Research at the Health and Social Care Interface

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Key issues for older people

Across a spectrum......

- Increasing health problems
- Planning for long life
- Giving and receiving care
- Community participation vs social isolation
- Increasing use of services
- Dispersed families
Messages from research and for research

“Independence, well-being and choice”
“Dignity, responsive services and active ageing”

- Look ahead; help individuals look ahead
- Inform and advise; increase take-up of benefits and initiatives
- Nurture and utilise resources of older person
- Develop differentiated responses
The social work nose....
Synergies between social work and health and social care research agenda

- **Value base**
  ‘respect for persons’; ‘this person in this situation’; ‘non-judgmental’ approach; ‘non-directive’ response.
- **Interdisciplinarity**
  applied social science with range of influences and starting points.
- **Partnership research** and **mixed methods**
  natural bed-fellows for SW.
- **Established contributions**
  PSSRU; SPRU
Living with Parkinson’s disease in the community

- **NHSCCA study (PDS)**

- **User-led care pathway study (PDS)**

- **Women with Parkinson’s Disease (ESRC CASE)**
  implications of a progressive disease for personhood and lifestyle.

- **Adapting PD care pathway to dementia care**
Dying and bereavement in late modernity

- **Spiritual and philosophical issues**
  Now collaborative bid (ESRC/AHRC) religion/spirituality, health and ageing

- **Chinese older people and cancer/EOLC (HF)**

- **Funerals (AHRC)**

- ‘Special deaths’ in contemporary society (to ESRC/AHRC)

- **Dying in older age in hospital (care pathways)**
  To SDO EOLC call.
Listening to users...

...Tony, John, Charlie

...Norman and Sheila
“I’m not an older person, I’m OLD”