Background
Loneliness has been considered as a serious social and public health problem among older people. Understanding factors that affect loneliness among older adults is particularly important. However, Loneliness is a complex and multidimensional construct, which is associated with a wide variety of factors. A consideration of multiple dimensions is essential to gain a complete picture of an individual’s state of loneliness.

Objective
The objective of this study is to investigate the prospective impact of a wide range of factors on loneliness with a focus on: (a) which factors are closely related to the feelings of loneliness, and whether they perform consistently as people age, and (b) whether men and women differ in loneliness experiences.

Methods
Data used in the study were from a population-based sample of 3838 core members who participated in all the waves of the English Longitudinal Study of Aging (ELSA) (2002–2015). Binary logistic regression analyses were conducted to understand the relationship of loneliness and associated factors on two sets of experiments: (a) four different wave points with a 4-year measure span were selected to examine the effect of different groups of factors on loneliness prediction and potential prediction changes when ageing. (b) The predictive models were built on separate gender datasets to investigate whether the risk factors for men and women were different. Statistical software SPSS (version 23) was used in the analyses.

Results
Variables in the models included: gender, age, marital status, closeness to spouse, contact with children and friends, money shortage, health problem, and depression. The results on four wave points showed that widowhood, emotionally distant to spouse, and depression displayed consistently significant association with loneliness. But contact with friends, money shortage and health problem only showed significance on one or two waves. It suggested there might be changes in risk factors for loneliness as people age. The results on separate gender data confirmed that being widowhood or not close to partner led to a higher risk of being loneliness for women, while health problem and infrequent contact with friends increase the feelings of loneliness in men.

Conclusions
This study identified important risk factors influencing loneliness experience. The findings from the study showed some evidence that the impact of risk factors might change when ageing or in different gender. Knowledge about such difference will be helpful in the development of targeted interventions to fight against loneliness in later life.

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PREDICTORS OF LONELINESS AMONG OLDER MEN AND WOMEN IN ENGLAND

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Background
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‘I’VE ALWAYS DONE WHAT I WAS TOLD BY THE MEDICAL PEOPLE’ – A MIXED METHODS STUDY OF OLDER PEOPLE’S REASONS FOR ATTENDANCE AT A NEW FALL PREVENTION CLINIC

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Background
Falls are one of the most serious and common threats facing older adults. Multifactorial falls risk assessment can reduce the rate of falls among community dwelling older adults and is recommended as a first step in the early detection and management of risk factors. It is used as a gateway for older people to access evidence-based interventions targeting their individual risk factors. However, effective interventions will only reduce the rate and risk of falls if there is a high level of uptake in the population and suboptimal uptake