

psychological factors on the trajectory from cognitive healthy. A multi-method approach is used, including the development of a conceptual framework for social health and its application in epidemiological and qualitative studies. Epidemiological studies in the SHARED project reveal potentially modifiable social health characteristics or markers associated with cognitive decline, dementia and mortality. This may shape new avenues for future interventions to prevent or delay cognitive decline and dementia and to enhance living well with dementia.

Conceptual framework for social health: identification of modifiable and protective and risk factors

Authors: Myrra Vernooij-Dassen, Eline Verspoor, Suraj Samtani, Perminder S Sachdev, M. Arfan Ikram, Meike W. Vernooij, Claudia Hubers, Rabih Chattat, Marta Lenart-Bugla, Joanna Rymaszewska, Dorota Szczesnia, Henry Brodaty, Anna-Karin Welmer, Jane Maddock, Isabelle F van der Velpen, Henrik Wiegelman, Anna Marseglia, Marcus Richards, Rene Melis, Marjolein de Vugt, Esme Moniz-Cook, Yun-Hee Jeon, Marieke Perry, Karin Wolf-Ostermann AND INTERDEM taskforce social health

Objective: The recognition of dementia as a multifactorial disorder encourages the exploration of new pathways to understand its origins. Social health might play a role in cognitive decline and dementia, but conceptual clarity is lacking and this hinders investigation of associations and mechanisms. Social health might provide a new perspective on social connectedness. The objective is to develop a conceptual framework for social health to advance conceptual clarity in future studies and to identify potentially modifiable risk and protective factors in the “Social Health And Reserve in the Dementia patient journey (SHARED)” project.

Methods: The methods include the process of building the conceptual framework. We used the following steps: underpinning for concept advancement, concept advancement by the development of a conceptual model, and exploration of its potential feasibility.

Results: Underpinning of the concept drew from a synthesis of theoretical, conceptual and epidemiological work, and resulted in the definition of social health as well-being that relies on capacities both of the individual and the social environment. In the conceptual framework the abstract definition has been elaborated into more precisely defined domains at both the individual and the social environmental levels. This allowed to identify domain related social health characteristics or markers in epidemiological data bases and to investigate associations between these markers and cognitive decline and dementia. The associated social health markers represent potentially modifiable risk and protective factors. Examples are “social engagement” in the participation domain at the individual level, and “frequency of contact” in the structure domain, “exchange of support” in the function domain and “loneliness” in the appraisal domain at the environmental level. The conceptual framework facilitated identification of domain related markers in the SHARED project, thus showing its potential feasibility.

Discussion: The conceptual framework provides guidance for future research and facilitates identification of potentially modifiable risk and protective factors. These may shape new avenues for preventive interventions. We highlight the paradigm of social health in dementia as a priority for dementia research.

How to measure social health in the context of cognitive decline and dementia - A systematic review on instruments.

Authors: Henrik Wiegelmann^{1*}, Marta Lenart-Bugla², Myrra Vernooij-Dassen³, Eline Verspoor³, Imke Seifert¹, Dorota Szczesniak², Joanna Rymaszewska², Rabih Chattat⁴, Yun-Hee Jeon⁵, Esme Moniz-Cook⁶, Martina Roes⁷, Marieke Perry³, **Karin Wolf-Ostermann¹**

¹Department of Nursing Science Research, Institute of Public Health and Nursing Research, University of Bremen, 28359 Bremen, Germany;

²Department of Psychiatry, Wroclaw Medical University, 50-367 Wroclaw, Poland; marta.lenart@umw.edu.pl (M.L.B.), dorota.szczesniak@umw.edu.pl (D.S.), joanna.rymaszewska@umw.edu.pl (J.R.)