

functioning. Estimates were (N=1,950) adjusted for demographics, chronic disease, depression, and social connectedness. In all groups, loneliness was positively associated with greater global cognitive decline over the 5-year interval. However, analyses of different domains of cognitive functioning (e.g., executive functioning, memory) suggested that this association differs by cognitive domain and race. Future research on interventions to prevent cognitive decline should consider targeting loneliness, include diverse older adults, and examine global and specific domains of cognitive functioning.

Session 4610 (Symposium)

STRATEGIES TO DESIGN TECHNOLOGY PROMOTING SOCIAL PARTICIPATION OF PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA AND THEIR CAREGIVERS

Chair: Karin Wolf-Ostermann

Discussant: Jane Flanagan

Community-dwelling people with dementia and their caregivers face increasing challenges to active social participation as the condition progresses. Potential difficulties include disclosing the condition, navigating through available support and sustaining interpersonal relationships. Dementia-friendly support services and interventions targeting caregiving dyads can promote social participation. Interventions serve as a communication channel for the dyads to engage, interact and partake in their community. Technology as a facilitator is gaining momentum; increasing evidence suggests that technological solutions contribute to promoting social health for people with dementia and family caregivers. Patient and public involvement and rigorous evaluations of solutions are needed to ensure successful implementation of dementia-friendly technologies. This symposium, presented as a part of the Marie-Curie Innovative-Training-Network action, H2020-MSCA-ITN, grant agreement number 813196, comprises four pertinent presentations. The first presentation outlines the effectiveness of technological interventions to improve social participation of older adults with and without dementia, and barriers and facilitators these interventions present. The second presentation describes disclosure decisions faced by dyads and Patient and public involvement findings on how an existing empowerment intervention supporting disclosure decision-making can transfer to an online environment. The third presentation reports on findings from a study evaluating a tablet-based activation system designed to engage caregiving dyads in social sessions. The final presentation lifts the focus towards how existing online environments can be adapted through dementia-friendly privacy policy agreements, and thereby support social participation of this user group online. Our discussant, Jane Flanagan, synthesizes the presentations and leads a discussion of future directions for policy and practice.

TECHNOLOGY-DRIVEN DYADIC INTERACTION SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY-DWELLING PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA AND FAMILY CAREGIVERS

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People with dementia and their family caregivers struggling with the impacts of the condition on cognitive abilities, experience deterred social interactions and strained relationships. Technology can potentially sustain the relationship by engaging dyads in joint activities and supporting their interaction. This study aimed to evaluate the impact of a tablet-based activation system, I-CARE, specifically designed to engage people with dementia in meaningful activities. In this intervention, community-dwelling people with dementia and their family caregiver engaged in joint activities supported by the I-CARE system. Quantitative measures on quality of life, relationship quality and caregiver burden are collected, while semi-structured interviews explore the impact of Covid-19, as well as what motivates the participants to invite technology into their dyadic interactions. Our findings provide important insight in how technology can support social health and relationship sustenance of dyads living with dementia, and what implications Covid-19 has for their social participation in society.

INDIVIDUALS' DECISION TO DISCLOSE A DIAGNOSIS OF DEMENTIA AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ONLINE EMPOWERMENT INTERVENTION

Gianna Kohl,¹ Mauricio Molinari Ulate,² Jem Bhatt,³ Jennifer Lynch,⁴ Katrina Scior,³ and Georgina Charlesworth,³ 1. *University College London, University College London, England, United Kingdom*, 2. *University of Salamanca, Salamanca, Castilla y Leon, Spain*, 3. *University College London, London, England, United Kingdom*, 4. *University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield, England, United Kingdom*

Learning to live with a diagnosis of dementia is a complex process. Many people affected by dementia choose not to disclose the diagnosis to others and avoid social activities due to fear of others' adverse reactions. This in turn can limit their social participation and negatively affect their psychosocial health. A systematic review explored factors influencing the decision to disclose or conceal a dementia diagnosis to one's social network, including individuals' attitudes and experiences regarding this decision. The sixteen studies included reveal the complexity of this decision. Findings highlight the role of stigma and individuals' wishes to remain 'normal', but also the need of explaining what has changed. Results were further discussed with people with dementia and informal caregivers as part of patient and public involvement. End users expressed their attitudes, needs, and wishes towards the design of an online empowerment intervention supporting disclosure decision-making in people affected by dementia.

TECHNOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS AND SOCIAL PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY-DWELLING OLDER ADULTS WITH OR WITHOUT DEMENTIA

Pascale Heins,¹ Lizzy Boots,² Wei Qi Koh,³ An Neven,⁴ Frans Verhey,² and Marjolein de Vugt,² 1. *Maastricht University, Maastricht, Limburg, Netherlands*, 2. *Alzheimer Centrum Limburg, Maastricht University, Maastricht, Limburg, Netherlands*, 3. *National University of Ireland Galway, Galway, Galway, Ireland*, 4. *UHasselt - Hasselt University, Transportation Research Institute (IMOB), Diepenbeek, Limburg, Belgium*

Social isolation is a growing health issue in community-dwelling older adults with and without dementia as it can negatively affect their health and well-being. Consequently, psychosocial interventions targeting their social participation are increasingly gaining importance. So far, however, little is known about the potential of technological interventions in this population. Therefore, this systematic review explored the effectiveness of technological interventions in improving social participation of community-dwelling older adults with and without dementia. Records identified through five scientific databases were independently screened by two reviewers. A total of 36 studies published between 2005 and 2020 were included in a narrative synthesis. Studies differed widely in study design, type of technology, used outcome measures, and methodological quality. However, the findings highlight the potential role of technological interventions in improving different dimensions of social participation. At the same time, barriers and facilitators of these interventions to social participation were identified.

USER-CENTERED DESIGN OF A DEMENTIA-FRIENDLY PRIVACY POLICY FOR THE FINDMYAPPS INTERVENTION

David Neal,¹ Yvonne Kerkhof,² Teake Ettema,¹ Karin Dijkstra,² and Rose-Marie Dröes,¹ *1. Amsterdam UMC, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, Netherlands, 2. Saxion University of Applied Sciences, Deventer, Overijssel, Netherlands*

The ability of people with dementia and their caregivers to successfully navigate online environments is increasingly important to their social health. However, uncertainty about privacy online is an important barrier. Theoretically, access to published privacy policies should allow users of websites or software applications to make informed decisions. In practice, such documents are often complicated texts, and consequently even less accessible to people with cognitive impairment than to the general population. We present results from a multi-stakeholder, user-centred design process, towards an accessible alternative: a ‘dementia-friendly privacy policy’. Three design sprints took place in 2021, led by participants of the ‘Smart Solutions Semester’ at Saxion University of Applied Sciences in the Netherlands, in collaboration with cognitively unimpaired laypeople, people with dementia, informal caregivers, and expert stakeholders. Outputs were specifications for the solution, low-fidelity prototypes and high-fidelity prototypes, respectively. The dementia-friendly privacy policy is now ready for implementation and further evaluation.

Session 4615 (Symposium)

THE BLUES AND OLDER MINORITY MUSICIANS XXVIII: MORE THAN JUST MUSIC

The GSA “‘Bo Diddley’ Track” goes virtual again to present its 28th consecutive Annual Scientific Meeting of outstanding music, personal and musical narrative, and fun regardless of hurricanes, recessions, riots (ok-ok-so it was just a little good-natured audience rowdiness at one of the performances at GSA). Instead of the Rhythm Room or Warsaw Wally’s in Phoenix, the program returns to Chicago

on 11/13, 6pm Eastern with the “Sweetheart of the Blues” - Shirley Johnson, one of the famous “Mojo Mamas” performing regularly at BLUE Chicago since the 1990s. Like so many Blues artists, she started in church at age 10 and later, influenced by Mahalia Jackson, Koko Taylor, Etta James, and Ruth Brown, her music is described as a “gritty, big-voiced blues singer” who also reaches heights of “soulful and smooth”. She turns everything she does into a work of art. Grab your favorite beverage and join us for rousing music and a great party. No rioters allowed!

Session 4620 (Symposium)

THE IMPACT AND RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE AS LIVED BY OLDER ADULTS

Chair: Robin Fenley

Co-Chair: Toni Antonucci

Discussant: Robin Fenley

A growing body of literature documents the domino effects of climate change on the planet and all life. Chief among these changes is the rise in global temperatures, triggering record numbers of heatwaves, and stronger, more dangerous hydrologic events. While climate change looms as a preeminent threat to our planet and future, the public health and human rights ramifications are already apparent. As with many issues in this realm, the effects are felt to a greater degree by our aging populations. As disasters grow in frequency, the more vulnerable populations are at greater risk for more serious outcomes – and will suffer disproportionately from the effects of climate change – resulting in greater inequalities. With the consequences of climate change growing more drastic, these outcomes can be expected to climb unless sufficient measures are enacted to combat global warming. In this symposium we will highlight the link between climate change and its impact on the human rights of older adults, and how climate change threatens progress across the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) - a blueprint for a more equitable and healthier planet - if decisive actions are not taken. This symposium will demonstrate what valuable opportunities exist to accelerate progress by leveraging the links between SDGs to combat inequalities and climate change. Panelists will discuss the adverse effects of climate change, the human rights and psychological impacts on older adults, and potential action steps and strategies for older persons to become empowered as advocates for climate change reform.

PSYCHOLOGICAL RISK AND RESILIENCE OF OLDER PEOPLE’S EXPOSURE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Toni Antonucci, *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States*

Climate change places older people at physical and psychological risk. Even small changes in temperature (+/- 1 degree) results in increased morbidity and mortality. Further, the burden of climate change is not borne equally. The stress and mental ill health associated with disasters are especially borne by women, older adults, persons of color, low-income populations, those with preexisting conditions, poor support networks, and those residing in sub-standard housing. Older people are disproportionately represented in these