Introduction

Background
- Estimated 55,000 people living with dementia in Ireland
  - Majority (63%) live in the community and 6,000-10,000 live alone
  - As a result, primary care dementia workload is increasing.
- Caring for people with dementia is demanding and it requires ongoing specialist training, yet many health and social care professionals in contact with people with dementia in Ireland in primary care settings lack specialist dementia knowledge.
- The Irish National Dementia Strategy, prioritises the need for dementia specific training to broaden the skills base of primary care health and social care professionals.

Dementia Educational Interventions in Primary Care

The PREPARED Program

Aim: Deliver and evaluate training and education, and support interventions for GPs and Primary Care Teams (PCTs) that will contribute to people with dementia receiving an integrated, collaborative dementia care response from a prepared, proactive local primary care network.

Design: Draws heavily on the principles of the Chronic Care Model.

Conclusions
- The evaluation results will be used to determine the level of program success, why the program works and how it can be optimised, and why less successful or unexpected outcomes occurred and how these can be avoided.
- Recommendations will then be made for the subsequent operation and national roll-out of the program.
- The PREPARED PCT program has the potential to significantly enhance collaborative educational interventions on dementia care in Ireland, making it an exemplar for other chronic disease management pathways.

References
4. Farrell A, Cahill S, Burke S. Rural practice, dementia and CMHN activity. Partnerships in Community Mental Health Nursing and Dementia Care: Practice Perspectives2007; p. 142.