

Edinburgh Communiqué on Opportunities for Global Collaborative Action on Dementia

Introduction

1. Following the G8 Summit Declaration of 11 December 2013, the Scottish Government convened an international meeting in Edinburgh on 9 and 10 June 2014 to discuss opportunities and priorities for sustainable international and cross-sectoral collaboration focussed on improving the quality of care in dementia services and enhancing outcomes for people with dementia and their families and carers. Delegates attended from the United Kingdom and Europe, the United States, Japan, New Zealand and the Republic of Korea.
2. We recognise that dementia is one of the foremost public health challenges of our time and that it is imperative that people get a timely and accurate diagnosis and access to a range of effective, safe and person-centred services which recognise and promote the human rights and health and wellbeing of the person with dementia.
3. We noted that there is much good work going on in each of the participating countries and there is a shared commitment to respond effectively to the challenge and to work collaboratively to accelerate progress. We believe that working collaboratively we will make progress faster both in developing effective treatments and in improving the quality of care.

Opportunities for Global Collaborative Action

4. In the course of the discussions we identified opportunities for international collaboration in the following areas:
 - A. To increase the number of people with dementia, or at risk of developing dementia, involved in clinical trials or research designed to increase the understanding of dementia and to improve the outcomes for people who have dementia and their carers.
 - B. To make greater use of technology as part of the process of offering post-diagnostic support to those with dementia and their families and carers.
 - C. To share learning and innovation from work in developing post diagnostic services.
 - D. To develop new approaches to place-based support for people with dementia and their carers, building on existing national and international models and learning from the experience of other diagnostic groups such as cancer.

- E. To identify effective ways of involving people with dementia, their carers and family members more directly in their own care co-ordination, building on the experience of self-directed support.
- F. To establish common quality standards for dementia care as a basis for improvement work and national policies.
- G. To develop data on dementia care, including comparative data, to support improvement.
- H. To share experience and approaches to change, including through the application of improvement science.
- I. To share approaches to training, workforce development and awareness raising in the general population.

5. Following the event we will discuss with participants and other colleagues which items to prioritise and the processes for taking forward collaborative action in parallel with the broader work of the legacy work, making linkages to the recent international agreement on NGO collaboration. It is likely that in the first instance we will identify two or three of the priorities for immediate attention.

6. We will continue to work together to take forward this shared agenda and we encourage and will work with others, through post-G7 structures, to connect and collaborate with other jurisdictions.

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