**The Meeting Centres Support Programme for People and Families Living with Dementia at Home – Translating an evidence-based intervention from the Netherlands to Italy, Poland and the UK.**

Meeting Centres have been successful in the Netherlands for over ten years. They are an innovative way of supporting people with mild to moderate dementia and their families through an evidence-based, person-centred approach. Meeting Centres offer an enjoyable, flexible and adaptive programme.

The MEETINGDEM project, led by the VUmc University Amsterdam, focused on establishing Meeting Centres in the UK, Italy and Poland, and evaluating their impact after 12-18 months of operation.

In particular, Work Package 6 aimed to evaluate the efficacy of the implementation of the Meeting Centres Support Programme (MCSP), the satisfaction of people with dementia and their carers attending Meeting Centres, and the implementation process.

Data was collected at two time points: when people start attending a Meeting Centre (baseline) and after receiving 7 months of support (follow-up). Two groups of participants were recruited, people with dementia and their carers who attend a Meeting Centre (MC group) and a control group of people with dementia and their carers who do not attend a Meeting Centre but receive ‘usual care’ instead (UC group).

Two Meeting Centres were established in the UK, one in Droitwich Spa and one in Leominster, and the aim was to recruit 25 people with dementia/carer dyads per Meeting Centre for both the MC and UC groups.

A variety of data collection activities were carried out, including:

* Questionnaires with people with dementia and carers
* Satisfaction surveys with people with dementia and carers
* Focus groups with people with dementia and carers
* Interviews with members of the Meeting Centre Initiative Groups

Further information about the project and publicly available reports of findings can be found at: <https://www.meetingdem.eu/> . A number of academic papers are currently under review and these will also be available and/or signposted from the website once they become available.

If you would like further information about the MeetingDem project please contact Professor Dawn Brooker d.brooker@worc.ac.uk

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