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Early Psychosocial Interventions in Dementia

Evidence-Based Practice

Edited by Esme Moniz-Cook and Jill Manthorpe

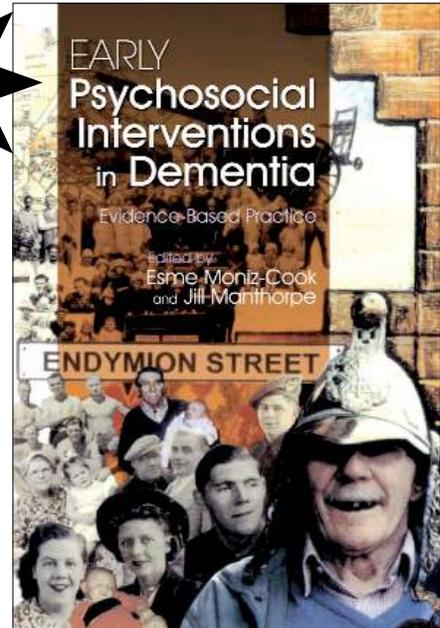
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For the increasing number of people diagnosed with dementia each year, treatment in the early stages can make a significant difference to their quality of life. This book provides examples of psychosocial interventions: taking into consideration the individual, social and environmental aspects of the person's life.

It looks at ways of providing support at the time of diagnosis and goes on to explore a variety of interventions and services for the treatment of early dementia. Bringing together the knowledge and experiences of professionals from both the UK and Europe, the contributors describe interventions for both psychological and practical problems with case examples such as memory support groups, art therapies and assistive technologies for use in the home.

This accessible book will be essential reading for practitioners and carers working with those with early dementia and will be extremely useful in both professional development and for those new to dementia care.

Esme Moniz-Cook is Professor of Clinical Psychology and Ageing at the Institute of Rehabilitation, University of Hull and Chair of the Board of INTERDEM, a pan-European multi-professional scientist practitioner group dedicated to developing psychological interventions and support for people with dementia and their families. She has worked in the NHS for over 25 years. **Jill Manthorpe** is Professor of Social Work at King's College London and Director of the Social Care Workforce Research Unit. She has worked in the voluntary sector and in education for many years, concentrating on services for older people. She was a member of the NICE/SCIE dementia guidelines group and is a member of INTERDEM.



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Early-stage memory loss support groups: outcomes from a randomized controlled clinical trial. *Journal of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences & Social Sciences*.65(6):691-697. doi:10.1093/geronb/gbq054. This study comprises an RCT comparing a 9-session structured early-stage dementia support group program (n=96) to a wait-list control group (n=46). MMSE scores for the intervention group was 23.2 (4.7) and for the control group was 24.0 (3.8). There is some uncertainty with regards to the value of psychosocial interventions for people with more severe dementia. [New 2015]. Feasibility (including resource use considerations). Dementia is a major global health problem; in the absence of a cure there is increasing focus on risk reduction, timely diagnosis, and early intervention. Primary and secondary care doctors play complementary roles in dementia diagnosis; differential diagnoses include cognitive impairment due to normal ageing and depression. Cost effective drug (acetylcholinesterase inhibitors) and non-drug interventions such as cognitive stimulation therapy exist that help to delay cognitive deterioration and improve quality of life; information provision and practical support are also important. Discussions The potential of psychosocial interventions in dementia needs to be explored further in studies using improved methodology to determine effective components, clinical relevance and duration of effects, predictors of individual treatment response and health-economic implications. Publication types. Comparative Study. English Abstract. Review. MeSH terms. Aged. Psychosocial interventions in dementia care research: The INTERDEM manifesto. Article. Full-text available. A shift in priorities from early diagnosis to early recognition of dementia with clinically significant CB could bridge the emerging gap and inequities of care to families. Formalised service improvements in the NHS, to co-ordinate such interventions, may stimulate better opportunities for practice models and pathways.