

University of Nottingham











Promoting Activity, Independence and Stability in Early Dementia

Delivering the PrAISED intervention

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Aim of the session

To describe how the PrAISED intervention was delivered and the key factors within this:

- Delivering the principles
- Staffing
- Support and structure
- Challenges
- Benefits
- Key reflections on 'best practice'



Delivering the principles

Core Principles

150 minutes per week at least

Promote or improve independence

Functional and active

Positive risk taking

Community or environmental access

Challenging and progressive

Work with the individual to decide what activities are done

Work with the individual to decide how the activities are done

Encourage autonomy, competence and relatedness

Tailor activities to meet autonomy, competence and relatedness needs

Activities should be specific to participant goals

Promote intrinsic motivators

Encourage habitual routine

Taper support

- Driven by understanding the person
- Flexibility in approach
- Understanding motivation
- Different to usual service –
 criteria for accessing therapy
- Training and Manual
- Intensity Decision Support Tool

- Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists and Rehabilitation Support Workers with experience and skills working with older people and people with dementia
- Approach:
 - person centred / strengths based
 - rehabilitative
 - positive risk taking
 - flexible
- Communication listening skills and ability to build rapport
- Research part time roles

Support and structure

- Supervision
- Regular team communication
- Team meetings
- Monthly teleconference and support from the central research team
- Documentation / recording including research documentation

Challenges

- Matching demand to capacity staffing levels, flow of participants
- Team communication
- Retaining staff in these additional / part time roles
- Isolated roles
- Intervention vs control
- Variability of community resources and access / transport
- Life events, illness, cognitive decline
- Delivering during the pandemic

Benefits we observed

Participants

- Improvement / maintenance in strength, balance and participation in meaningful activities
- Ability to maintain / optimise roles and function
- Support for the person with dementia and carer in the early stages of dementia
- Positive risk taking with support to the carer

Staff

- Job satisfaction
- Staff development
- Theory into practice
- Own activity levels!



Summary and reflections of what we learnt about working with people with early dementia and their carers

- Person centred / strengths based
- Staff needing this core philosophy of working
- Building rapport and trust
- Understanding motivation
- Timings of visits with and without carers
- Tailoring life events, length of intervention
- Positive risk taking
- Ability and flexibility to do 'different' things
- Team approach
- Working collaboratively with others



Thank you

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