

Meeting IPA Shared Interest Forum on Young-onset Dementia

Chair: Raymond Koopmans

With the rising prevalence of dementia, numbers of people with Young Onset Dementia will probably increase too. Young onset dementia is increasingly being recognized as an important psychosocial and medical health problem with serious consequences for both patients and their families. In several countries it is acknowledged that this group of people, in which dementia started before the age of 65 years, has special needs and therefore a need for support and health care services that are particularly designed to fit those needs. However, the number of these special health care services is scarce.

Main Objectives of the Young Onset Dementia Shared Interest Forum:

- Establishing a network of professionals and researchers that are involved in the care and research of people with Young Onset Dementia
- Exchanging ideas between countries to improve care for people with Young Onset Dementia
- Establish international research projects.

During the meeting we will explore opportunities for international collaboration in new research projects.

Keynote Lecture: Emerging Concepts in Combating Ageism, Protecting and Promoting Human Rights and Mental Health of Older Persons

Amal Abou Rafeh and Claudia Mahler

Plenary Sessions

Plenary Session 1 : Healthy Ageing and the role of physical and social environments

John Beard

Overview: The UN Decade of Healthy Ageing aims to foster the ability of people in the second half of life to be and to do the things they value. But, since older populations are extremely heterogenous, action cannot be generic. In 2015, WHO developed a life course approach that is tailored around the intrinsic capacity of the individual (including their cognitive and psychological capacity). This presentation will explore how this framework can help identify opportunities to foster healthy ageing through strategies to retain the highest level of capacity possible; break down ageist barriers; build environments that compensate for losses of capacity; and enable people to maintain lives of meaning and dignity despite significant losses.

Plenary Session 2: Late onset psychosis / schizophrenia

Manabu Ikeda and Dilip Jeste

Overview: This presentation will focus on late-onset schizophrenia (LOS) as well as ageing of persons with early-onset schizophrenia (EOS). 20% of middle-aged and older patients with schizophrenia have onset of illness after age 40. LOS is characterized by female preponderance, better premorbid functioning, fewer positive symptoms, and less cognitive impairment than EOS. EOS presents a paradox of aging – i.e., there is accelerated physical aging with multimorbidity and elevated mortality, while the mental well-being tends to improve with age. Adverse social determinants of health such as childhood traumas, social isolation, discrimination, and food insecurity worsen health. On the other hand, family and social support and access to necessary healthcare enhance the likelihood of sustained remission and recovery.

Antipsychotics tend to be effective at doses lower than those in young adults, though the risk of side effects is higher. Psychosocial interventions like cognitive behavior therapy and social skills training are useful. It is important to employ the principles of Positive Psychiatry including promotion of resilience, social connections, optimism, and healthy lifestyle in people with schizophrenia

Plenary Session 3: The importance and value of psychosocial care in dementia in historical perspective, with reflection and commentary

Rose Marie Dröes

Overview: Prof. Dröes will discuss the importance and value of psychosocial care and support for people with dementia and their informal carers. She will look back at new insights that have emerged in this field over the past decades through (inter)national research and practice innovation. For example, the importance of sufficient activation in long-term care facilities, insights into the causes of behavioral and mood disruptions in dementia and the influence of interaction with the environment on this, the importance of integrative person-centered care, in line with the needs and what is relevant for the individual person's quality of life, and the importance of good combined support for people with dementia and their careers, as shaped among others by the successful Meeting Centres Support Programme. Also the potential of assistive technology will be addressed. The lecture will conclude with a look at the future, the further development of psychosocial care in dementia through research, but also through education, and connection and exchange with practice, which are prerequisites for the successful implementation of innovations.

Plenary Session 4: Disease-Modified Drug

Masaru Mimura

Plenary Session 5: The role of social connectedness in the multifactorial demential syndrome. Does social life matter? - IPA/INTERDEM live webinar

Sube Banerjee and Marjolein de Vugt

Overview: Dementia is influenced by multiple factors. It is crucial to learn more about the impact of these factors. Here we focus on the role of social health, that might have different faces around the world. Join us on July 2nd in Lisbon Portugal at our 2023 IPA International Congress for presentations and discussion on this exciting topic. Eminent dementia experts will present data on the role of social health in dementia. In this webinar, participants will gain an understanding of how social life can impact dementia and the perspectives for interventions to prevent and live well with dementia. As with all programs in the IPA Webinar Series, this presentation is intended as an educational event on topics that are timely and relevant to the field of mental health for older adults.

Symposia

S1: Social health in the context of dementia

Symposium Overview:

The recognition of dementia as a multifactorial disorder encourages the exploration of potentially modifiable risk factors. Social health might play a role in cognitive decline and dementia. The Social Health And REserve in the Dementia patient journey (SHARED) project aims to unravel the interplay between social health and biological and