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Quality of life in Long-Term Conditions

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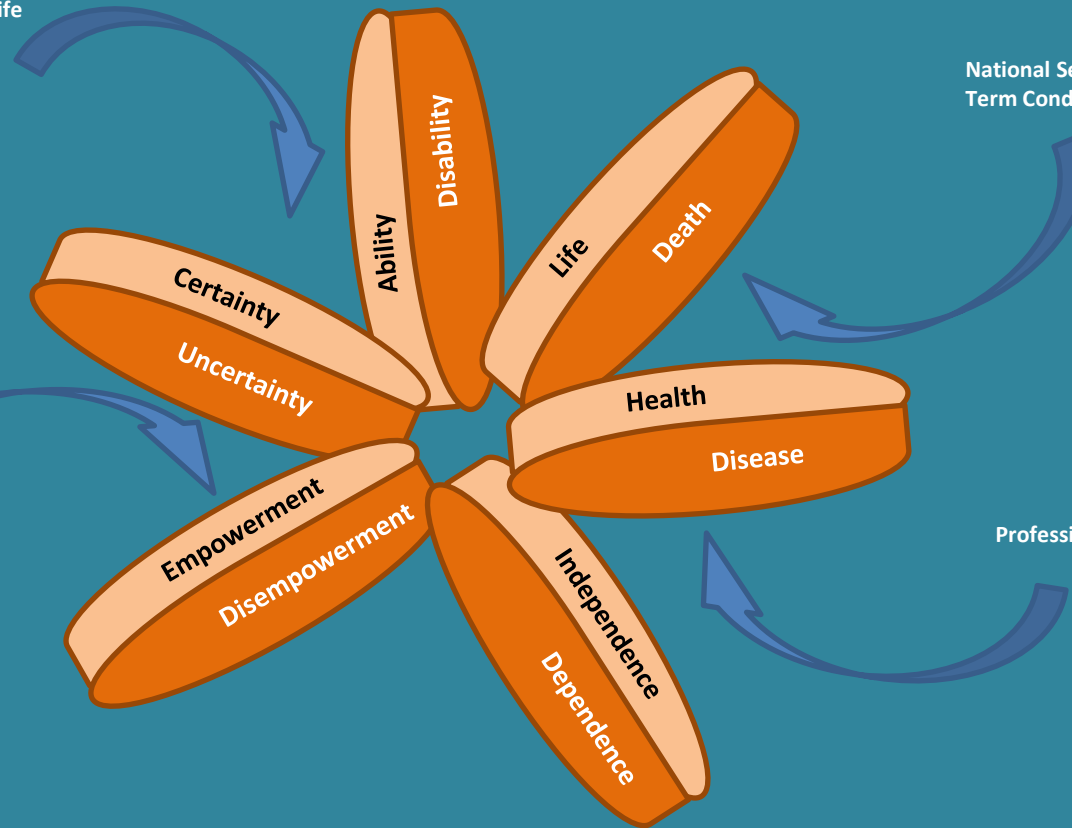
There is an increasing policy drive for nurses to encourage and operationalise self-management and collaborative partnerships with people with long-term conditions. Central to this is a development of understanding of the premises to a good quality of life. This presentation reports on a project in which the quality of life of people with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) was assessed. In parallel, the researchers examined the meaning attributed to the term in policy documentation such as the NSF for Long-Term conditions (2005) (Lhussier 2009).

Cultural representations of quality of life in Long-Term Conditions

National Service Framework for Long Term Conditions

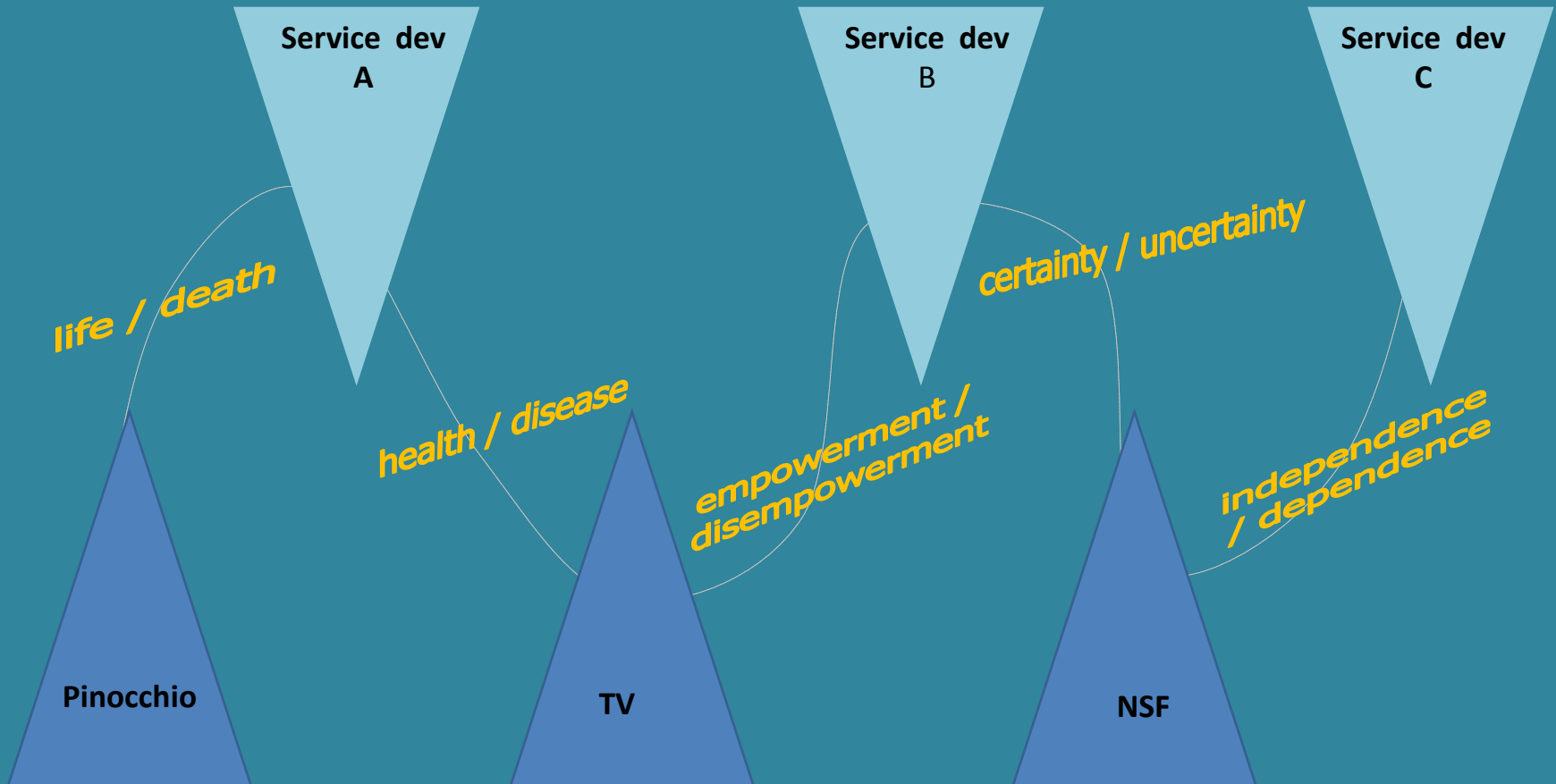
Interviews with people with MS

Professional interviews



Drawing on the data collected, this presentation aims to expose and critique these six oppositional pairs so that understanding of quality of life in long-term conditions can be enhanced and contextualised. Thus this presentation does not aim at solving definitional or measurement issues, but at engaging practitioners in critical thinking about such a key concept as quality of life. Such an engagement in questioning of pre-understandings is crucial for nursing practice to evolve and adapt to changing population needs, as the prevalence of long-term conditions continues to increase.

A nomadological approach



Debate / discussion

- 1) What determines quality of life in long term conditions?
- 2) Independence
- 3) Empowerment