

Psychosocial interventions in the care of persons with dementia across Europe – the SIDECAR PROJECT

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Introduction: The importance of high quality and appropriate care of people with dementia is mentioned in governmental and political statements across Europe. An increasing number of studies exploring psychosocial interventions in dementia care have shown positive outcomes. Many National Plans on dementia also emphasise the importance of both pharmacological and psychosocial care for people with dementia.

Aims: The aim of the poster is to provide an overview of how psychosocial interventions are mentioned or incorporated into strategic (political, governmental) documents on dementia.

Methods: Available strategic and policy documents and official guidelines across European countries will be reviewed to achieve the objective. Data will be collected using websites and databases and in collaboration with INTERDEM and Alzheimer Europe members.

Results: Preliminary analysis shows that many institutions, NGOs and care providers publish documents for formal and informal carers that directly specify some psychosocial interventions for use in the care of people with dementia. These organizations also organize courses and workshops that include practical training in psychosocial interventions. Government documents, e.g. National Action Plans for the care of people with dementia, usually recommend psychosocial interventions in general, mostly without specifying which interventions.

The poster will present results of the review of available European policy and strategic documents and give an overview of which documents include the topic of psychosocial interventions in the care of people with dementia. The results of the analysis of these documents will facilitate the preparation of a joint international curriculum of educational programs on psychosocial care in Higher Education within the SiDeCar – Skills in Dementia CARE; Building psychosocial knowledge and best practise in dementia care, EU Erasmus + project (KA 2).