

# CLAHRCBITE

Brokering innovation through evidence

## Effective social support at home for people with dementia



### Results

Support services in which workers have autonomy, provide continuity, and make frequent reassessments are most likely to be effective.

### Who needs to know?

Commissioners (including private individuals), providers and practitioners of social support services for people with dementia at home.

## What did we do:

A systematic review of the published literature was conducted. Fourteen studies of variable quality and design were examined.

## What we found and what does this mean:

The amount of evidence in the literature is limited. This means that most practice in this very important and expensive area does not have a firm evidence base, and this makes it difficult to define, financially defend and assure firm high standards of care.

Nevertheless, support services in which workers have autonomy, provide continuity, and make frequent reassessments are most likely to be effective. These aspects of services may conflict with operational cost constraining factors.

## What next:

Whilst firmer evidence needs to be assembled, attempts should be made to implement the findings of this study which are in line with and contribute towards NICE recommendations on social care for people with dementia.

## Evidence:

Argyle E, Schneider J, Kelly T, Gladman J, Jones R. Effective ingredients of social support at home for people with dementia: a systematised review. *J Integrated Care* 2017 25, (2): 110-119 <http://www.emeraldinsight.com/doi/full/10.1108/JICA-09-2016-0032>

Dementia: assessment, management and support for people living with dementia and their carers. NICE guideline [NG97] Published date: June 2018. <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng97>

## What is NIHR CLAHRC EM?

NIHR Collaborations for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care (CLAHRCs) are collaborations between the NHS, universities and local organisations. Our goals are to conduct applied health research across the East Midlands and translate our research findings into improved outcomes for the public.

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