

Faculty of Old Age Psychiatry | Case study priorities

The best way to explain mental ill health is through people's lived experience.

Journalists and the public respond to real-life human experiences that make them sit up and go, "wow – I never realised it was like that".

We want to make sure that our case studies illustrate the key areas in older age depression that people need to know about.



Below are four areas agreed:

1. Lack of recognition of older age depression
Case study of someone who was suffering from depression, but it was not recognised and so they were not referred for a long period of time.
2. Physical accessibility of IAPT
Someone who was referred to IAPT services, but was unable to make appointments because the service was too far away/in an 'age-unfriendly' setting/no home visits were available.
3. Depression can present in different ways
Two people whose depression manifested in very different ways to show the broad scope of the illness in people over 65.
4. Treatment for depression is successful
Someone who received treatment and made a recovery.

There will be a consistent call to action about use of the Two Question Screen as a simple way to identify depression in older people.