

Plain Language Summary

Prioritising research and innovation in dementia diagnosis, care, prevention and management is a national focus.

However, recruitment of individuals to take part in research can be challenging. Similarly, those seeking research participation opportunities are often not sure where to look.

Background

TeamUp for Dementia Research (TUDR) is an initiative led by The Alzheimer Society of Ireland (The ASI) in collaboration with the Dementia Research Network Ireland (DRNI), which connects people with dementia and their families with safe and supported research participation opportunities.

This report evaluates the TUDR service from the perspectives of service members (i.e., people with dementia and caregivers), academics/researchers, ASI staff and policymakers, and makes recommendations for TUDR service development.

How we evaluated the TUDR service:

We evaluated the TUDR service using a survey and interviews with TUDR members and additional interviews with other stakeholders. The research team had oversight from i) a Project Steering Committee (PSC) and ii) Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) advisors throughout the research process.

This research was commissioned by The ASI, who had no role in data analysis or synthesis.

What was found:

Across the survey and interviews, 59 TUDR members contributed data. Other contributing stakeholders included eight researchers, three ASI staff, and a national policy stakeholder. In this summary, we highlight six key recommendations for service development, based on the evaluation findings.