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**INTERDEM MEMBERS – BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE**

Please complete this document (no more than 3 pages) and return to d.moens@maastrichtuniversity.nl

Please can you also add a picture of yourself

Picture



**NAME: Duygu Sezgin**

**TITLE: PhD, MSc, RGN**

**PROFESIONAL GROUPING: Nursing and Midwifery**

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**PRESENT POSITION (e.g. Director of ………): Head of Discipline (General Nursing), Assistant professor**

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

**PROFILE OF MEMBER:** [**https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8378-6835**](https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8378-6835)

**AREAS OF EXPERTISE:** Psychosocial interventions to support people living with dementia. Frailty and pre-frailty prevention and management. Integrated care. Evidence synthesis.

**KEY PUBLICATIONS (Max. 5):**

**-** "Use and uptake of technology by people with dementia and their supporters during the COVID-19 pandemic" DOI: 10.1080/13607863.2022.2163375. In this systematic review, I collaborated with researchers from INTERDEM and Alzheimer Europe.

-"The uptake of technology among people with dementia during the COVID-19 pandemic in Europe: A mapping exercise" I surveyed Interdem members for this work and presented the results at the 32nd Alzheimer Europe Conference in Bucharest in 2022. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L9U7BP1IY6w>

-"Enrichment of dementia caregiving relationships through psychosocial interventions: A scoping review" DOI: 10.3389/fmed.2022.1069846 Senior author/supervisor. This work is the output of a PhD student's 3-month secondment in Galway.

-"Effectiveness of reminiscence therapy in reducing agitation and depression and improving quality of life and cognition in long-term care residents with dementia: A systematic review and meta-analysis" DOI: 10.1016/j.gerinurse.2021.10.014 I supervised this master's dissertation.

-"Non-pharmacological treatments for sleep disturbance in mild cognitive impairment and dementia: A systematic review and meta-analysis" DOI: 10.1016/j.maturitas.2019.06.007 This is a comprehensive meta-analysis, and I was mostly involved in data extraction and analysis.

 **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.

I have been part of the TRENDS – Training, Research and Innovation: Excellence Network for Dementia in Diverse Societies grant application since April 2021. (H2020-MSCA-ITN-2020)

I currently supervise two PhD students who focus on dementia research. Their thesis titles are:

"Examination of social frailty in adults with early onset dementia and interventions to improve their social health while considering cultural differences" (primary supervisor) start date: 01.10.2022. This project starts with a concept analysis to understand the differences and similarities between social health, social frailty, and social isolation. The following stages include screening for social frailty in two countries and qualitative interviews for persons’ perceptions about activities to improve social health. The project focuses on cultural differences concerning social health in people with early onset dementia.

“Early awareness and stress reduction by individual psychological interventions in people in the mild stage of Alzheimer’s Dementia and who are supported by their informal care person” (co-supervisor) start date: June 2020. This project employs action research methodology. The student takes measures of stress markers via wearable devices, follows person and family caregiver diaries, and implements individualised psychotherapy.

**CURRENT RESEARCH INTERESTS/ONGOING PROJECT TITLE:**

I am a member of the Psychosocial Dementia Research Group at the University of Galway. I am particularly interested in social health in dementia and the interpretation of this concept in different dimensions.

I am part of the INTERDEM Covid-19 special interest group and recently completed our research as part of the UTEC19 group that aimed to understand technology use among people with dementia during the Covid-19 pandemic.

I also work withthe Interdem Assistive Technology (AT) Taskforce, which has been working on a project to synthesise evidence relating to the use of AT with dementia. We are currently working on a Delphi project to achieve consensus for the recommendations from this project.

**HOW DO YOU INTEND TO CONTRIBUTE TO INTERDEM:**

I am interested in involving more research on psychosocial interventions to support people living with dementia. I believe my existing research knowledge and experience will contribute to further expanding this within INTERDEM. I already work with the INTERDEM Assistive Technology taskforce, but I would like to extend my collaboration by becoming an official member of INTERDEM.

I am also particularly interested in the social health of people with early onset dementia and the influence of cultural differences on their perception of social health. I have a PhD student conducting research in this area, and I will encourage her to share her research with INTERDEM and eventually become a member. We plan to do further research in this area, and I look forward to linking with INTERDEM members for this. Therefore, if possible, I would like to support the Social Health and Intercultural aspects taskforce.

I want to advocate public involvement in dementia research. This is an ongoing issue, especially in the advanced dementia population. They are usually excluded from research with the assumption that their cognitive impairment would be a barrier. I would like to explore ways to overcome this issue within the network. I need to understand the needs of people living with dementia and their support persons so we can plan and deliver research together.

I believe in the power of interdisciplinary collaboration in dementia research. By collaborating with other professionals, we can deliver person- and family-centred care supported by inclusive research evidence and policies.