

Meet the Steering Group members:

The Quality Use of Medicines in People Living with Dementia Priority Setting Partnership is led and managed by a Steering Group which includes members with lived experience of the condition, carers and clinicians.

Ron Sinclair

Ron has cared for his wife, his father and mother all of whom had dementia. He has been an advocate for people with dementia and their carers since 1998 having been on policy and research advisory committees, steering and work groups at a State and National level. His professional life was as a wildlife research ecologist specialising in field epidemiology of rabbit viral bio-controls for feral rabbits.



Marie Wittwer

Marie is a registered Nurse/Nurse Manager with over 30 years of experience across paediatrics, rural and aged care nursing, with 20+ years in country South Australian communities. Marie believes providing quality care to older people is a privilege. Her priority is to ensure that she and her colleagues strive for the best possible care for all people. This encompasses a person-centred approach to care provision, underscored by understanding and empathy.

Judy Deimel

Judy is the Central Adelaide Local Health Network Memory Service Nurse Practitioner. Judy prescribes dementia medication and partners with patients and families to develop a non-pharmacological approach within the care plan. Prior employment includes Dementia Consultant the national Severe Behaviour Response Team; course coordinator and lecturer with the University of South Australia. Prior, Judy was awarded a South Australian Premier's Nursing Scholarship to investigate specialist memory clinics in Australia.



Craig Whitehead

Craig is a consultant geriatrician of 25 years standing and is the regional clinical director for rehabilitation aged and palliative care in the Southern Adelaide Local Health Network. He has a strong clinical interest in dementia. Craig has held professional leadership roles as a past president of the ANZSGM, and has a broad research interest. He was recently involved in establishing the NHMRC guideline for dementia.

Stephanie Daly

Stephanie Daly is a General Practitioner working in the Northern Suburbs of Adelaide. She is passionate about improving the quality of GP management for people living with dementia or at risk of dementia. Stephanie is also keen to reduce stigma and improve access to good quality care.

Timothy Pietsch

Timothy retired from full-time work in July 2016 – he had been a musician, an arts administrator, a computer software developer, and a public servant. Timothy now manages a private museum of culturally-significant Papua New Guinea artefacts, called Wantok Place. Timothy is the carer for his wife, Ann, and both are volunteer advocates for Dementia Australia. In his spare time Timothy sings in two choirs.



Ann Pietsch



Ann has Lewy Body Dementia. She trained as a general nurse and midwife and later gained a Bachelor Degree in Applied Science - Nursing Administration with a special interest in gerontology. She has experience of working in the aged care sector. Ann has been an advocate for Dementia Australia for many years. She is currently a member of the Dementia Australia Advisory Committee, the NNIDR Consumer Involvement Program Reference Group, Dementia Australia Research Foundation Scientific Panel, the ADF2020 Committee and OPAN National Older People's Reference Group.

Josephine To

Josephine is the Senior Pharmacist for the Division of Aged Care, Rehabilitation and Palliative Care at the Northern Adelaide Local Health Network. She works with patients and multidisciplinary teams to optimise medication use through all stages of illness through to end of life. She has previously worked as a clinical pharmacist and as a lecturer in the pharmacy program at the University of South Australia. Josephine continues to lecture in the undergraduate and postgraduate pharmacy programs and is passionate about improving medication safety through patient and clinician education.



Lenore de la Perrelle

Lenore is a Social Worker with a BA(SW), M(PolAdmin), M(AASW). She has developed award winning services and training to support wellbeing for people with dementia and is a member of Aged Care Practice Group, Australian Association of Social Workers (SA) and Field Educator at Flinders University. Lenore is currently a private consultant "Dementia is my Business" and PhD candidate working in the Agents of Change Project: Creating National Quality Collaboratives to improve Dementia Care.