

Cannock Health Scrutiny Committee Meeting

3rd September 2012

Dementia Care – Southern Staffordshire

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What is Dementia?

The term 'dementia' describes a set of symptoms that include loss of memory, mood changes, and problems with communication and reasoning. There are many types of dementia. The most common are Alzheimer's disease and vascular dementia. Dementia is progressive, which means the symptoms will gradually get worse. Alzheimers Society Website - <http://www.alzheimers.org.uk/>

Alzheimer's – It is a physical disease affecting the brain. During the course of the disease, protein 'plaques' and 'tangles' develop in the structure of the brain, leading to the death of brain cells.

Vascular Dementia - It is caused by problems in the supply of blood to the brain.

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How can we improve early diagnosis?

- GP Education
- Public/professional awareness
- Awareness Raising Campaigns
- Family/carer support
- Screening – using Mini Mental Score Assessment tools via the GP
- Referral to Memory Clinic
- Dementia CQUIN (Commissioning for Quality and Innovation) – Trust organisations

Current diagnosis rates

Cannock chase

Number of people diagnosed – 428

Prevalence – 1,088 (2012)

Difference of - 660

Staffordshire

3,013 – number on dementia register in 2011 – south staffs

38.3% diagnosed against expected prevalence of 7,862

Percentage increase in diagnosis of 0.8% compared to 2010

Nationally

Total number of people living with dementia in the UK is approx. £800,000

Total number of people living with dementia in England is approx. 648,895

Memory Clinics

Currently provided by MAC UK – Clinics are based across all 5 districts in xxx locations.

The number of patients currently on their database xx

The number of patients seen xxx

Average waiting time is approx. xxx



Services currently available in Southern Staffordshire

MAC UK – provider memory clinics, assessment services, diagnosis and referral to the dementia advisory service

Alzheimer's Society – provide dementia advisory service, sign posting, arms length support, carer advice clinics

Mental Health Trust – community mental health teams for those with complex and challenging needs, home care service (complex and challenging)

Approach – Informal carer training

Carers Association South Staffs – Alz café service

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Current Service Issues

- Capacity within the system i.e. staff resource
- Communication issues with MAC UK
- Victims of our own success – more GPs are referring into the memory clinics
- Dementia CQUIN
- Referral process
- Gaps in the pathway
- Decline in need for day centre services

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Good News Stories

- Local Progress in Cannock Chase District
- Insert here
- Case Studies
- Insert here
- Dementia LSP Group
- Dementia strategy workshop
- Task and finish Group

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The **MASE** Group

Monthly Alzheimer's Support Evening



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Bob's Story

Retired postman with early dementia, loves walking but sometimes gets lost

He loves football, his friends, family and chocolate

Family anxious – wanting to do the right thing

Tried a day centre but bored and restless – it was not right for him. BUDDI used for assessment and highlighted abilities. He now uses direct payments to fund BUDDI and community activities.

Outcomes – Safer walking, Football and Chocolate! Bob Happy and remains part of his community every day, family reassured



Next Steps

- Address the gaps in the pathway i.e. Crisis support service, CPN capacity, staff training etc
- Need to develop Dementia Friendly communities by creating a Dementia Friendly Staffordshire
 - Working with partners such as Fire & Police, as well as private sector
- New South Staffs Dementia Strategy
- More support for carers

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