

# Having dementia and cancer created accumulated complexity with...

...balancing  
the needs of  
the person  
and the service



- Knowing the person well helped provide good, person-centred care
- Offering flexible support, where possible, helped families to cope with cancer and dementia
- When technical language is used, families don't always understand what is being said

"We have to make time. It's very challenging sometimes, especially if you get somebody in a very busy clinic.

Sometimes we might give them limited information on that day and say, we need to discuss in a lot more detail, so why don't we book in a bit more time to do that?"

---

**Clinical Nurse Specialist**

"You don't see the same doctor all the time. Which would be easier... instead of seeing different ones all the time.

Because, if you saw one you'd know where you were."

---

**Gentleman with dementia**

"We got her longer appointments and tried to make sure that it was at least one of the same person that treated her everyday if possible, that there was somebody that she recognised. "

---

**Radiographer**

These are findings from the CanDem study. This study was funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) RfPB programme (project reference PB-PG-0816-20015). The views expressed are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the NIHR or the Department of Health and Social Care.]

<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/research/centre-for-dementia-research/candem-study/>



FUNDED BY

**NIHR** | National Institute  
for Health Research