Report on dementia prevention and care in Italy

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Italy at a glance



Area: 301,340 sq km

Population: 60 million

% urban population 68.36

Life expectancy at birth (2011): 82

Male: 79.4

Female: **84.5**

Total fertility rate (2011): 1.39

Source: ISTAT

WHO European health for all database

Italy and dementia

- ▶ 1.000.000 people with dementia (estimate)
- 3.000.000 estimated family carers
- In 2000 the so-called «Project CRONOS», starting from an observational study on drugs, established a new approach to dementia which multiplied the number of health services all over Italy (from 50 to 500 Units, regionally based)

Services for dementia in Italy (survey 2006)



n° of dementia Units /Memory clinics: 503

Over 2000 professionals working



Services for dementia: survey 2014

- A new survey is undergoing to update information on the global offer of services in the Country, taking into account the differences among the 20 Italian Regions
- Data will be the basis for monitoring the application of the new National strategy (2014)
- Local and regional needs are crucial for organizing services, in the framework of National Laws and assuring essential levels of quality care

The National Plan on dementia

The plan has been developed by the Ministry of health in cooperation with the Regions, the National Institute of health and the major National patients/carers Associations

The strategy addresses:

- Prevention
- Network of services
- Integrated care
- Research
- Ethics and empowerment of patients/carers

The National Plan on dementia

The actions listed aim at:

- Integrating disciplines and professionals
- Integrating health and social approach and functions
- Training specialists, also in common settings with GPs and carers
- Developing/adjourning Guidelines and Consensus documents

The National Plan on dementia

- Assuring quality of care through continuous monitoring
- Promoting empowerment of people with dementia
- Fighting stigma and promoting social inclusion
- Offering support to carers and involving them in every phase of disgnosis/treatment