INTERDEM MEMBERS – BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE
Dr Hannah Christie

NAME: Hannah Christie

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PROFESSIONAL GROUPING: Research

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PRESENT POSITION: (i) Postdoctoral researcher and Cameron fellow in equity in technological innovations for dementia at the School of Population Health, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) and (ii) affiliated postdoctoral researcher at the Alzheimer Center Limburg (ACL), Maastricht University, Netherlands

HIGHEST ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION: PhD

YEAR OF PHD QUALIFICATION: 2020

PROFILE OF MEMBER:

I am currently a Cameron postdoctoral fellow with the School of Population Health, at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI). My research focuses on underlined equity in technological innovations for dementia. In this work, I investigate factors that influence the implementation rate of eHealth interventions (such as apps, websites, virtual reality tools, and artificial intelligence) from research into clinical practice, with special attention to accessibility, financing, and the inclusion of culturally-specific perspectives on dementia and healthy aging from an intersectional perspective. My previous positions were at Maastricht University, where I was a PhD student with the INDUCT project and a postdoctoral researcher (and where I am still an affiliated postdoctoral researcher, involved in two ongoing PhD projects). For my PhD research, I was awarded first prize for the 2022 INTERDEM Academy publication award and the top PhD thesis (2020) award from School of Mental Health and Neuroscience at Maastricht University. I was also a finalist for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) action competition at Maastricht University (2017). Together, my PhD and postdoctoral research has produced 13 publications in peer-reviewed, scientific journals (including seven first-authorships and two INTERDEM awards for publication of the month). In addition, I have written three book chapters, two as first author. I was also first author on two separate knowledge syntheses with recommendations for the Alzheimer Netherlands research agenda.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE:

eHealth interventions for dementia; Implementation from research into clinical practice, with special attention to accessibility and financing; Intersectionality and the inclusion of culturally-specific perspectives on dementia and healthy aging, using creative methods such as storytelling and the arts; Facilitating outreach and dissemination of evidence-based eHealth interventions (such as Partner in Balance and Myinlife, as well as the INTenSE self-experience platform) through both academic and social media channels; Knowledge syntheses on dementia research policy makers.

KEY PUBLICATIONS:

1. Christie, H. L., Bartels, S. L., Boots, L. M., Tange, H. J., Verhey, F. R., & de Vugt, M. E. (2018). A systematic review on the implementation of eHealth interventions for informal caregivers of people with dementia. *Internet interventions*, *13*, 51-59.
   Significance: This is the basis for my later research. Here, I showed that barely any digital health interventions for dementia mention implementation and that there is a distinct dearth of research on organizational and contextual implementation factors. This article was chosen is article of the month by INTERDEM in August 2019 and has been cited 127 times.

2. Christie, H. L., Boots, L. M. M., Hermans, I., Govers, M., Tange, H. J., Verhey, F. R. J., & de Vugt, M. (2021). Business Models of eHealth Interventions to Support Informal Caregivers of People With Dementia in the Netherlands: Analysis of Case Studies. *JMIR aging*, *4*(2), e24724.
   Significance: This is an innovative study, where I used frameworks from industry to show how digital health interventions for dementia in the Netherlands are financed, through case studies of their business models. This paper was awarded first place for the 2022 INTERDEM Academy publication award.

3. Christie, H. L., Martin, J. L., Connor, J., Tange, H. J., Verhey, F. R., de Vugt, M. E., & Orrell, M. (2019). eHealth interventions to support caregivers of people with dementia may be proven effective, but are they implementation-ready?. *Internet interventions*, *18*, 100260.
   Significance: This study is important, as it was the first to show that barely any digital, evidence-based interventions for dementia are sustainably implemented. This motivated me to identify the reasons why and contributed to my being invited to lead a subsequent knowledge synthesis by Alzheimer Netherlands. It was the first product of my international collaboration with the University of Nottingham and has been cited 45 times.

4. Christie, H. L., Atefi, G., Craven, M. P., Orrell, M., & de Vugt, M. E. (2024). EmpRess: an eHealth implementation readiness checklist for dementia developed through an interview study of stakeholder needs. *Aging & Mental Health*, 1-9.
   Significance: This study built on the previous collaboration with the University of Nottingham (Christie et al. 2019) by further developing the ImpRess tool to assess implementation readiness of eHealth interventions for dementia. It was selected as INTERDEM article month for March 2024.

5. Van der Roest H. G., Christie H.L., Franco-Martin M. A., Dröes RM, de Vugt M. E., Meiland F. J. Determinants of (un)successful implementation of research-based assistive technologies in dementia care: an explorative survey. JMIR Aging. 19/06/2024:53640 (preprint).
   Significance: This study shows my collaboration with senior INTERDEM members on the topic of implementing innovations in dementia.

RELEVANT RESEARCH ACTIVITY:

Grants awarded: I have received over €87,000 in individual, competitive funding as a postdoctoral researcher (see Table 1).

Grant	Investigators	Project title	Awarding agency
InterAct (€11,500) *23/12/2023*	Hannah Christie, Anne-Marie Brady, John Gerard Dinsmore	Inclusive recommendations for healthcare professionals in the home care context regarding sexuality and intimacy in dementia: Synthesis and dissemination	Alzheimer Netherlands
Qualitative Research grant (€6,000 + 1 year funding for full-time research assistant) *15/03/2022*	Hannah Christie, Penelope Siebert, Clive Foster	Dementia care and community	Nottingham Trent University
Niels Stensen Fellowship (€57,418) *22/10/2021*	Hannah Christie, Penelope Siebert	An intersectional perspective on eHealth in dementia care	Niels Stensen Foundation
'Short term' fellowship (€12,500) *15/06/2021*	Hannah Christie, Golnaz Atefi, Michael Craven, Jennifer Martin, Martin Orrell, Marjolein de Vugt	Implementation readiness of eHealth in dementia care	Alzheimer Netherlands

Table 1. Overview of awarded grants as a postdoctoral researcher.

CURRENT RESEARCH INTERESTS/ONGOING PROJECT TITLE:

My current research interests lie in improving equity in technological innovations for dementia. In particular, I am interested in developing online support for care professionals concerning sexuality and intimacy in dementia, from an intersectional perspective. Together with colleagues in the Dutch SPREAD+ consortium, I have initiated a special interest group on sexuality and intimacy within INTERDEM, which will meet for the first time at Alzheimer Europe in Geneva to explore avenues for future, collaborative research.

HOW DO YOU INTEND TO CONTRIBUTE TO INTERDEM:

I have been a member of INTERDEM Academy since the start of my PhD in 2016 with the INTERDEM-led INDUCT project. As such, I have been a member of several INTERDEM taskforces, including Intersectionality, Methodology, and Assistive Technology. I am corresponding author on the most recent Assistive Technology publication, with co-authors Franka Meiland, Henriette van der Roest, Manuel Franco, Marjolein de Vugt, and Rose-Marie Droës . I am also contributing co-author on upcoming publications with the other mentioned taskforces.

The above illustrates my history of strong collaboration and rigorous research within the INTERDEM network, in line with the INTERDEM objectives. By graduating from INTERDEM Academy to full INTERDEM member, I will build on these existing connections and (i) continue to contribute to the taskforces of which I am a member; (ii) apply as an independent researcher for international, collaborative grants, with INTERDEM members as partners (e.g. a European Research Council (ERC) grant), and (iii) help support this INTERDEM network that has been an invaluable force in propelling my research career from the very start, for instance by being involved in INTERDEM service roles where needed (such as INTERDEM Academy trainings, the website committee, INTERDEM social media, etc.).

My research focus intersects with many of the taskforces and aligns well with the INTERDEM objectives. Having spent the last eight years at Maastricht University at the heart of the INTERDEM network, I am looking forward to expanding my research and network to new contexts through my new position at the School of Population Health at RCSI. I believe my experience as an INTERDEM Academy member, my expertise in research on equity in technological innovations for dementia, my previous successful collaborations within INTERDEM, my proven track record of individual funding acquisition, and my experience working within large international research consortia, will make me a valuable new member of INTERDEM.