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# Australia launches new program for way forward after dementia diagnosis

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**Improving the diagnostic experience and helping people to live well**



An innovative new program launched on 11 October aims to assist the estimated 60,000 Australians diagnosed with dementia each year to understand next steps and change outdated perceptions of living with dementia.

Most people feel overwhelmed when first diagnosed with dementia. They despair of their future, lose hope and don't know what to do next. To address this, COGNISANCE, an international research collaboration, is launching 'Forward with Dementia', an innovative program to improve the diagnostic experience, post-diagnosis support and connections for people with dementia and their carers.

The program was jointly planned and developed by leading researchers from UNSW Sydney, the University of Sydney and University of Wollongong in collaboration with colleagues from Canada, the Netherlands, Poland and the United Kingdom.