

Addressing changes in decision-making capacity using hypothetical scenarios

Ingvild Winsnes¹, Mia Halvorsen², Elise Krogh², & Anna Volkmer³

1 University of Oslo; 2 Nord University; 3 University College London

Background and aim

- People with primary progressive aphasia (PPA) – a group of language-led dementias - and their family members have expressed a need for information about future changes and planning for them.
- Better Conversations with Primary Progressive Aphasia (BCPPA) is a manualised behavioural intervention, where planning for future changes in decision-making capacity is part of the intervention
- The study **aimed** to explore how conversations about the topic of planning for changes in decision-making capacity were undertaken during the BCPPA intervention.

Method

- People with PPA and communication partners were recruited for a study on the BCPPA intervention.
- Participants: 4 dyads (PwPPA & spouses)
- Video recordings of BCPPA sessions were transcribed and analysed using conversation analysis.

	PPA1	PPA2	PPA3	PPA4
Age (years)	80	80	77	55
Biological sex	Female	Female	Male	Male
Diagnosis at inclusion	Mixed	Mixed	nfvPPA	nfvPPA
Time post-diagnosis (years)	<1	<1	<1	<1
L1	Norwegian	Norwegian	Norwegian	Norwegian

Table 1: Demographic data of participants with PPA

Results

- The topic was gradually introduced and followed the structure of the BCPPA intervention.
- Several opportunities to discuss changes in decision-making capacity were created.
- **Hypothetical scenarios** and **general case formulations** were identified as useful strategies.
- Three dyads did not pursue the topic, oner dyad initiated further discussions

Many people experience

If you get worse

Discussion

- Hypothetical scenarios seem to be a useful strategy for addressing changes and future planning with people with PPA and their family members.
- Hypothetical scenarios allow people with PPA and family members to pursue (or not) the topic, without having to relate it to themselves.
- The BCPPA intervention seems to provide a framework which facilitates these conversations.



UNIVERSITY
OF OSLO



UCL

Contact: Ingvild Winsnes
(i.e.winsnes@iln.uio.no)