



Young Dementia Network Messaging Document

Core messages

Young Dementia Network, established in 2016, is a collaboration between people affected by and working in the field of young onset dementia. We are united in our purpose to improve the lives of people with young onset dementia and their families now and create positive change for the future.

The Young Dementia Network:

- Is focused on the needs and wishes of the person living with young onset dementia and their family
- Connects and informs people - empowering and enabling members by sharing knowledge, creating resources and providing a welcoming community
- Campaigns for change to policy and practice to provide high quality tailored support and provision for young onset dementia
- Works to increase knowledge, understanding and awareness of young onset dementia

Dementia is an umbrella term used to describe a range of conditions that affect the brain and cause a progressive decline in people's ability to think, reason, communicate and remember. Dementia is described as 'young onset' when symptoms develop before the age of 65.

Supporting messages

Our membership

The Young Dementia Network:

- Has a growing membership that includes people living with young onset dementia, family and friends, as well as people working in health and social care, the voluntary and dementia research sectors
- Is free to join and inclusive. Members may choose to join simply to keep informed, or to get actively involved in our campaigns, activities and in research opportunities
- Is a digital community. Every member receives a regular e-news update, and access to free young onset dementia resources
- Is led by a Steering Group of people living with young onset dementia and family members, senior specialist health care clinicians and academic researchers, and leaders of related voluntary and provider organisations
- Is hosted by Dementia UK

Our work

The Young Dementia Network:

- Campaigns for young onset dementia to be explicitly included in national dementia plans and policies. We are calling for a nationally accepted standard for young onset dementia diagnosis and support, and the improvement of young onset dementia commissioning and service development
- Aims to build effective partnerships between health, social care and voluntary sector organisations to improve the availability, consistency and quality of diagnosis and support for people living with young onset dementia and their families. Plans to do this include creating and disseminating the Young Dementia Network resources and establishing a partnerships programme
- Aims to further understanding and awareness of the unique impact of young onset dementia through new knowledge and research. Our goals are that all people with young onset dementia are able to:
 - access timely, compassionate and accurate diagnosis within a service that is properly funded, has access to NICE-endorsed diagnostics tests and which meets their specific needs regardless of where they live.
 - access support that meets the evolving health and social care needs of the person and their family and is sensitively delivered by staff trained in young onset dementia regardless of where they live.
- Works to connect and signpost services but does not directly provide a support service

Key messages

Around 20 words

The Young Dementia Network is a collaboration between people affected by and working in the field of young onset dementia. (20 words)

The Young Dementia Network is focused on the needs and wishes of the person living with young onset dementia and their family. (22 words)

The Young Dementia Network connects and informs people - empowering and enabling members by sharing knowledge, creating resources and providing a welcoming community. (23 words)

The Young Dementia Network campaigns for change to policy and practice to offer high quality tailored support and provision for young onset dementia. (23 words)

Around 30 words

The Young Dementia Network is a collaboration between people affected by and working in the field of young onset dementia. It works to increase knowledge, understanding and awareness of young onset dementia. (32 words)

The Young Dementia Network is led by a Steering Group of people living with young onset dementia and family members, senior specialist health care clinicians and academic researchers, and leaders of related voluntary and provider organisations. (36 words)

The Young Dementia Network is a collaboration between people affected by and working in the field of young onset dementia. The Network works to connect and showcase services but does not directly provide a support service. (36 words)

The Young Dementia Network is a collaboration between people affected by and working in the field of young onset dementia. Free to join, it is hosted by Dementia UK and works to increase knowledge, understanding and awareness of young onset dementia. (41 words)

Around 50 words

The Young Dementia Network is a collaboration between people affected by and working in the field of young onset dementia. The Network campaigns for young onset dementia to be explicitly included in national dementia plans and policies and the improvement of young onset dementia commissioning and service development. (48 words)

The Young Dementia Network is a collaboration between people affected by and working in the field of young onset dementia, where symptoms develop before the age of 65. Our purpose is to improve the lives of people with the condition and their families now and create positive change for the future. (51 words)

The Young Dementia Network is a collaboration between people affected by and working in the field of young onset dementia. The Network has a growing membership that includes people living with young onset dementia, family and friends, as well as people working in health and social care, the voluntary and dementia research sectors. (53 words)

The Young Dementia Network is a collaboration between people affected by and working in the field of young onset dementia. The Network aims to further understanding and awareness of the unique impact of young onset dementia so that all people with young onset dementia are able to access a timely, compassionate and accurate diagnosis. (54 words)

Key messages added 6.12.22