

# Exploring the priorities of people with dementia and other conditions

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## Why this work is important:

Most people with dementia have other conditions, but research usually studies dementia on its own.

From discussions with affected people, we know that having other conditions can hinder the diagnosis and treatment of dementia. Having dementia also sometimes makes it harder to treat other conditions.

## Our project aims:

1. To produce a list of important topics and priorities for research into dementia that accounts for other conditions.
2. To draw attention to the need for future research on this topic

## How we did it

Groups of people with dementia and other conditions, and carers, from all over Scotland were invited to participate in a series of focus group sessions.



*[Research] takes little slices of people... Nobody ever seems to look at me as a whole person... I'm only ever looked at as an angina patient, or an Alzheimer's patient or a diabetic patient... and yet my life is more than that."*

*- Participant*



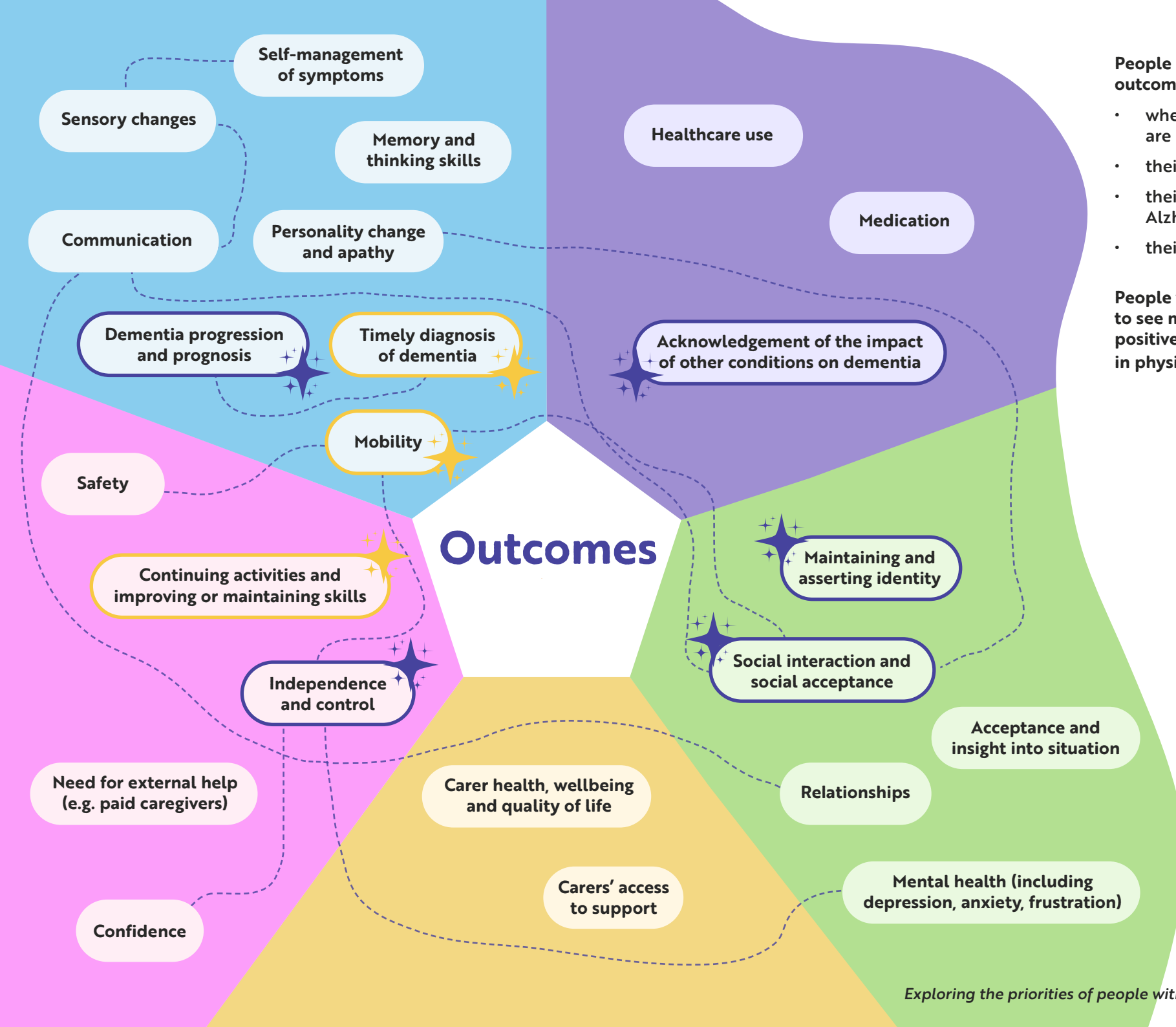
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People may prioritise these outcomes differently, depending on:

- whether they have dementia or are a carer
- their personal circumstances
- their subtype of dementia (e.g. Alzheimer's, vascular, Parkinson's)
- their stage of dementia

People with dementia would like to see more research focus on positives, for example improvement in physical symptoms

## Key



Top three priorities



Other highly ranked



SYMPTOMS



OTHER CONDITIONS



DAILY LIVING



CARERS



QUALITY OF LIFE