

Dementia care and support

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Diagnosis

Early diagnosis is the critical first step in assisting people to live well with dementia

Diagnosis rates (2010/2011):

- UK national average: 43%
- Best in UK: 70%

South East diagnosis rates (2010/2011):

- South East Coast Strategic Health Authority: 38%
- South Central Strategic Health Authority: 41%

(breakdown for individual PCTs available see:

<http://www.alzheimers.org.uk/dementiamap>

Dementia advisers

- Recommended in Living well with dementia: a National Dementia Strategy.
- To act as a single point of contact for information, support and advice.



Hospital care

There is unacceptable variation in quality of care of people with dementia in hospitals

- Up to a quarter of hospital beds are occupied by someone with dementia.
- Commitments to raise standards and increase recognition of dementia in hospitals.
- Commissioning Quality and Innovation (CQUIN) to encourage recognition, assessment and ongoing care of people with dementia in hospitals.

Antipsychotic drugs

The over prescription of antipsychotic drugs is a key campaigning issue for Alzheimer's Society

- 2009 report: 180,000 people with dementia prescribed antipsychotics. Two thirds of these prescriptions inappropriate.
- Government committed to reduce use by two thirds by November 2011.
- 2012 review found 52% drop in prescriptions between 2008 and 2011.
- Progress is still variable and audit only covered people with a diagnosis of dementia.

Dementia Action Alliance

Dementia Action Alliance - charity, public and private sector working together to radically improve the lives of people with dementia.

United behind the **National Dementia Declaration**, signatories publish Action Plans that step out what they will do to improve quality of life for people with dementia.

- There are now over 170 signatories to the Alliance:
<http://dementiaaction.org.uk/site/index.php>

PM's Challenge on Dementia

- Living Well with Dementia – A National Dementia Strategy released 2009.
- The Prime Minister's challenge on dementia sets out renewed ambition to go further and faster.
- Three Champion Groups set up to focus on: driving improvements in health and care, creating dementia friendly communities and improving dementia research.
- First progress report released 8 November 2012.

Health & Care Action Plan

In addition to improved diagnosis rates, better care across settings and support for carers and families, the action plan identifies the need for:

- Wider approaches to information
- An enlightened health and social care workforce
- A reduction in inappropriate antipsychotic prescriptions
- Improved living environments
- Improved access to re-ablement and intermediate care services
- A dignified death – end of life care
- The cultural and implementation challenge across the country
- Development of a clear vision of excellent health and care
- Development of integrated local performance management
- Building capacity about commissioning services
- Development of a clear view on integration between health & local government
- A communication and engagement plan.

Dementia friendly communities

Improving inclusion and quality of life for people with dementia

- By 2015, up to 20 cities, towns and villages will have signed up to become dementia friendly.
- Championed by Alzheimer's Society, we will lead in defining and shaping the public and political space to enable the creation and delivery of dementia friendly communities.
- Working in partnership with local and national stakeholder through vehicles such as the Dementia Action Alliance.
- To establish a recognition process for dementia friendly communities.

Dementia Friends

Changing the way the nation thinks, talks and acts about dementia

- By 2015 we aim for a network of 1 million volunteers who develop a new level of understanding and awareness.
- Dementia Friends seeks to empower people to make a difference.
- Led by the Alzheimer's Society with government funding.

Register your interest at

<http://www.dementiafriends.org.uk/siteRegisterPage>

Thank you