

WONCA June 24-27, 2020

Acceptance of a toolbox on dementia by German general practitioners and practice assistants: Results from a cluster-randomized study

Anna-Liesa Filbert, Sabine Christine Jäger, Birgitta Weltermann

Institute of General Practice and Family Medicine, University of Bonn, Venusberg-Campus 1,
53127 Bonn, Germany

Background: Dementia is an age-related syndrome that was estimated to affect 46.8 million people worldwide (2015). In aging populations, the prevalence of patients with dementia is expected to rise. General practitioners (GPs) are often the first to be contacted for signs of dementia. This cluster-randomized trial (CRT) investigates the effects of a toolbox for GP practices with four tools to facilitate dementia care: patient brochures and poster for the waiting room in three languages, information card for professionals and diagnostic tools in different languages. GPs and practice personal of the intervention group were asked for their acceptance and use of the toolbox.

Methods: After three months, GPs and medical assistants of the intervention group were surveyed using a standardized self-administered questionnaire offered by mail. Details on the acceptance and use of the toolbox were requested.

Results: A total of 52 GPs and practice assistants (PrA) (14 GPs and 36 PrA) from 15 practices filled the questionnaire. Of the participants, 28.8% reported the use of two or more tools, while 19.2% had used none. In descending order, the brochures (71.2%), the information card (57.7%) and the poster (40.4%) were used. If used, professionals considered the poster (71.2%) and the brochures (80.8%) as helpful for patients. 75% of the practice personal valued the information card as helpful.

Conclusion: Overall, the dementia toolbox was accepted by both professional groups. Detailed results of the CRT will be presented at the congress.