

Enhancing Dementia Research, Awareness, and Community Activities through a Community Advisory Board in Lima, Peru



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BACKGROUND

Community Advisory Boards (CABs) are increasingly recognized as **participatory strategies to enhance the relevance, equity, and feasibility of research**. However, evidence on their methodological contribution in Latin American contexts remains limited.

This study aimed to characterize the contributions of a CAB as an innovative methodological approach to strengthen recruitment and community engagement in research in Lima, Peru.

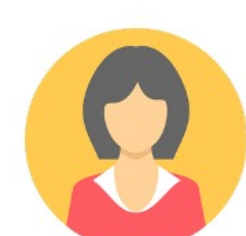
METHODS

- **A retrospective analysis** of the CAB's contributions was conducted using **meeting notes and project records from 2024 to 2025**.
- **The CAB met quarterly**, with the first two meetings dedicated to training and clarifying objectives, roles and expectations.
- The CAB functioned as a consultative body **focused on recruitment, communication, and community relevance**.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD IN LIMA, PERU

- **The CAB comprised six community members**, including two care partners and four people from diverse community roles, including healthcare-related, creative/media, and other professional backgrounds.

Gender



4 female



2 male

Age group

18 – 44 years	2
45 – 59 years	1
60 – 74 years	2
+75 years	1

Background

- 2** Care partners*
- 2** Other community roles
- 1** Health-care related
- 1** Content creator

**Of the two carer partners, one is a religious leader and the other is a retired secretary.*

- **The CAB discussed and contributed to:**

Project	Topics discussed	Summary of contributions
ReDLat, Multipartner Consortium to Expand Research in Latin America	dementia, participation in research	Simplified language of existing recruitment material.
GLASS, global Latinos sequencing study for AD	dementia, genetics, participation in research	Co-designed recruitment materials.
TELL, a machine learning approach to language changes in AD and FTD	dementia, language, audio recording, participation in research	Co-developed strategies to present the study: videos, posts, and recruitment materials.
Walk for Alzheimer's month	dementia, community event, awareness	Guided the selection of communication channels and content to disseminate the event.
Dementia awareness campaign	dementia, non-pharmacological measures, stigma	Co-designed the campaign, providing recommendations on educational materials content, channels, formats, and priority topics.
Prevalence of cognitive impairment among people with epilepsy	cognitive impairment, epilepsy, participation in research	Simplified language and reducing text of existing recruitment material
Emotional expression and muscle activity for early Parkinson's detection	Parkinson, diagnosis process, participation in research	Co-designed informational materials, including participant images to illustrate procedures.

CONCLUSIONS

- The CAB advised on **communication channels to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and enhance trust in research initiatives**.
- Additionally, they identified priority topics to raise with the community, aligning educational and outreach efforts with community needs and perspectives.
- This experience highlights how **CABs could contribute to improving recruitment, communication, and community engagement in research**.

CONTACT INFORMATION



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