

Dementia is an umbrella term for a set of symptoms including impaired thinking and memory... However, issues other than Alzheimer's can cause dementia. Other common causes of dementia are Huntington's Disease, Parkinson's Disease and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. (Source: Alzheimers.net)

The dementia guide*

Briefing

Being Active: Being active can help you to stay independent, in touch with other people, and improve your quality of life. There are all sorts of activities that you can do – physical, mental, social and creative.

Existing strategies:

Drugs and therapies can have an impact on the sufferer's quality of life. Being active also mitigates the impact of dementia in the short term.

The key question:

Can you really encourage someone to be active knowing that the sufferer's problem-solving skills are affected?

Food for thought:

Why not provide a passive wearable communication device? It would enable loved ones or care services to provide instant help when a sufferer is momentarily confused:

- the wearer can be tracked and behaviour which diverges from routine can be spotted instantly;
- geo-fence zones can be used proactively;
- the wearer is always contactable through oral two-way communication;
- the wearer's location is always available to those who have the right credentials.

Availability of solution:

Now

Likelihood of deployment:

Currently deployed by: Metropolitan Police, Devon & Cornwall Police.

Potential impact:

- for the dementia sufferer and his/her loved ones: priceless;
- for the community: eliminate search and rescue costs (emergency services, press...).

* www.alzheimers.org.uk