Innovation in practice

The Dementia Roadmap [http://dementiaroadmap.info](http://dementiaroadmap.info) is a web based platform that provides high quality information about the dementia journey alongside local information about services, support groups and care pathways to assist primary care staff to more effectively support people with dementia, their families and carers.

The platform supports the creation of local Dementia Roadmaps pre-populated with a wide range of nationally relevant resources and groups, organised across the main topics reflecting the dementia journey. Following installation and introductory training local editors populate their Roadmap with resources and groups that are relevant to their locality.

Benefits

The Dementia Roadmaps deliver a range of benefits to GPs, primary health and social care professionals, people worried about memory problems, people living with dementia and their carers and families.

The Dementia Roadmaps help people to:

- **Introduce questions about memory functioning** in scheduled visits and routine health checks and investigations for people identified as potentially at risk.
- **Assess and identify** patients who present with symptoms suggestive of dementia signposting them to relevant resources or services
- **Reassure patients** and their carers/families at diagnosis and during the dementia journey by signposting them to local resources, information and support.
- **Promote positive messages** about remaining independent and living well with dementia in local communities.
- **Prevent unnecessary admission to hospital** for patients with memory problems in crisis.
• **Provide support for carers** to maintain their health and wellbeing and provide opportunities for respite for the person they care for.

• **Support patients more efficiently**, thereby reducing multiple / repeat appointments.

• **Refer patients** onto specialist services where appropriate.

• **Keep accurate records**, coding patients who present with memory problems appropriately. This improved prevalence will impact positively on the practice QOF.

• **Use case finding approaches** with colleagues to identify patients with cognitive decline on the practice register in line with DES guidelines.

**A rolling success**

Following the successful launch of three local Dementia Roadmaps in May 2014, a national rollout project is now underway to connect other local Roadmaps across the country. There are now eight local Dementia Roadmaps in November 2014, with an estimated 20 local Roadmaps in place by March 2015.
Since launching the Dementia Roadmap there have been 10,549 sessions from 8,087 users viewing 43,047 pages. The average visitor views over 4 pages and spends almost 3.5 minutes on the Roadmap per visit.

Testimony from Dementia Roadmap users include:

“We use the information within the Roadmap to reassure patients and their carers by signposting them to local support”

“The Roadmap is an incredibly useful resource for anyone wanting to know more about dementia, and the local services available”

“It’s helping us to provide better support after diagnosis”

**Find out more**

Find out more about the Dementia Roadmap and keep in touch with progress via:

- [http://dementiaroadmap.info/](http://dementiaroadmap.info/)
- [enquiries@dementiaroadmap.info](mailto:enquiries@dementiaroadmap.info)
- [@dementiaroadmap](https://twitter.com/dementiaroadmap)
- [facebook.com/dementiaroadmap](https://www.facebook.com/dementiaroadmap)
- [youtube.com/dementiaroadmap](https://www.youtube.com/dementiaroadmap)