

E-HEALTH AND E-LEARNING FOR HD-PATIENTS FOR BETTER CARE AT HOME

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Background

Patients with HD, staying at home, need fully access to both caregivers, counsellors and informal caregivers (e-health). Patients and local medical staff seek knowledge on evidence-based treatment (e-learning). *Topaz Huntington Square* as a virtual communication platform provides both.

Results

Topaz Huntington Square has a database of information and instruction video's; as well as possibilities for video calling, agenda sharing, FAQ, Forum, local news and fun & games. The software (IQare) has proven its efficacy in long term care in Scotland. Research will show whether the Huntington Square contributes to a prolonged residence at home. HD-patients are invited using *Topaz Huntington Square* starting from September 2014.

Methods

Topaz provides 80 patients with a shuttle PC and a personal account.

They are able to make video calls with their doctors and practitioners, and have free access tot various instruction videos. They may search for information, create a social network and update their daily programme.

Local professionals can make video calls to experienced HD practitioners and check the instruction video's.

A Client Committee, consisting of committed family members, is directly linked to the project staff for advice and reflection.



Topaz Huntington Square (stills of instruction video's)

Conclusion

Designing a platform for e-health and e-learning is possible with the initial involvement of both clients and professionals. The results of *Topaz Huntington Square* is closely monitored to evaluate its contribution to a prolonged residence at home.