

MAPPING SPECIALIST DEMENTIA SERVICES IN THE NORTH WEST OF ENGLAND

PSSRU

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BACKGROUND The aims of the North West Dementia Centre are to promote effective research in the care of people with dementia and to raise awareness of effective approaches to the care of people with dementia through the dissemination of findings. As part of this, the centre has undertaken a mapping survey of dementia services in the North West of England.

PURPOSE The purpose of this cross sectional study is three-fold. First, to identify all specialist services/teams involved in the delivery of care for people with dementia and their carers in the North West. Second, to describe in detail how these services are organised and, third to note their location. This provides information about the level and standard of specialist dementia services and permits the development of a schematic model of a dementia services system. Issues of substitution and complementarity as well as possible performance measures will be reviewed. In the future this will provide baseline data for further evaluative work.

DESIGN People with dementia and their carers are in touch with a wide range of generic services. The focus within the current survey is on services that have a specialist focus on dementia care. These are defined as services or resources which are provided exclusively, or which have part of them dedicated specifically, for people with dementia and/or their informal carers. The study has three phases:

- Identification of specialist dementia services in the North West of England by means of an initial questionnaire sent to key people in the NHS Trust, Health Authority, Social Services Department and voluntary organisations;
- A more detailed questionnaire sent to specialist dementia services to determine service configuration, resources and patterns of service. Information will also be collected on indicators of good practice in dementia care that will form an integral part of the service directory;

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The **Personal Social Services Research Unit** undertakes social and health care research, focusing particularly on policy research and analysis of equity and efficiency in community care and long term care and related areas, including services for elderly people, people with mental health problems and children in care. The Unit's work is funded mainly by the Department of Health.

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- The categorisation of services and areas within a theoretical framework of indicators representing standards of care including: availability, access, capacity, utilisation, and style of provision.
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**FURTHER
INFORMATION**

The PSSRU/NWDC staff conducting the study at the University of Manchester are David Challis, Siobhan Reilly, Michele Abendstern, Dan Venables, Jane Hughes and Alistair Burns of the Manchester Mental Health and Social Care Trust. Ken Wilson, Department of Old Age Psychiatry, University of Liverpool is a collaborator. For further information please contact Siobhan Reilly tel 0161 275 5680 email Siobhan.Reilly@man.ac.uk
