



INTERDEM MEMBERS – BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE

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NAME: Catherine Houghton

TITLE: Dr

PROFESIONAL GROUPING: Associate Professor

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PRESENT POSITION (e.g. Director of): Director of Research, School of Nursing and Midwifery

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

PROFILE OF MEMBER: PhD

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Psychosocial dementia research, evidence synthesis, qualitative research

KEY PUBLICATIONS (Max. 5):

1. Zhang, D., Hennessy, M., & **Houghton, C.** (2023). Stakeholders' Perceptions and Experiences of Animal Assisted Interventions for People Living With Dementia: A Qualitative Evidence Synthesis Protocol. *International Journal of Qualitative Methods*, 22.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/16094069231157701>
2. Smyth, S., Dempsey, L., Jordan, F., Gannon, M., McDonagh, R., Casey, D., & **Houghton, C.** (2023). Perceptions and experiences of nursing students communicating with people living with dementia: The validation, emotion, reassurance, activity (VERA) communication skills framework. *International Journal of Older People Nursing*, 18, e12537.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/opn.12537>
3. **Houghton C**, Hennessy M, Smyth S, et al. The experiences and perceptions of young people and older people living with dementia of participating in intergenerational programmes: A qualitative evidence synthesis. *Dementia*. 2022;21(7):2144-2171.
doi:10.1177/14713012221112385
4. Flynn A, Healy D, Barry M, Brennan A, Redfern S, **Houghton C**, Casey D
Key Stakeholders' Experiences and Perceptions of Virtual Reality for Older Adults Living With Dementia: Systematic Review and Thematic Synthesis
JMIR Serious Games 2022;10(4):e37228 doi: 10.2196/37228
5. **Houghton, C.**, Murphy, K., Brooker, D. and Casey, D. (2016) 'Healthcare staffs' experiences and perceptions of caring for people with dementia in the acute setting: Qualitative evidence synthesis', *International Journal of Nursing Studies*, 61, pp. 104-116.

RELEVANT RESEARCH ACTIVITY:

Please indicate for past 5 years only (i) Grants Awarded: Names of investigators; Years; Title of Project; name of awarding agency (ii) PhD and other projects: Title, start or completed date.

Dementia specific research only:

Grants in preparation

- Health Research Board/Health Research Charities Ireland. Catherine Houghton PI: **INNEACH:** Intergenerational Programmes to enhance social connectivity for people living with dementia. 2023- under review
- HORIZON-MSCA-DN-2023 [Catherine Houghton collaborator] **TRENDS:** Research, Training and Innovation: Excellence Network for Dementia in Diverse Societies (TRENDS). preparing submission 2023

PhD Supervision

- **Zhang D** [Catherine Houghton primary supervisor]: Animal Assisted Interventions for People Living With Dementia (2022-2026)

MD Supervision

- **Patel S** [Catherine Houghton co-supervisor]: Smart technologies in older person psychiatry (2021-2024)

Completed grants

- Professor Dympna Casey PI [Catherine Houghton co-applicant] VERA study: Communicating with people living with dementia. Nursing and Midwifery Practice Development Unit (NMPDU) 2018
- Professor Dympna Casey PI [Catherine Houghton co-applicant] Approaches to dementia care in Ireland: North & South . Centre for Ageing Research and Development in Ireland (CARDI) 2015

CURRENT RESEARCH INTERESTS/ONGOING PROJECT TITLE:

- Animal Assisted Interventions for People Living with Dementia
- Intergenerational Programmes to enhance social connectivity for people living with dementia

HOW DO YOU INTEND TO CONTRIBUTE TO INTERDEM:

I have a keen interest in dementia research, with a specific focus on the in-the-moment impact of children and animals in enhancing social connections for people living with dementia. As a nurse lecturer, I teach person-centred approaches to care and have incorporated Dawn Brooker's VIPS person-centred framework into my teaching and research. I also believe that I bring methodological experience to INTERDEM.

I am an experienced qualitative researcher and have published methodological papers on, qualitative case study methodology, qualitative evidence synthesis methodology, data collection, ethics, rigour, paradigms and analysis in qualitative research. I am Co-Chair for QUESTS (Qualitative Research in Trials Centre), established in 2016 and embedded within HRB-trials Methodology Research Network. I am also co-lead for the Qualitative Research in Trials (QRiT) target group, within the MRC-NIHR Trials Methodology Research Partnership (TMRP). I was also PI on a project looking at qualitative data sharing practices in clinical trials in the UK and Ireland (<https://hrbopenresearch.org/articles/6-10/v1>).

I have extensive experience in qualitative evidence synthesis and was recently appointed co-convenor for the Cochrane Qualitative and Implementation Methods group and is involved in the new Cochrane-Campbell Handbook for Qualitative Evidence Synthesis (2023). I am a research associate for Evidence Synthesis Ireland, and a member of the Emergency Evidence Response Service (EERS) in response to COVID-19.

In addition to her publications, I have delivered numerous workshops, webinars, podcasts, developed infographics and written evidence summaries and plain language summaries demonstrating an understanding of the importance of impact beyond publication.