

A Strategy To Increase Dementia Diagnosis In Primary Health Care In Brazil: Preliminary Findings Of The REDe Project

1139

Carolina Godoy, Marcelo Anastácio Diniz, Fabiana A. F. da Mata, Lucas Martins Teixeira, Matheus Ghossain Barbosa, Fernanda Menezes de Faria, Ana Ágata Mezzomo Keinert, Thais Suarez, Pedro José de Moraes Pinho, Andrew Christopher Claro Miguel, Rosa Camila Lucchetta, Paula V. C. Vianna and Cleusa P. Ferri

The REDe Project presents a strategy to increase dementia diagnosis rates in primary healthcare in Brazil. The intervention combines professional training with community awareness actions. Preliminary findings indicate a reduction in dementia-related stigma and a significant increase in professionals' perceived capability to recognize symptoms.

BACKGROUND

Approximately **2.5 million** Brazilians live with dementia.



Aiming to mitigate this issue:

The **REDe** intervention (Dementia Recognition and Education) consists of:



In-person training: 8 hours for clinical and non-clinical Primary Care Units (PCU) staff, based on the CARD protocol (see QR code).

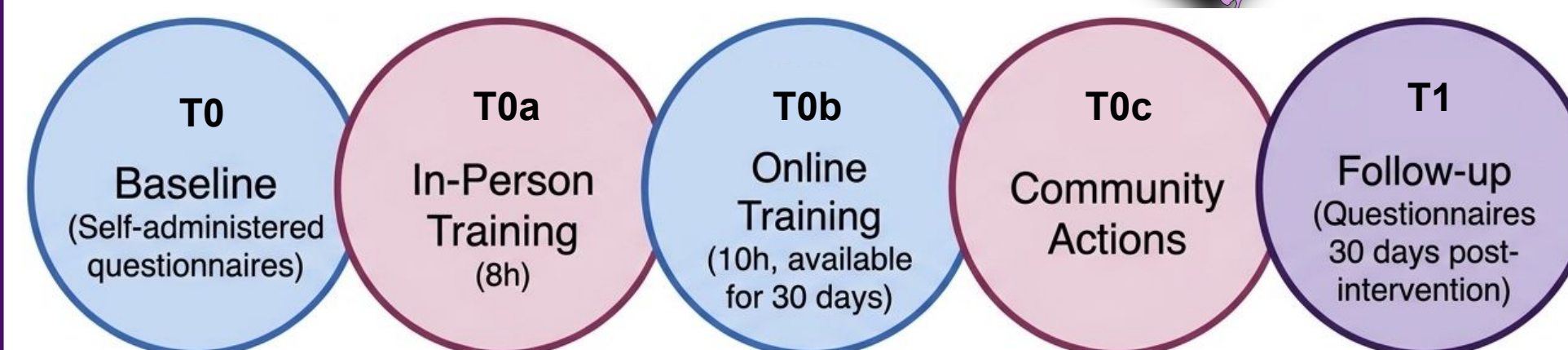
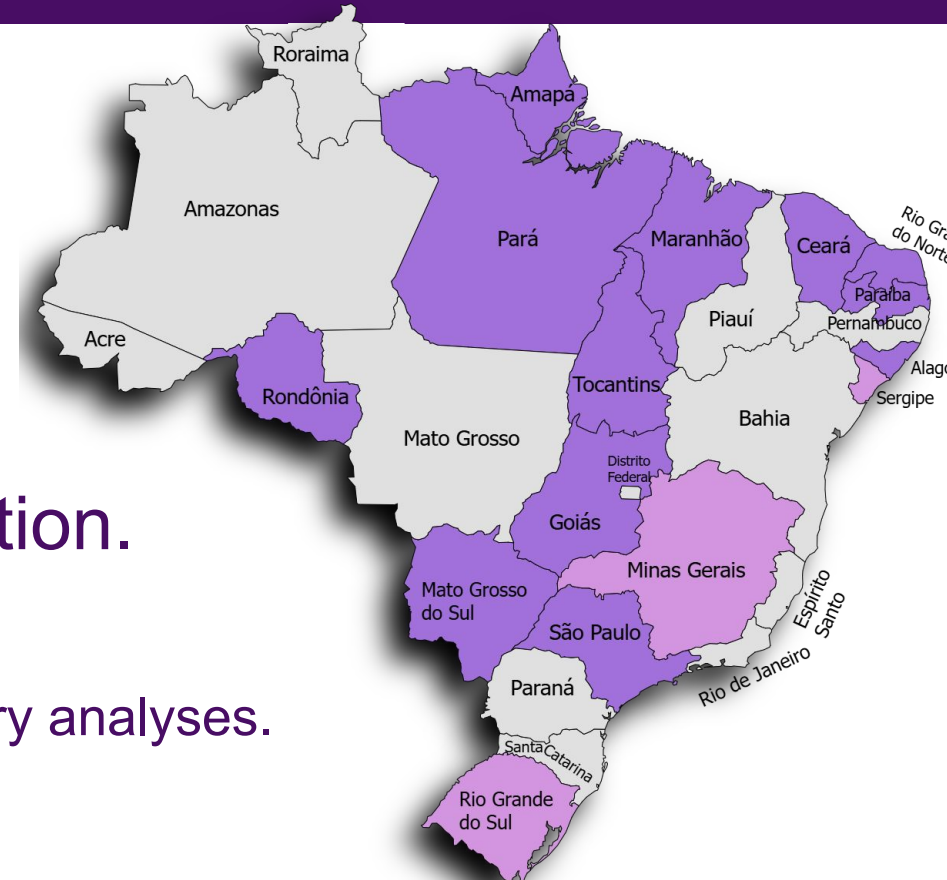
Online training: 10-hour online course for the same PCU audience.

Community actions: with custom educational tools (pamphlets, puzzles and memory games) to increase public awareness.

METHODS

The REDe intervention was implemented in one municipality in all mapped states, focusing on dementia knowledge and stigma reduction.

purple: analyzed;
pink: upcoming/excluded from preliminary analyses.



Diagnosis Rates: Pre- vs. post-intervention (12 months before T0 and 12 months after T1) diagnosis and medication dispensing rates in electronic health records, comparing PCU control catchment areas.

Self-administered questionnaires: Questionnaires assessing PCU staff knowledge and attitudes at baseline and 30 days after the intervention.

RESULTS

→ **To date, 12 municipalities have been analyzed.**

- Community actions: over 500 participants reached with high interaction.

Demographic profile, adherence and comparison of professional attitudes (N=444)

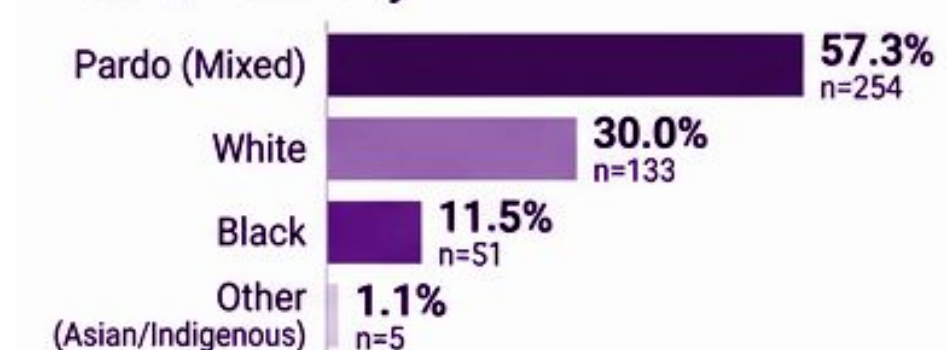
42.2

years (SD 10.5) [Range: 20-72]

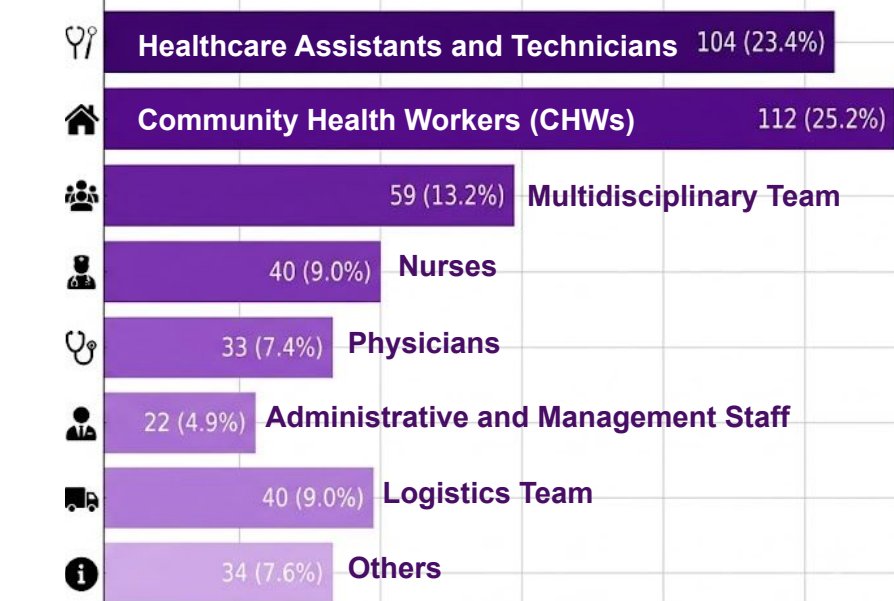
Gender



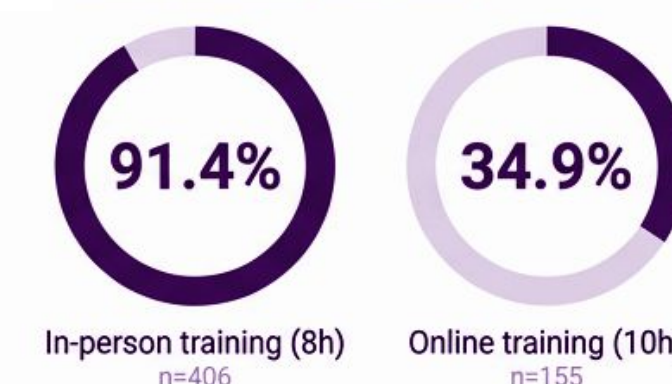
Race/Ethnicity



Professional Category



Intervention Adherence



Attitudes & Knowledge

Statement
"Nothing can be done to prevent dementia"
"Formal medical diagnosis is important"
"I feel capable of recognizing symptoms"

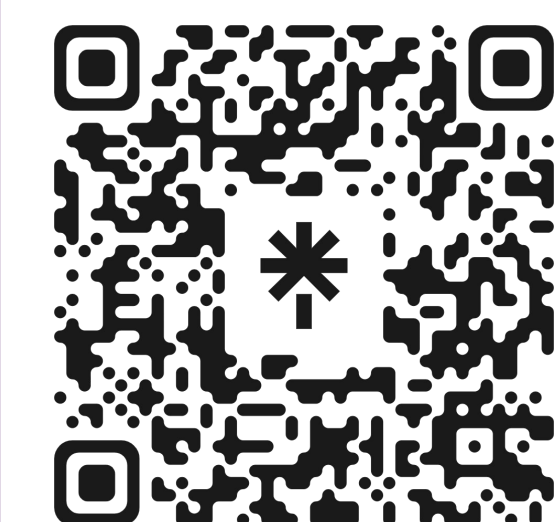
Agreement Rates

Baseline (%) → Follow-up (%)
63.2% → 52.7%
94.8% → 96.2%
44.6% → 87%

CONCLUSIONS

Combining community awareness with enhanced knowledge among PCU professionals has the potential to improve dementia recognition and diagnosis rates. The inclusion of all Brazilian regions facilitates the development of evidence-based strategies tailored to diverse local realities. Analyses regarding its impact on diagnosis rates and its feasibility within the system are ongoing.

CONTACT



Scan here to access contact information, papers and website.