Elements of shared decision-making in dementia care networks

Leontine Groen – van de Ven, C Smits, M Span, D Schwartz, J Jukema, G Elwyn, J Eefsting, M Vernooij-Dassen
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Introduction

- Decision-making in dementia is complex
- Multiple participants involved, multiple decisions over time
- People with dementia want to be involved in decisions about their lives
- Shared decision-making is the gold standard for involving clients in decision-making
- Unclear which elements constitute shared decision-making in dementia care networks
Research question

What are the elements of shared decision-making in care networks of people with dementia?
Methods

• Qualitative multi-perspective study
• 113 interviews (23 care networks)
• Respondents: people with dementia, informal caregivers, professionals
• Framework analysis using the model of Collaborative Deliberation (Elwyn et al 2014)
Results: 5 elements of shared decision-making in dementia care networks

1. Network engagement
2. Starting up decision-making
3. Focussing decision-making
4. Deliberating
5. Deciding and implementing
Network engagement

- Involving different participants
- Handling the interactions between care network members
- Respecting decision-making pace of the care network members
Starting up decision-making

- Changing views and perspectives of the situation
- Recognizing that a decision should be made
- Raising an issue
Focussing decision-making

• Determining who needs to be involved
• Agreeing about the problem definition
• Setting goals (well-being and safety)
Deliberating

- Talking about the options
- Exchanging considerations
- Talking about preferences
Deciding and implementing

- Weighing perspectives and interests
- Making a decision
- Trying out a course of action
- Evaluating the decision
Conclusion

• Shared decision-making in dementia care networks has a slow start

• Finding common grounds from multiple perspectives and interests is necessary

• Adjusting timing of decision-making steps is important for all participants to be involved
Thank you for your attention!

Leontine Groen – van de Ven
Lm.groen-vande.ven@windesheim.nl