

Manchester Dementia Clinical Research Group

Institute of Brain, Behaviour and Mental Health

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For people with dementia and their caregivers, we aim to:

- enhance detection, diagnosis and ongoing assessment
- develop therapeutic interventions to improve outcomes
- engage in multidisciplinary and mixed methodology research
- bridge the gap between academic and clinical settings



- **Opportunity:** Parkinsonian dementias (PDD and DLB) are treated pharmacologically; using psychosocial interventions is has yet to be explored.
- **Approach:** We have adapted caregiver-delivered individual Cognitive Stimulation Therapy (iCST) for people with Parkinsonian dementias.
- **Method:** Using a single-blind feasibility study, we are comparing outcomes for those receiving iCST compared to 'treatment as usual'; cognitive, neuropsychiatric, social and qualitative outcomes are being assessed.
- **The future:** This will lead to a full-scale multi-centred RCT of a new psychosocial intervention for complex dementias.

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Software Architecture
for Mental Health
Self-Management

- **Opportunity:** Computer use is rapidly increasing among older adults; this allows people to use personal computers to self-monitor cognitive functioning.
- **Approach:** Our computer scientists have designed software to detect computer use activities (i.e. mouse movements); changes in computer activities can be used to detect cognitive and functional ability over time.
- **Method:** Using cross sectional and longitudinal studies, we are comparing computer use profiles in people with and without cognitive impairments and finding associations with neuropsychological and other clinical measures.
- **The future:** This will lead to an unobtrusive and low-cost self-monitoring tool facilitating early detection and intervention for cognitive decline.

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