



**Manchester
Metropolitan
University**

Carter, Janet and O'Malley, Mary and Campbell, Jackie and Stamou, Vasileios and La Fontaine, Jenny H and Oyebode, Jan and Parkes, Jacqueline (2020) The status of current clinical practice in diagnosis of young onset dementia in England: Findings from The Angela Project. *Alzheimer's & Dementia*, 16 (S6). ISSN 1552-5260

Downloaded from: <http://e-space.mmu.ac.uk/627337/>

Publisher: Wiley

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1002/alz.043465>

Please cite the published version

<https://e-space.mmu.ac.uk>

Neuropsychiatry and behavioral neurology/assessment/measurement of neuropsychiatric/behavioral and psychological symptoms

The status of current clinical practice in diagnosis of young onset dementia in England: Findings from The Angela Project

Janet Carter¹ | Mary O'Malley² | Jackie Campbell² | Vasileios Stamou³ |
Jenny H. La Fontaine³ | Jan Oyebode³ | Jacqueline Parkes²

¹ UCL, London, United Kingdom

² University of Northampton, Northampton, United Kingdom

³ University of Bradford, Bradford, United Kingdom

Correspondence

Janet Carter, UCL, London, United Kingdom.
Email: j.carter@ucl.ac.uk

Abstract

Background: The presentation of dementia in young people is complex and challenging, often resulting in delays in receiving a confirmed diagnosis and appropriate support. A recent Delphi consensus has derived minimum and gold standards for the diagnostic workup that international expert clinicians consider best practice. This presentation will review the results of a large case note audit that assessed compliance with these standards in current UK clinical practice.

Method: 403 patient records of young people who received a diagnosis of dementia in the last 5 years were audited according to our minimum and gold standards. Records were obtained from memory services within eight different National Health Service locations from across England.

Result: We found significant differences between the sites in meeting the standards, though all sites had median scores that were below 50% compliance for both the minimum and gold standard. This suggests that current UK assessments fail to reach an acceptable standard.

Conclusion: Further consultation with clinicians and young people with dementia is necessary to understand local impediments to meeting an acceptable standard and to identify interventions that can lead to improvement.