



## Palliative Care: Daring to be different

Annual Conference 2008



The Dementia Services  
Development Centre



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## Palliative Care and Dementia

Professor June Andrews

[www.dementia.stir.ac.uk](http://www.dementia.stir.ac.uk)





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## Role of the DSDC

- Information
- Training
- Consultancy
- Change and innovation
- Research



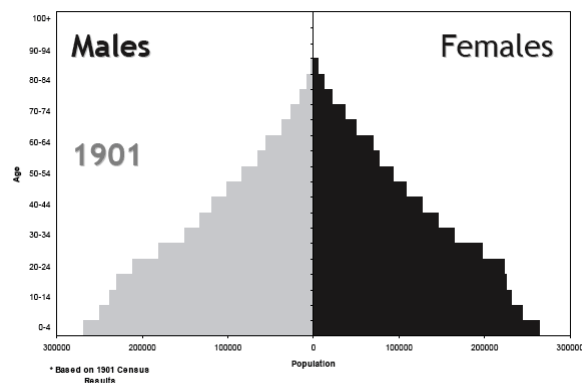
[www.dementia.stir.ac.uk](http://www.dementia.stir.ac.uk)



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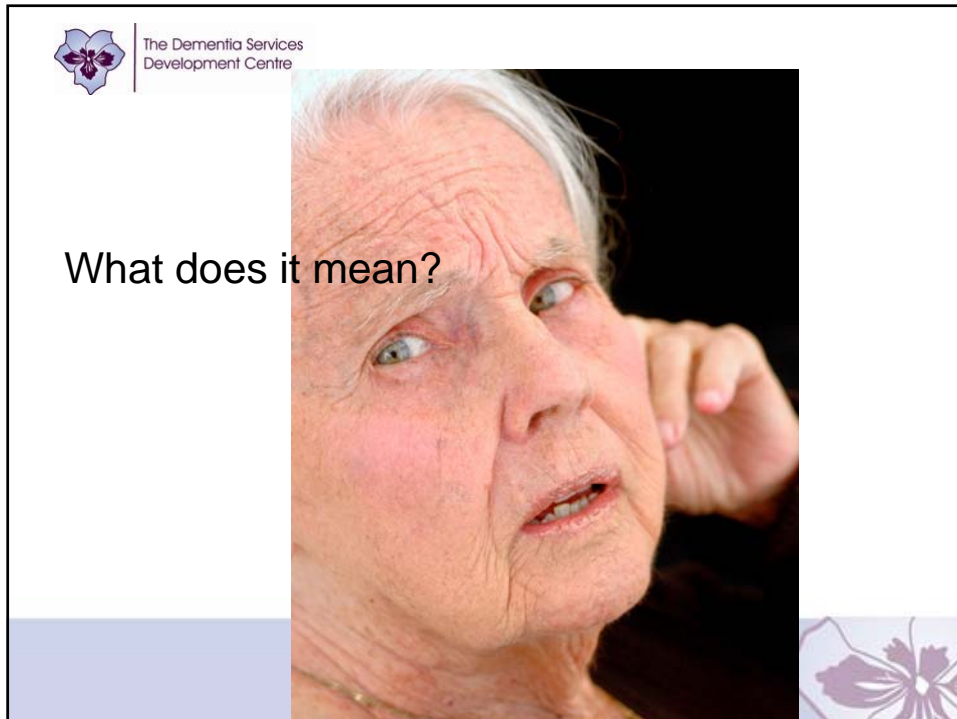
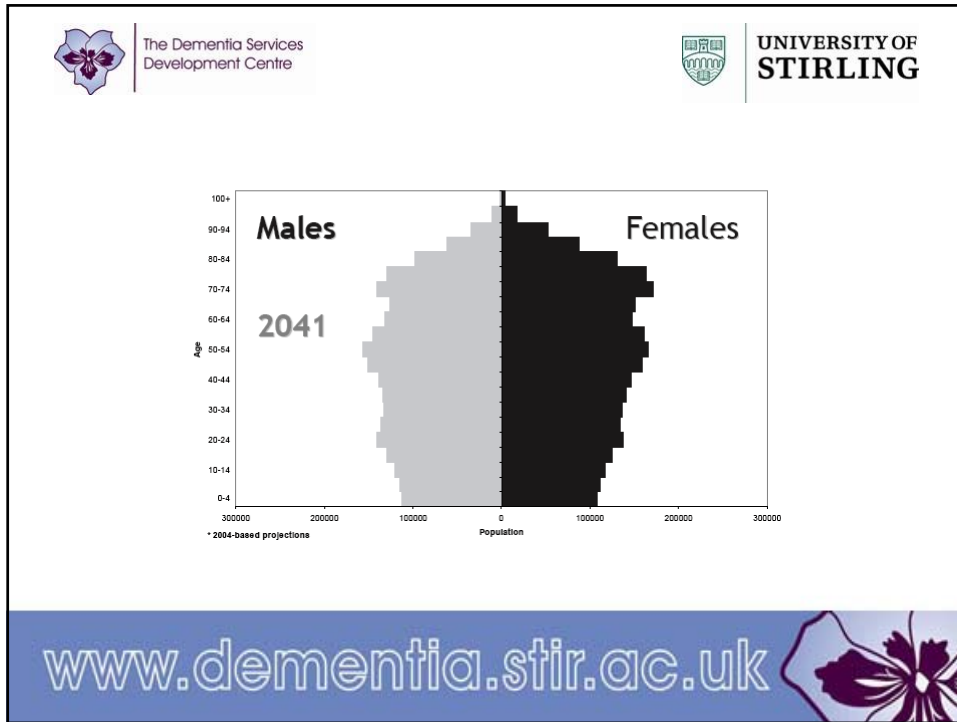


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## What does it mean?

- Impairment of memory
- Impairment of reasoning
- Impairment of learning
- Increase of stress
- The normal changes of ageing but at the same time as a reduced capacity to deal with them



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## Dementia

- Alzheimers disease
- Vascular dementia
- Dementia with Lewy bodies
- Fronto-temporal dementia
- Mixed dementias
- Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease





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## Is there nothing we can do?

- Behaviour management
- Caregiver intervention programmes
- Cognitive stimulation
- Environmental design
- Physical activities
- Reality orientation therapy
- Recreational activities
- Simulated presence
- Validation therapy
- Multisensory stimulation (including aromatherapy, light therapy, music therapy, multisensory stimulation)



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## What is an unbearable carer burden?

- Cognitive impairment?
- Reduction in activities of daily living?
- Disturbing behaviour?
  
- Sense of well being of the carer.....





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## Is there nothing we can do?

- Elimination eg a vaccination
- Postponement



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## The value of postponement

- Currently cost the UK £7 billion
- Estimate for Scotland £1.7 billion
- Delaying the onset of Alzheimers
  - By two years? Prevalence down 20%
  - By three years? Prevalence down 30%



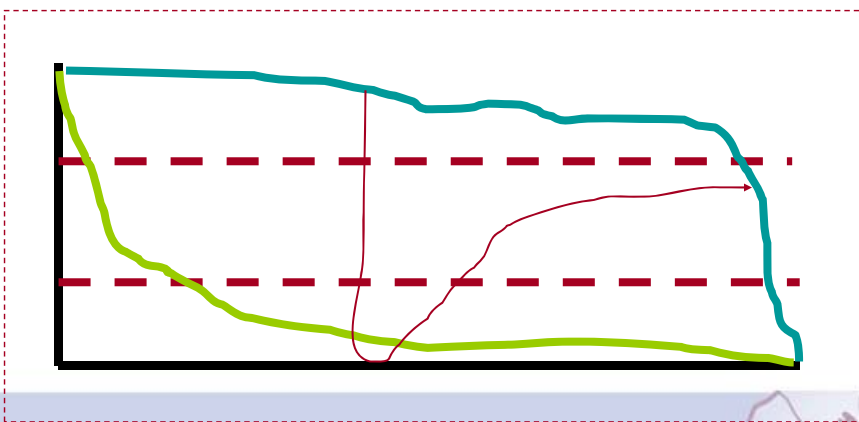


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## The possible journey with dementia





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## What next for palliative care?

- We have to incorporate the idea of the carer burden into our evaluation of interventions
- We cannot continue to provide care with the current level of education
- Doing it properly is probably cheaper and requires whole system change ***which we already know how to do***



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Iris Murdoch Building,  
University of Stirling,  
FK9 4LA  
Tel. 01786 467740  
Email: [dementia@stir.ac.uk](mailto:dementia@stir.ac.uk)  
Web: [www.dementia.stir.ac.uk](http://www.dementia.stir.ac.uk)

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