

integration of dementia with other chronic disease preventive strategies was present and a clear allocation of funds for NDPs always missed.

Conclusions: NDPs partially address risk factors of preventable cases. All countries need to update their NDPs, integrating new scientific evidence and allocating clear financial funds. This can potentially prevent millions of new cases, decreasing the burden of disease and improving the sustainability of health systems.

Key messages:

- NDPs do not target adequately dementia in Europe.
- New evidence-based preventive policies, including most recent identified risk factors, would have a clear impact on burden of disease and health systems' sustainability.

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A comparative analysis of national dementia plans: preventive strategies in five European countries

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Background: About 8.5% of people aged +65 live with dementia in Europe. Preventive measures can avert up to 40% of cases. The aim of the study is to analyse National Dementia Plans (NDP) in Europe, to elicit how much dementia prevention is considered a priority and whether policies are evidence-based.

Methods: A qualitative comparative analysis was performed between NDPs of countries with the best healthy life expectancy in the elderly in Europe. The NDPs of France, Ireland, Italy, Spain, and Sweden were included. The consensus on actions and elements of prevention policies was evaluated, according to the WHO recommendations and to Cheung's framework designed for evaluating chronic diseases policies.

Results: All the NDPs prioritised early diagnosis, public awareness, and community engagement for dementia risk reduction. They fostered the development of information system for data collection and established committees for progress monitoring. However, not all NDPs defined timelines for policy implementation and most of them expired years ago. NDPs included prevention research agenda, but their preventive actions did not address alcohol consumption, traumatic brain injury, and air pollution, representing 3 well-known risk factors attributable for the 15% of preventable cases. Neither