Alba Benaque MD MPH, Llúcia Tarraga MSc, Agustin Ruiz MD PhD, Miren Gurutxaga, Isabel Hernández MD PhD, Montse Algepí PhD, Pilar Carballejos PhD, América Morera, Isabel Rodríguez, Mercè Boada, MD PhD.


INTRODUCTION: Alzheimer's Disease (AD) affects people worldwide, and prevalence is increasing as population ages. One of the critically important goods of all national plans to address AD is developing healthcare delivery models that provide quality, effective care based on the best evidence available. Health care for people with dementia needs to be continuous, holistic and integrated. Fundació ACE (FACE) is a non-profit organization that provides, since 1996, a healthcare model that integrates diagnosis, therapy, follow up care, day care and does so in a context of clinical and social care, research and educational program.

OBJECTIVE: The aim is to present the model of an existing AD outpatient healthcare center that meets many of the requirements specified by International Alzheimer’s Plans. It is an integrated, comprehensive, patient centered care model with a built-in research emphasis.

MATERIAL AND METHODS:
- Fundació ACE cares for people with cognitive disorders, Alzheimer disease or other dementias and their families.
- Area of reference as Dementia expertise unit at Barcelona City (1.5 M inhabitants).
- Defined organizational structure & care model & activities
  - **Memory Clinic**: special center with contract by Catalan Health Service. Comprehensive assessment for diagnosis and follow up by multidisciplinary team (neurologist, geriatrician, neuropsychologists, social workers, nurse and other staff)
  - **Day Care Center**: One for late onset dementia and another for an early onset dementia.
- Provides pscostimulation integrated program and works to preserve independence of patients in their basic activities of daily living.
- **Research Center**: genomic, clinical, neuropsychological and ethical-social research
- **Clinical Trials Unit**: involved in new therapeutically approaches
- **Awareness and Education activities**
- **Multidisciplinary team**: 83 professionals
- **Clinical, social and research team, work integration and translational medicine**

RESULTS: Fundació ACE at a glance

CONCLUSIONS: Fundació ACE model
- 1. Offers a comprehensive approach model including prevention, diagnosis, follow up, treatment, quality of life and social care.
- 2. Integrates clinical and research, teams and working paths, and facilitates translational medicine, innovation and scientific knowledge.
- 3. Can serve as a comprehensive care model to be adapted to other settings with local cultural, government and legal constraints.
- 4. Can be adapted to short and long term changes in the needs of patients and families and according to Nationals Dementia Health plans.
- 5. It is a robust model for improvement and innovation for health impact and value: eHealth tools & telemedicine & IoT
- 6. An integrated, comprehensive, patient-centered healthcare model offers benefits to patients and family, health care providers, patients and society.


ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Fundació ACE gratefully to patients and families that consent to contribute significant time and effort and data information for research.

FUNDACIÓ ACE: www.fundaciocae.org. Barcelona. SPAIN. Contact e-mail: abenaque@fundaciocae.org.