

A large-scale pilot study investigating the benefits of CAREGIVERSPRO-MMD platform for people with dementia and their caregivers

The CAREGIVERSPRO-MMD project is developing a social-networking platform tailored to people living with dementia and their caregivers, considering this "dyad" as the unit of care. The platform aims to build self-help communities and offer a variety of personalised services to both people with memory problems and caregivers, that will improve their quality of life and enable them to live well in the community.

During the first half of the project, the team's efforts were focused on improving the CAREGIVERSPRO-MMD platform based on the end-users' needs, ensuring optimal functionality and usability. To this end, healthcare professionals, people living with dementia and caregivers were consulted regarding the social networking and other services they would find most beneficial. Furthermore, a usability study with 58 participants (24 people living with dementia / mild cognitive impairment, 24 caregivers, and 10 healthcare professionals) was performed in January 2017 in four countries, yielding more than 80% satisfaction across a range of measures of the ease of use and perceived benefits and providing valuable feedback for the final tuning of the platform before the piloting phase.

The project is currently about to launch 4 parallel large scale pilot studies in Italy, Spain, UK and France, which will start in July 2017 and last for 18 months. A total of 600 dyads will participate, divided into two groups: (i) a group using the CAREGIVERSPRO-MMD platform and (ii) a control group without access to the platform. This way the pilot studies aim at evaluating the benefits of using the CAREGIVERSPRO-MMD platform, by monitoring and comparing data of the user groups with respective data of the control groups. Each participant accessing the platform will be provided with a tablet, readily configured for using the CAREGIVERSPRO-MMD application.

If you have memory problems or you are a carer of someone experiencing memory problems, learn how you can take part in the pilot study through the following communication channels:

For UK:

◆Email: caregiverspro-mmd@mail.com ◆FB: CAREGIVERSPRO-MMD project UK ◆Twitter: CAREGIVERSPRO-MMD-UK

◆Tel.: +44 01482 464571

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For France:

◆Email: <u>caregiverspro@chu-rouen.fr</u> ◆FB: AidantsPro ◆Twitter: CAREGIVERSPRO-MMD-FR

To learn more about the project, please visit www.caregiversprommd-project.eu and follow us in social media (FB: CAREGIVERSPRO-MMD project, Twitter: CAREGIVERSPRO-MMD, LinkedIn: CAREGIVERSPRO_MMD Project).



The project "CAREGIVERSPRO-MMD, Self-management interventions and mutual assistance community services, helping patients with dementia and caregivers connect with others for evaluation, support and inspiration to improve the care experience" has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 690211.