, functionality, neuropsychiatric symptoms, social and emotional functioning, and quality of life (QoL) among people with YOD and late onset dementia (LOD).

Methods: A group of 136 people with dementia and their caregivers (YOD= 50 and LOD= 86) were consecutively selected. We assessed awareness of disease, dementia severity, cognition, functionality, neuropsychiatric symptoms, social and emotional functioning, and QoL.

Results: People with YOD presented more neuropsychiatric symptoms and worse cognition and functional ability than those with LOD. Compared to people with LOD, there were higher levels of awareness total score, awareness of cognitive functioning and health condition, and awareness of functional activity impairments domains in people with YOD, even in the moderate stage of the disease. There were no significant differences between groups in the emotional state, and social functioning and relationships domains of awareness. Multivariate linear regressions showed that functionality had a broad relationship with awareness in people with YOD. In contrast, neuropsychiatric symptoms and QoL were more significant to the awareness of people with LOD.

Conclusion: Different clinical variables are associated with different domains in YOD and LOD groups, reinforcing the heterogeneity of awareness in dementia. Differences in awareness and its domains in YOD and LOD may be particularly relevant to enabling interventions focused on meeting their specific needs and those of their families.

Developing dementia: The existential experience of the quality of life with young-onset dementia – A longitudinal case study

Authors: Aud Johannessen^{1,2}, Marcia C. N. Dourado³ & Kirsten Thorsen¹

¹Norwegian National Centre for Ageing and Health, Vestfold Hospital Trust, Tonsberg, Norway; ²University of South-Eastern Norway, Horten, Norway, Faculty of Health and Social Sciences, Department of Health, Social and Welfare Studies; ³Institute of Psychiatry, Universidad de Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Introduction: Cognition and the ability to take care of daily activities and oneself gradually declines among people with dementia. Studies are scarce, especially regarding how people with young-onset dementia (YOD) (<65 years) experience