Effectiveness of Integrated Dementia Care from a patients point of view

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Background Integrated dementia care

- 2005-2008: National Dementia Program a 4-year program to improve dementia care from a clients’ perspective. A successful improvement program.

- Follow-up: the second program started in 2008 ‘Purchasing integrated dementia care’.
What is integrated dementia care?

- **Goal:** to provide and purchase integrated support including casemanagement.

- **Provided care fits the needs of patients and families:**
  - Right and sufficient
  - At the right time
  - Continuous and well coordinated

- **17 building bricks for good dementia care.**
Effect of the integrated dementia care?

- > 40% of regions in the Netherlands are making real progress in the purchase of integrated dementia care.

- But: difficult for professionals and care providers.

- What are the benefits for patients and family?

- Therefore a study is conducted amongst healthcare professionals and informal carers.
Is it worth the effort?

YES!!!
What works well?

- Support and help from the casemanager
- After diagnosis a wide variety of care is available for client and family. Most satisfied with:
  - Support and guidance
  - Medical treatment
  - Activities (daycare and meeting centres)
- Close cooperation between healthcare providers ensures that:
  - The right and sufficient care at the right time
  - Problems are noticed earlier and solved quickly and effectively.
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“Case management is the invention of the century!”

“The care workers at the daycare are capable and very nice. When he comes home, he’s satisfied and relaxed, which is comfortable for me as well.”
What still needs improvement?

- Early detection of dementia
- Some types of care and support still do not fit patients needs, especially household and personal care workers lack skills and knowledge.
- Cooperation between healthcare providers; e.g. in exchanging clients information so ‘we do not have to tell the same story over and over again.’
What still needs improvement?

- Early detection of dementia
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“I had 3 different household workers but they obviously do not know how to take care of people with dementia, they are rude and impatient and constantly move his things in the bathroom; he once mistook hairspray for shaving cream!”

“The symptoms appear so gradually you do not visit a GP immediately. I consulted a GP after my mom caused an incident with her car she could not remember.”
Method

1. An overview of the situation of the integrated dementia care in the different regions, based on interviews, plans and results so far.

2. Experiences of patients (n=434):
   - Online questionnaire completed by casemanagers (n=350)
   - Interviews and focusgroups with informal carers (n=84)
Results of the study:
### 3 examples of results per region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Region 1</th>
<th>Region 2</th>
<th>Region 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Activities (e.g. daycare)</td>
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What’s next?

Fall 2010: start second measurement:
  • Partly same regions: are there any changes? Do the regions keep up the good work?
  • Partly new regions: what’s the effect of integrated dementia care for patients and their family?
What’s next?

Alzheimer Nederland:

• Study shows promising results but also shows need for improvement; further development needed in regions with integrated dementia care
• Stimulate other regions to purchase integrated dementia care.
• Advocacy (national and regional)
• Developing care standard
• Study casemanagement
Thank you for your attention!

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