



European Union-level activities on new forms of care and prevention in dementia

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Jürgen Scheftlein
Unit "Health Programme and Diseases"
Health and Consumers Directorate General
European Commission



Dementia on the EU-agenda

Strategy „European Initiative on Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of Dementias“ (2009). Four priorities:

- Early (timely) diagnosis of dementia and promoting well-being with age;
- Better understanding dementia, epidemiological knowledge and coordination of research;
- Best practices in care for people with dementia;
- Respecting the rights of people with dementia.

An Implementation report was published on 16.10.2014



Implementation of dementia strategy – key activities

- Joint Action Alzheimer COoperative Valuation in Europe (ALCOVE), 2011-2013, 19 Member States, lead: France
- European Innovation Partnership Active and Healthy Ageing, launched in 2011;
- 7th EU Research Framework Programme 2007-2013 and Horizon 2020 (2014-2020)



Joint Action Alzheimer COoperative Valuation in Europe (ALCOVE)

Has estimated epidemiological data for the EU:

- Prevalence rate: 7.23% in 65 years or higher aged population (2011, EU-27 Member States) corresponding to 6.37 million cases.

Has formulated recommendations and developed toolkits. These address, with regard to care:

- Timely diagnosis of dementia;
- Support systems for Behavioural and Psychological Symptoms in Dementia;
- Antipsychotics limitation in Dementia.



European Innovation Partnership Active and Healthy Ageing

- This EU-flagship initiative was launched in 2011. It is mobilising one thousand European regions and municipalities, involving 3000 partners and 300 leading organisations.
- All relevant actors involved in ageing are involved: industry, research, healthcare providers, NGOs,...
- The objective is to increase the average healthy life years of EU-citizens by two years by 2020 by identifying European good practices and scaling them up;
- The Partnership includes two activity strands relevant for dementia: one on „**prevention of frailty and cognitive decline**“ and a further one on „**innovation for age-friendly environments**“.



EU-research and eHealth-policies

- An investment of more than 355 million Euros into research on Alzheimer's disease between 2007 and 2013 (7th Framework Programme Research) and further research is funded from the new Horizon 2020-Programme.
- eHealth is seen as having a great potential for improving prevention and care for people with dementia. So far, three projects have been completed, further ones are being implemented.



Respecting the rights of people with dementia Empowering NGOs

- The NGO Alzheimer Europe receives financial support from the EU Health Programme. This support is used to cover its operating costs and organise annual conferences.



EU-approach to dementia

The implementation of the EU-dementia strategy combines a variety of instruments:

- Promotion of cooperation between Member States (Joint Action);
- Mobilising actors from various backgrounds in regions (EIP);
- Using own EU-financial instruments (Research and Health Programmes);
- Supporting NGOs.

Next step: Second Joint Action on Dementia (2015-2018), to be led by United Kingdom (Scotland).