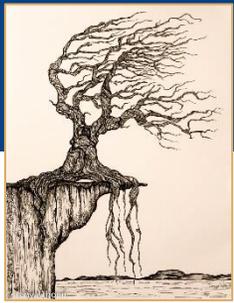


Dementia prevention: a scoping review of the views, attitudes and beliefs of GPs and practice nurses



Kali Godbee, Victoria Palmer, Jane Gunn, Nicola Lautenschlager. *The PRECIPICE Project: Preventing Cognitive Impairment in Primary Care*

Background

The PRECIPICE Project aims to support general practitioners (GPs) and practice nurses (PNs) to work with their patients to reduce dementia risk. To map evidence of GPs and PNs views on dementia prevention, we conducted a scoping review.

Methods

The protocol for this review was registered with Prospero (CRD42018084053). We followed guidance from the Joanna Briggs Institute on conducting systematic scoping reviews.¹ This involved:

- (i) defining and aligning the objectives, research questions, and inclusion criteria, and describing the planned approach
- (ii) evidence searching, selection, extraction, and charting
- (iii) summarising the evidence

We consulted librarians and experts throughout the process.

RQ1: What evidence exists on the views, attitudes and beliefs of GPs and practice nurses about dementia prevention?

RQ2: What is the extent of the evidence-base, compared to the extent of evidence on the views of other populations?

Sources	Limits	Groups of terms	Exclusion criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MEDLINE • PsycINFO • CINAHL • Embase 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English-language • 1995-2017 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dementia • prevention • views/attitudes/beliefs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge • screening • diagnosis • management

Inclusion criteria

- Quant or qual studies about dementia prevention views
- Sample at least 50% GPs/PNs, or data presented separately

Selecting the evidence

Out of 16,835 unique records, 368 articles were reviewed in full for eligibility. 137 articles were not quant or qual studies, and 113 articles were not about dementia prevention. Of the remaining 118 studies, 93 (78%) reported views of laypersons. Eight studies (7%) reported views of university students, and 10 (8%) reported views of health professionals other than GPs or PNs. In total, 6 studies in 7 articles reported views, attitudes or beliefs of GPs or PNs.

Charting the evidence (6 studies)

Country	Year	Design	Sample size	Sample type	Aspects*
USA	2007/8	Qual	49	Mixed ^a	A, B, C
USA	2002	Quant	171	Mixed	B
USA	2008	Quant	972	GPs only	A, B, C
USA	2009	Quant	1250	GPs/PNs	B
Europe ^b	2004	Quant	605	Mixed	A
Israel	2011	Quant	197	GPs only	B

^a Mixed sample of health professionals. ^b France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain and the UK

*Aspects of dementia prevention assessed		Studies
A	Belief that dementia is preventable	3/6 (50%)
B	Views on what advice to give patients	5/6 (83%)
C	Perceived barriers to discussing dementia prevention with patients	2/6 (33%)

Narrative summary

- Views of GPs and PNs on dementia prevention are poorly understood, especially in contrast to the views of laypeople
- Some GPs and PNs believed there was insufficient evidence that dementia was preventable
- GPs and PNs preferred to advise patients to increase activity (social, physical and mental) rather than take medication
- GPs and PNs viewed time, money, competing health issues and patient disinterest as barriers to discussing dementia prevention
- Further research is required to understand the views, attitudes and beliefs of GPs and PNs about dementia prevention

Visit go.unimelb.edu.au/mjd6 to register your interest in an online focus group discussion about dementia prevention.