

Primary Care Education, Pathways and Research of Dementia (PREPARED): Promoting integrated dementia care through Primary Care Team education



Tony Foley^a, Katherine Thackeray^a, Anne Quinn^b, Louise Hopper^{c*}, Kate Irving^c
^a Department of General Practice, University College Cork
^b 5 Steps to Living Well with Dementia in South Tipperary
^c School of Nursing and Human Sciences, Dublin City University *email: louise.hopper@ie

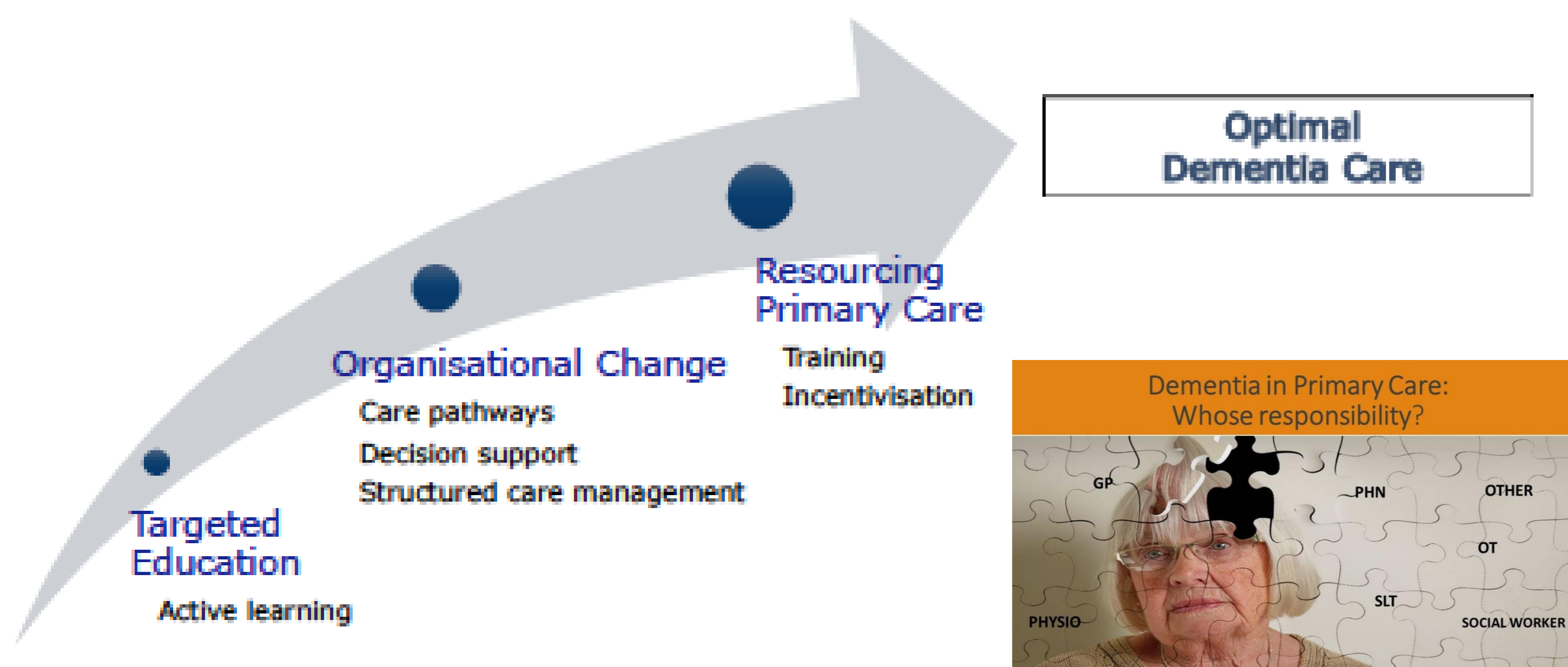


Introduction

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 increasing¹.
- Caring for people with dementia is demanding and it requires ongoing specialist training², yet many health and social care professionals in contact with people with dementia in Ireland in primary care settings lack specialist dementia knowledge^{3,4}.
- The Irish National Dementia Strategy⁵, 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

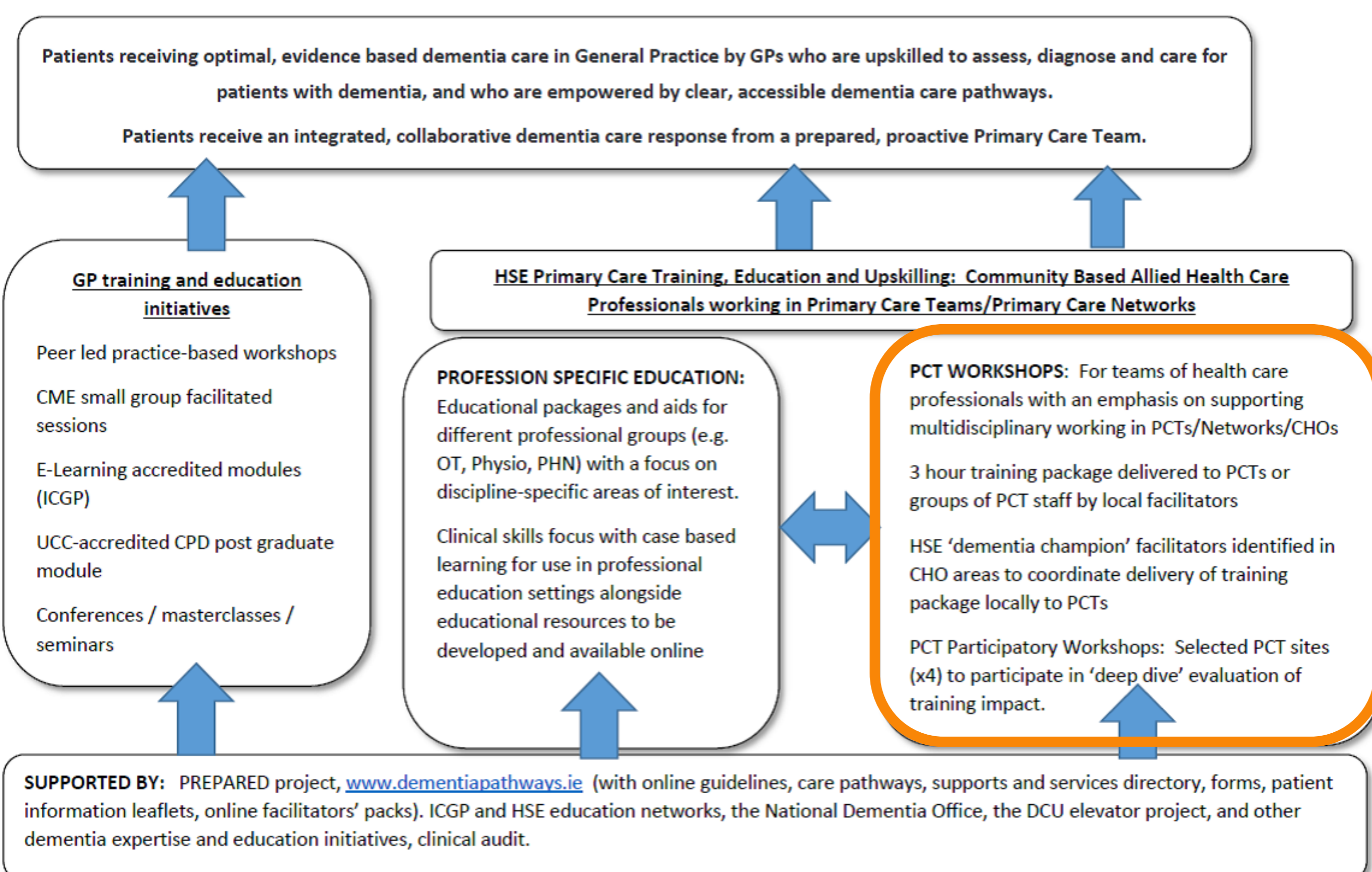


Perry, M et al. Effects of educational interventions on primary dementia care: A systematic review. *Int J Geriatr Psychiatry*. 2011 Jan; 26(1):1-11

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 Model⁶.



PREPARED PCT Training:

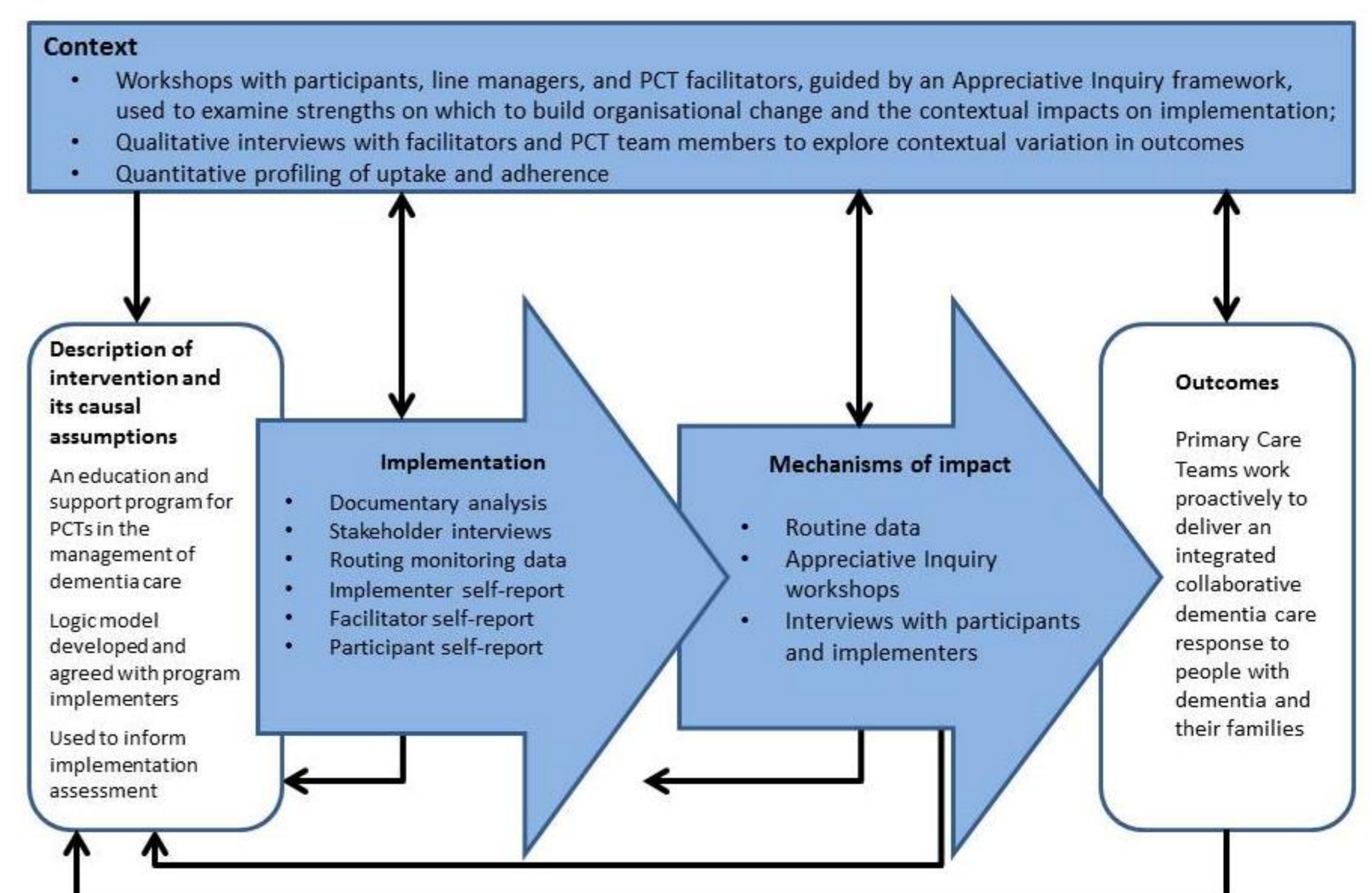
Peer-facilitated, practice-based, multi-disciplinary, case-based and interactive with a focus on behavioural change in the form of enhanced inter-professional collaboration.

PREPARED PCT Evaluation

Aims and Objectives:

- Three to four PCTs will be selected as pilot areas for the implementation and in-depth evaluation of the PCT training program comprising of:
 - An **Implementation Evaluation** of expected outcomes, namely:
 - Increased knowledge of the characteristics of dementia, how to support those living with dementia and of PCT roles and responsibilities regarding dementia care
 - Increase skill regarding inter-professional communication/collaboration
 - Evidence of behaviour change
 - A **Process Evaluation** examining the mechanisms of impact and the external contextual factors influencing delivery and outcomes.

Evaluation Framework



Implementation and process evaluation framework adopted for the PREPARED PCT training pilot evaluation. Adapted from MRC Complex Interventions evaluation framework (Moore et al., 2014, p.24)

Evaluation Design: A mixed methods design comprising of:

- Critical review of training materials
- Quantitative evaluation of training implementation and satisfaction
- Qualitative Appreciative Inquiry (4-D Cycle) 'deep-dive' workshops (n=3) with pilot PCTs and semi-structured interviews with the PREPARED program team, PCT staff and line managers of PCT staff.

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

- HSE (2016) *Facts and Figures: Dementia Understand Together*. <http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/4/olderpeople/dementia/about-dementia/dementia-stats/>.
- Brooker D. *Person-centred dementia care: making services better*. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers; 2007.
- de siun A, Manning M. National dementia project: Dementia education needs analysis report. Ireland: Health Service Executive; 2010.
- Farrell A, Cahill S, Burke S. Rural practice, dementia and CMHN activity. *Partnerships in Community Mental Health Nursing and Dementia Care: Practice Perspectives* 2007. p. 142.
- Department of Health. *The Irish National Dementia Strategy*. 2014.
- Bodenheimer T, Wagner EH, Grumbach K. Improving primary care for patients with chronic illness: the chronic care model, Part 2. *Jama*. 2002;288(15):1909-14.

