

Living Well with Dementia

Opening Address

Cillian Twomey

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The Diagnosis

- Progressive Cognitive Impairment (short-term memory loss)
- impaired functional abilities
- +/-
- Behavioural & Psychological symptoms

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> Public Awareness

From:

Where's the Key? (BBC Radio 4 1970s)

To:

Still Alice (Oscar winning movie)

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Acute Confusion / Delirium

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The Diagnosis

What is Dementia?

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Delirium

- Infection
- Vascular
 - cardiac
 - neurological
- Metabolic
- Iatrogenic
- Miscellaneous

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Detailed History

Physical examination

Relevant Tests

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Dementia

1. Alzheimer's Disease

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Acute Confusion / Delirium

Acute-on-Chronic Confusion

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Alzheimer's Disease

- **Dementia**
- **Deficits in Two Areas of Cognition**
 - Short term memory loss
 - Aphasia
 - Agnosia
 - Apraxia
- **Progressive Deterioration**
- **No Clouding of Consciousness**
- **Age 40-90**
- **Absence of Systemic Disorders**

NINCDS-ADRDA Criteria
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Acute Confusion / Delirium

Acute-on-Chronic Confusion

Chronic Confusion / Dementia

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Dementia

1. Alzheimer's Disease

2. Multi-Infarct Dementia

3. Mixed Dementia (1 + 2)

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Other sub-types

- Lewy Body Dementia (LBD)
- Fronto-Temporal Dementia (FTD)
- Korsakoff's Disease
- Huntington's Disease
- Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)
- HIV-associated Dementia (HAD)

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Creating Excellence in Dementia Care (2012)

- A research h review for Ireland's National Dementia Strategy
Suzanne Cahill, Eamon O'Shea & Maria Pearce
- Dementia Services Information & Development Centre (DSIDC)
 - Living with Dementia Research Programme

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Alzheimer Europe

- Gathered the support of 42 Members of the European Parliament **from 19 different European countries** for its campaign to make dementia a European **Public Health Priority**.

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Dementia in IRL

- 26,104 living at home
- 14,266 in residential care settings
- Overall total is **>40,000 → 140,000 by 2041**
 - 537 <65 years
- Overall estimated cost = **€1.59bn** pa
 - 48% informal care
 - 43% long stay residential care
 - 2/3 all residents in LTC have dementia
 - Only 9% is for social service support costs

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Dementia across EU

- • **6.1. million** people currently live with a form of dementia in the European Union
- • **Every year, 1.4 million** people develop dementia in the European Union. **A new case arises every 24 seconds.**
- • Delays in the diagnosis of dementia average 20 months after the first appearance of symptoms and range from 10 months in Germany to 32 months in the United Kingdom.

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Uniqueness of each individual

- Personhood
- Citizenship
- encouraging the participation of people with dementia in society and in their own communities as fully as possible for as long as possible;

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Irish National Dementia Strategy (Dec 2014)

- Ensure dementia in existing and future health policies;
- Encourage participation of people with dementia as fully as possible for as long as possible;

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Implementation

- The DoH-HSE & The Atlantic Philanthropies are jointly backing the implementation of the Strategy.
 - HSE €15.5m; AP €12m over next 3 years
 - In past 3 years AP has already targeted investment in specific dementia initiatives totalling €14m that attracted €10m in co-funding from Government.
- *"The generous support of AP will allow us to implement critical actions far quicker than would otherwise have been possible"*

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– Minister Kathleen Lynch

Irish National Dementia Strategy

- prioritisation of end-of-life care in an appropriate setting for those with dementia;
- appropriate training and supervision for all those caring for or providing services to people with dementia;
- directing resources to provide the best possible outcome for those with dementia, and for their families and carers.

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Key elements of the initiative include:

- Rollout of a programme of Intensive Home Supports and Homecare Packages for people with dementia;
- Measures to raise public awareness, address stigma, and promote the inclusion and involvement in society of those with dementia.

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Irish National Dementia Strategy

- *"I am determined that dementia, or indeed old age, should not rob people of what is so valuable to them: their choice and their control over their lives, their privacy and their dignity"*
– An Taoiseach
- *"Respect for the independence and dignity of the individual underpins this Strategy from the start"*
– An Tánaiste

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Key elements of the initiative include:

- Provision of additional dementia-specific resources for GPs, who are the critical and initial point of contact with the health system for those with dementia.
- The resource material will include training materials and guidance on local services and contact points, etc.

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Today's Programme

Session 1

1. Palliative Care Needs for People with Dementia **Dr. Suzanne Timmons**
2. Expressing Sexuality in Residential Dementia Care **Ms. Eileen O'Keeffe**
3. Assisted Decision Making Capacity Bill 2015 **Ms. Carol Jermyn**

Today's Programme

Session 2

4. Time travel and Dementia – being who the person with Dementia needs **Prof. Jan Dewing**
5. Changing Minds Programme **Ms. Marie Lynch**

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Today's Programme

Session 3

6. Early Onset Dementia **Dr. Caroline Kilty**
7. Dementia Elevator Project **Dr. Kate Irving**
8. Communication and Eating Difficulties with Dementia **Ms. Eavan Fitzgerald**

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