



INTERDEM MEMBERS – BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE

Please complete this document (no more than 3 pages) and return to Alice.vaneijk@radboudumc.nl

Please can you also add a picture of yourself



NAME: Assumpta Ryan

TITLE: Professor

PROFESIONAL GROUPING: I am a registered mental health and adult nurse with a specific interest in caring for people living with dementia and their families. I am a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

WORK ADDRESS: School of Nursing, Ulster University, Northland Road, Derry, BT48 7JL.

TEL. WORK/WORK MOBILE: Office 0044 28 7167 5350, Mobile 0044 7762 151596

EMAIL ADDRESS: aa.ryan@ulster.ac.uk

WEBLINK: <http://www.science.ulster.ac.uk/inhr/profiles/a.ryan.php>

PRESENT POSITION: Professor of Ageing and Health

HIGHEST ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION (e.g. PhD, MD etc.): PhD

PROFILE OF MEMBER:

Assumpta Ryan is Professor of Ageing and Health in the Institute of Nursing and Health Reserach which was ranked in the top five in the UK for world-leading research in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014. The REF is the UK's system for assessing the quality of research in UK higher education institutions. For over 15 years, Assumpta and colleagues have investigated ways to better support people living with dementia by translating research into impact on policy, practice and education. This has been underpinned by two interconnected research programmes focusing on: 1) the experiences of people living with dementia and their carers before, during and after the move to a care home and 2) the impact of technology in supporting home-based reminiscence for people living with dementia and their carers. Drawing on impact from these two strands of work, Assumpta led the submission of an Impact Case Study for REF 2021 on 'Changing policy, culture and understanding in dementia care'.

Assumpta is Founder and Director of 'My Home Life', Northern Ireland, an internationally recognised leadership support programme for care home managers aimed at improving quality of life for residents, relatives and staff. Assumpta has over 130 research outputs in a range of academic journals and has presented at national and international research conferences. She is on the Editorial Board of 'Dementia: The International Journal of Social Research and Practice' and 'The International Journal of Older People Nursing'. Assumpta co-founded and was President of the All-Ireland Gerontological Nurses' Association' (2013-2019). She is a Fellow Ad Eundem of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and a member of the Department of Health, Northern Ireland (DOH NI) Dunmurry Manor Care Home Reference Group. Assumpta is a member of the NI Expert Frailty Panel and is also

Quality Assurance Advisor to the DOH NI on the Enhanced Clinical Care Framework for Care Home Residents. Assumpta was previously a Board Member of the Reminiscence Network Northern Ireland (2015-2017) and of the DOH NI European Engagement Forum (2017-2019)

Assumpta is Principal Investigator on the ongoing InspireD (Individual specific Reminiscence in Dementia) research study which explores the impact of personalised reminiscence, facilitated by an app on people living with dementia and their carers. Results showed significant improvements in emotional wellbeing and quality of relationships from baseline to end-point for people living with dementia who used the app. This led to additional funding to update the InspireD reminiscence app (theinspiredapp.com) which is now freely available on the Apple App and Google Play stores. Recognising the power of the arts to reflect the experiences of people living with dementia, Assumpta collaborated with a local theatre company to create a play 'The Songbirds' and share the findings of her InspireD research. Between 2019 and 2020, the play reached an audience of approximately 2,000 people in theatres and other venues across the island of Ireland and resulted in a significant improvement in public understanding of dementia across 100% of the evaluation statements. A person living with dementia described the play as "just like watching myself. ... It gives a 100% perfect representation of a person with dementia, that is the truth. Families need to see this; they will know then what we feel, and experience and they will understand us better." The play has been described as "superb" by the Alzheimer's Society. It sold out within a matter of days at the ESRC Festival of Social Science where the Commissioner for Older People for Northern Ireland describe it as "a very powerful performance and a great portrayal of people's journey with dementia".

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: family caregiving in dementia, using technology to support home-based reminiscence, supporting people living with dementia and their carers before, during and after the move to a care home.

KEY PUBLICATIONS (Max. 5):

Ryan A & Moore K (2021) "Knowing Me, Knowing You" An exploration of the views and experiences of nursing homes residents and staff on their nursing home as 'home'. *Ageing & Society*, 1-22 doi:10.1017/S0144686X21000787. Published online 8th July 2021

Rondon-Sulbaran, J., Daly-Lynn, J., McCormack, B., **Ryan, A.**, & Martin, S. (2021). An exploration of the experiences of informal carers supporting a relative living with dementia during and after the move to technology-enriched supported accommodation. *Ageing & Society*, 41(1), 1-28. doi:10.1017/S0144686X19001028

Ryan A, McCauley C, Laird E, Gibson A, Mulvenna M, Bond R, Bunting B, Ferry F, Curran K. (2020) "There is still so much inside": The impact of personalised reminiscence, facilitated by a tablet device, on people living with dementia and their family carers. *Dementia*, 19(4), 1131-1150. doi: 10.1177/1471301218795242

Potts C, Bond R, **Ryan A**, Mulvenna M, McCauley C, Laird E, Goode D. (2020) Ecological Momentary Assessment Within a Digital Health Intervention for Reminiscence in Persons With Dementia and Caregivers: User Engagement Study. *JMIR mHealth and uHealth*. 8, 7, e17120. doi: 10.2196/17120

McCauley, CO., Bond, RB., **Ryan, A.**, Mulvenna, MD., Laird, L., Gibson, A., Bunting, B., Ferry, F. & Curran, K. (2019) Evaluating User Engagement with a Reminiscence App Using Cross Comparative Analysis of User Event Logs and Qualitative Data. *Cyberpsychology, Behavior, and Social Networking*. 22 (8), 543-551 9 p. doi.org/10.1089/cyber.2019.0076

RELEVANT RESEARCH ACTIVITY:

Research Grants

Ryan A (PI), McCauley C, Goode D, Mulvenna M, Bond R, Boyd K (2019-2023) *Refining and testing the InspireD reminiscence app*. Health & Social Care Research and Development Division of the Public Health Agency, Award: **£85,883**

Taggart L (PI), Ryan A, Hassiotis A, Clarke M, O'Neill C, Bunting B (2021-2023) *A feasibility study of the clinical and cost-effectiveness of the MATILDA intervention to support older adults with intellectual disability to improve health, wellbeing and social networks*. NIHR Public Health Research Programme, Award: **£551,903**.

Bond R (PI), Rafferty J, Ryan A, Mulvenna, M (2020-2022). Development of a luminaire affective computing platform to support people with dementia). Innovate UK/KTP & Chroma Lighting, Award: **£185,173**.

Ryan A (PI), Penney, S & McIlpatrick S (2020-2021). *My Home Life: Leadership support programme for care home managers*. Department of Health, **£165,000**.

Nugent C (PI), Ryan A, McClelland I, McCance T, (2018-2019) *Connected Health Living Lab* Department of the Economy-HERC Funding. Award: **£184,266**.

McIlpatrick S (PI), Ryan A, Fee A (2016-2019) *Development and testing of a supportive intervention to meet the needs of older male carers looking after a spouse/partner with a long-term condition*. Health & Social Care Research and Development Division of the Public Health Agency. Doctoral Fellowship. Award: **£173,242**.

Ryan A (PI), Laird L, Curran K, Bunting B, Mulvenna M, Ferry, F, Bond R. (2014-2017). *A feasibility study of facilitated reminiscence for people with dementia*. Health & Social Care Research and Development Division of the Public Health Agency and Atlantic Philanthropies. Award: Part 1: £278,604, Part 2: £41,760. Total: **£320,364**

Martin S, Ryan A, Mc Cormack B (2014-2017) *Technology enriches supported housing-a study into the lived experience of older people with dementia and their carers'*. Health & Social Care Research and Development Division of the Public Health Agency and Atlantic Philanthropies. Award: **£385,490**

PhD and other projects

- A feasibility study to develop and test the use of a bespoke reminiscence app and examine the impact on the concepts of self-identity and quality of caregiving relationships among people living with dementia and their carers.
- Technology enriched supported accommodation for people living with dementia: personal perspectives through a person-centred lens.
- An examination of palliative and end-of-life care practices and education in Japanese long-term care facilities.
- Dignity through the lens of appreciative inquiry in an older adult residential care setting.
- Exploring the discharge of older people during out of hours from Emergency Departments in the Republic of Ireland

CURRENT RESEARCH INTERESTS/ONGOING PROJECT TITLE: Use of the InspireD reminiscence app in long-term care settings, using technology to support family caregiving in dementia, improving quality of life and quality of care for people living with dementia in long-term care settings, enhancing leadership in care homes.

HOW DO YOU INTEND TO CONTRIBUTE TO INTERDEM:

Up until recently, I worked part-time and this and my caring responsibilities limited by ability to travel and to engage meaningfully with experts who had similar research interests to myself. My circumstances have now changed and I am very interested in joining INTERDEM and contributing in whatever way I can to its mission statement. I am passionate about dementia care and support and am especially interested in innovative and creative approaches to bring the voices of people living with dementia to the fore. I have a very good network of like-minded people and can contribute my knowledge and experience in dementia education, practice and research. As a pan-European network of researchers, I believe that INTERDEM has a key role to play in strategically influencing dementia care and support across Europe and beyond. I am very keen to be actively involved in projects/meetings/seminars/workshops and to learn with and from INTERDEM members