

Dementia Now

Pain and Dementia is the featured topic in this issue

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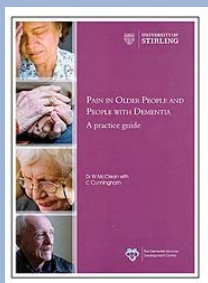
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[Pain in Older People with Dementia: A Practice Guide](#)
£15.00



In the headlines

'Sweetie' no term of endearment to elderly

Professionals call it "elderspeak," the sweetly belittling form of address that has always rankled older people: the doctor who talks to their children rather than to them about their health; the store clerk who assumes that an older person does not know how to work a computer, or needs to be addressed slowly or in a loud voice.

[San Francisco Chronicle 12 October 2008](#)

Pratchett on dementia stigma

Research suggests that the stigma surrounding dementia makes life much harder for many patients. Author Terry Pratchett, who has Alzheimer's disease, said there was an 'almost supernatural fear of it'. (Video clip)

[BBC News Online 7 October 2008](#)

Press release: Development of European Action Plan on Alzheimer's Disease

In a Written Declaration, the Members of the European Parliament from five different European countries and three different political groups call for increased European collaboration on research into the causes, prevention and treatment of Alzheimer's disease, as well as earlier diagnosis, improved support for people with dementia and their carers and better recognition of the role of Alzheimer associations.

[Alzheimer Europe website](#)



The Dementia Services
Development Centre



UNIVERSITY OF
STIRLING

Pain

Introduction

Pain

“Research indicates that pain is poorly managed and that patients with dementia are suffering needlessly. This is an unacceptable position and one that should not be sustained. The introduction of a pain management process is not complex, but requires staff education about pain management (Edwards *et al* 2001) and the needs of patients with dementia (Archibald 2002)

...challenging behaviour can result from poorly managed pain, and can be difficult to manage on the acute ward. The frequent response to such behaviour is the use of anti-psychotic medication (Elenchenny and Shah 2001). However, this is not an appropriate or effective strategy to relieve pain. Health professionals need to investigate and treat the actual cause of challenging behaviour in patients with dementia and not attribute it to being a symptom of dementia. It is a symptom that requires investigation so that the cause can be addressed. The probability that patients with dementia in acute wards are in pain is significant, and the opportunity to change this lies principally with the nursing team on these wards who should act as patient advocates (McClellan 2003)”

The issues raised by this apply across all care settings

Extract from:

Cunningham, C (2006) Managing pain in patients with dementia in hospital. *Nursing Standard*. 20(46), 26 July 2006, 54-58.

References:

Archibald C (2002) *People with Dementia in Acute Hospital Settings*. Stirling: Dementia Services Development Centre.

Edwards HE, Nash RE, Yates PM *et al* (2001) Improving pain management by nurses: a pilot peer intervention program. *Nursing and Health Sciences*. 3, 1, 35-45.

Elenchenny N, Shah A (2001) What is the impact of a psychogeriatric admission on the prescription of psychotropic and non-psychotropic drugs? *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*. 16, 6, 643-644.

Pain Web Resources

A hidden problem: pain in older people / Liz Cairncross, Helen Magee and Janet Askham

www.pickereurope.org/Filestore/Publications/paincarehomes_final.pdf

The assessment of pain in older people : national guidelines

www.britishpainsociety.org/book_pain_older_people.pdf

Pain in elderly people with severe dementia: A systematic review of behavioural pain assessment tools

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2318/6/3>

Pain in Dementia: factsheet

http://www.pssru.ac.uk/pdf/MCpdfs/Pain_factsheet.pdf

North West Dementia Centre

Pain Management for Patients With Late-Stage Dementia

<http://healthlink.mcw.edu/article/967581724.html>

Healthlink, Medical College of Wisconsin

Recent developments in pain in dementia

<http://bmj.bmjournals.com/cgi/content/extract/330/7489/461>

BMJ.com

Pain Assessment in People with Dementia

http://www.nursingcenter.com/Library/JournalArticle.asp?Article_ID=800535

Ann Horgas and Lois Miller

Pain: dementia and memory loss

http://www.mednwh.unimelb.edu.au/research/pain_dementia.htm

National Ageing Research Institute

Pain in elderly people with severe dementia: a systematic review of behavioural pain assessment tools

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2318/6/3>

BioMed Central

Management of pain in persons with dementia

<http://www.alzbrain.org/pdf/handouts/2049.%20MANAGEMENT%20OF%20PAIN%20IN%20PERSONS%20WITH%20DEMENTIA.pdf>

Alzbrain.org

Pain management in persons with dementia

<http://www.geri.com/geriatrics/data/articlestandard/geriatrics/192005/160330/article.pdf>

Snow, Lynn Rapp, Mary Pat and Kunik, Mark

Pain assessment and dementia

http://alzonline.php.ufl.edu/pp_slides/060117_elliot.ppt#1

Elliot, Amanda, Floetke and Horgas, Ann L.

Responding to the pain experiences of people with a learning difficulty and dementia

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/bookshop/eBooks/9781859354599.pdf>

Kerr, Diana, Cunningham, Colm and Wilkinson, Heather

Pain

Topic Reading List

Edvardsson, David

The aged care pain chart : an innovative approach to assessing, managing and documenting pain in older people.

Age and ageing. 27(2), June 2008, 93-96.

This article presents the development and initial testing of a comprehensive pain chart for the assessment, management and documentation of pain in older people in subacute and residential aged care.

Imhof, Sara

How can we make the pain go away? : public policies to manage pain at the end of life.

The gerontologist. 48(4), August 2008, 423-431.

The continued undertreatment of pain at the end of life is a substantive public health problem that has not been resolved through increased public awareness, the issuance of clinical guidance for providers, or expanded organizational commitments. In this forum, the authors illuminate the role of public policies in promoting pain management.

Meeks, Thomas W.

Chronic pain and depression among geriatric psychiatry inpatients.

International journal of geriatric psychiatry. 23(6), June 2008, 637-642.

The authors examined whether chronic pain among depressed geriatric inpatients was associated with several clinical variables - comorbid psychiatric and medical diagnoses, length of hospitalisation, suicidal ideation, and sleep duration.

Short, Robert

Assessing pain.

Nursing older people. 20(4), May 2008, 16-18.

Pat Schofield urges nurses to make the national guideline, The Assessment of Pain in Older People, part of their personal practice and carry with them the simple tools to evaluate pain. She spoke to the author about what nurses can do to implement the guideline.

Blay, Sergio Luis

Co-occurrence of chronic physical pain and psychiatric morbidity in a community sample of older people. International journal of geriatric psychiatry. 22(9), September 2007, 920-908.

Research article. Knowledge about co-occurrence of the most frequent chronic pain symptoms with psychiatric morbidity in older people is very limited. This research aims to study the association of psychiatric morbidity and painful physical conditions in people aged 60 years and over.

Murphy, Katherine

The state of chronic pain in the elderly.

Working with older people. 11(2), June 2007, 32-34.

Chronic pain is one of the most common reasons people seek medical help and, depending on the severity of their pain, they are thought to use health services up to five times more often than the rest of the population. This article reveals the findings of The Patients' Association survey, which sought to examine how care home residents' pain is managed.

Lyll, Joanna

Making patients' lives comfortable?

Nursing older people. 19(4), May 2007, 6-7.

Residents in nursing homes often suffer pain in silence. Why is the management of chronic pain not keeping pace with advances in pain control for palliative care? The author finds out.

Smith, Stephen

The challenge of assessing and treating pain in dementia.

The journal of dementia care. 15(2), March/April 2007, 28-30.

The authors describe how staff on a continuing care ward worked together to identify the causes and relieve the symptoms of pain and distress for one woman with dementia.

Schofield, Pat

Management of pain in older people : a workbook. Keswick: M&K Update, 2007.

This workbook is designed to give a basic introduction to the management of pain in older people. It explores the size and nature of the problem, outlines some practical assessment and aims to help readers think about the particular issues in their own area of practice.

Pain in older people : a hidden problem.

Harrow: Patients Association, March 2007.

The aim of the research was to improve our understanding of how chronic pain is perceived and responded to in care homes in England by exploring the views and experiences of residents from nursing homes in different parts of the country.

Talerico, Karen Amann

Psychosocial approaches to prevent and minimize pain in people with dementia during morning care. Alzheimer's care quarterly. 7(3), July/September 2006, 163-174.

In this article, clinical results are presented from a pilot study of an intervention to prevent and reduce pain during morning care in nursing home residents with moderate and advanced dementia.

Kenefick, Amy Laufer

Decision making in pain management using the model of sequential trials.

Alzheimer's care quarterly. 7(3), July/September 2006, 175-184.

This article describes the use of nursing art to solve problems related to the management of pain in cognitively impaired persons who live in nursing homes.

Cunningham, Colm

Managing pain in patients with dementia in hospital.

Nursing standard. 20(46), 26 July-1 August 2006, 54-58.

This article discusses the role of nurses in identifying and treating pain in patients with dementia. Approaches to assessment for improved detection and treatment of pain are outlined.

Pain in older people : the carer's perspective : summary report September 2006.

Harrow: Patients Association, 2006.

The Patients Association, supported by a research grant from Napp Pharmaceuticals Limited, have undertaken an investigative programme across professional and non-professional carers of elderly people (aged 65+) living with chronic pain in Great Britain. The key objective of this research programme was to identify the current levels of pain management in the elderly and ascertain areas where improvements can be made so that help/assistance can be provided.

Fisher, Susan E. [et al.]

Obtaining self-report data from cognitively impaired elders: methodological issues and clinical implications for nursing home pain assessment.

The gerontologist. 46(1), February 2006, 81-88.

This procedure was developed and evaluated for obtaining self-report pain from nursing home residents across a broad range of cognitive status. The consistency, stability and concurrent validity of resident responses were evaluated.

Australian Pain Society

Pain in residential aged care facilities : management strategies.

Sydney: Australian Pain Society, 2005

A comprehensive and considered exploration of the ways in which we can reduce pain and improve the quality of life of long-term aged residents.

Gartrell, Margaret

Expression and description of chronic pain by older people.

Australasian journal on ageing. 24(1), March 2005, 33-37.

An investigation of factors relating to pain expression and description by older people will be undertaken in this literature review.

Miller, Lois L [et al.]

Development of an intervention to reduce pain in older adults with dementia: challenges and lessons learned.

Alzheimer's care quarterly. 6(2), April/June 2005, 154-167.

Despite the high prevalence of pain in older persons with dementia, pain remains highly underdiagnosed and undertreated. This article summarises the challenges associated with both pain assessment and pain treatment as well as lessons learned during the analgesic medication component of this study.

Nygaard, Harald A and Jarland, Marit

Are nursing home patients with dementia diagnosis at increased risk for inadequate pain treatment?

International journal of geriatric psychiatry. 20(8), August 2005, 730- 737.

Mentally impaired and demented nursing home patients are at increased risk of undertreatment for pain. This study examined pain assessment and complaints and pain treatment of nursing home patients according to mental state, and with special regard to treatment of patients with dementia diagnosis and cognitively impaired patients who did not have a dementia diagnosis

Williams, Christianna S [et al.]

Characteristics associated with pain in long-term care residents with dementia.

The gerontologist. 45(SI 1), October 2005, 68-73.

This article describes the prevalence, assessment and treatment of pain in 331 residents with dementia in 45 assisted living facilities and nursing homes.

Mantyselka, Petta [et al.]

Effects of dementia on perceived daily pain in home-dwelling elderly people : a population-based study.

Age and ageing. 33(5), September 2004, 496-499.

The aim of the research was to analyse the prevalence of daily pain and analgesic use among home-dwelling older people with and without dementia. Concludes that dementia was related to a lower prevalence of reported pain and analgesic use.

Snow, A. Lynn [et al.]

NOPPAIN: a nursing assistant-administered pain assessment instrument for use in dementia.

Dementia and geriatric cognitive disorders. 17(3) , 2004, 240-246. 7 page(s).

Original research article. The Non-Communicative Patient's Pain Assessment Instrument (NOPPAIN) is a nursing assistant-administered instrument for assessing pain behaviors in patients with dementia. This study investigated the validity of the NOPPAIN. Results indicated the Nursing Assistants were quite accurate in their ratings of the videos, providing excellent preliminary evidence on the use of the NOPPAIN for detecting pain in nursing home patients with dementia.

Frampton, Maria

Experience assessment and management of pain in people with dementia.

Age and ageing. 32(3), 2003, 248-251. 4 page(s).

In a cognitively impaired older person whose verbal fluency is declining, both the experience and expression of pain are altered. Assessment poses many difficulties. Consequently the older person with dementia and pain may be under-treated and poorly managed. This review addresses each of these issues and makes recommendations for more effective care in the future.

Hall-Lord, Marie-Louise [et al.]

Family members' perceptions of pain and distress related to analgesics and psychotropic drugs, and quality of care of elderly nursing home residents.

Health and social care in the community. 11(3), 2003, 262-274. 13 page(s).

This study aimed to: 1) Describe family members' perceptions of nursing home residents' pain and distress in relation to analgesics and psychotropic drugs ; and 2) to compare whether background variables, dementia, help/support, prescribing of analgesics and psychotropic drugs, and quality of care vary between subgroups of residents.

Horgas, Ann L, McLennon, Susan M. and Floetke, Amanda L.

Pain management in persons with dementia.

Alzheimer's care quarterly. 4(4) , 2003, 297-311. 15 page(s).

The feature topic of this issue of Alzheimer's care quarterly is 'Translating psychosocial research into practice : clinical applications'. This article provides an overview of pain, discusses specific issues pertaining to pain assessment and management in persons with dementia, summarises barriers to effective pain management, and highlights key methodological issues in research on pain in persons with dementia.

Kovach, Christine R.

"The ones who can't complain" : lessons learned about discomfort and dementia.

Alzheimer's care quarterly. 4(1) , 2003, 41-49. 9 page(s).

This article reports one person's professional journey in trying to understand the needs of people with dementia. In addition, a clinical tool, the Assessment of Discomfort in Dementia (ADD) Protocol is described as a systematic method for improving recognition and treatment of pain and discomfort in clinical practice.

Manfredi, Paolo L. [et al]

Opioid treatment for agitation in patients with advanced dementia

International journal of geriatric psychiatry. 18(8), 2003, 700-705. 6 page(s).

Study suggested that difficulty in conveying the experience of pain in patients with dementia may lead to agitated behaviour, which could be alleviated with opioid treatment.

Allcock, Nick, McGarry, Julie and Elkan, Ruth.

Management of pain in older people within the nursing home : a preliminary study.

Health & social care in the community. 10(6) , 2002, 464-471. 8 page(s).

The provision of continuing care for older people has largely shifted from the hospital setting to the community, and nursing homes increasingly provide support for older people, many of whom exhibit multiple pathology and complex health and social care needs. However, the quality of pain management within this setting has been identified as an issue of concern.

Briggs, Emma

The nursing management of pain in older people.

Nursing older people. 14(7) , October 2002, 23-30. 8 pages

Continuing professional development article NOP 869 on nursing management of pain. 39 references.

Briggs, Emma

Principles of pain assessment in older people: part 2.

Nursing older people 13(9), December 2001, 27-28. 2 pages.

The second of two articles on assessing pain in elderly people. This article concentrates on the recognition and assessment of pain in people with dementia. 20 references.

Current Awareness

Dementia in the News

No cure for Alzheimer's

A recent report by the Alzheimer's Society, [Dementia: Out of the Shadows](#), reveals that this stigma can make life much harder for many dementia sufferers. Patients reported neighbours crossing the street to avoid them. The report also included a [survey](#) of over 4,000 members of the public, half of whom thought that there was a stigma associated with dementia.

[The Guardian 12 October 2008](#)

Care home owners face fresh charges over fire

Fresh charges have been brought against the owners of a care home where 14 elderly residents were killed in a blaze in 2004.

[The Herald 1 October 2008](#)

Fear expressed over dementia patients ability to get refunds

Serious concerns have been raised about the mental capacity of a substantial number of long-stay psychiatric patients to apply for repayment of long-stay charges. A study, which was published in the Irish Journal of Psychological Medicine, expresses concern about how patients without capacity to make a refund application can manage the money claimed on their behalf.

[Irish Medical News 29 September 2008](#)

Attitudes need to change with people suffering from dementia'

Mario Galea, parliamentary secretary for the elderly and community care, opened a course on dementia care, during which he welcomed Prof. June Andrews, director at the Dementia Services Development Centre of Stirling, Scotland.

Prof Andrews was in Malta in April for the seminar "Improving Dementia Care in Malta", a joint initiative of Prof Andrews' organisation and the Malta Dementia Society

[The Malta Independent Online 25 September 2008](#)

Phillips reveals dementia dilemma

GMTV presenter Fiona Phillips has admitted that her decision to leave the ITV1 breakfast show is partly due to her father suffering from Alzheimer's.

She is leaving the show after 15 years and halfway through a £1.5m contract, a decision widely reported as allowing her to spend more time with family.

[BBC News Online 21 September 2008](#)

Baroness Warnock: Dementia sufferers may have a 'duty to die'

Elderly people suffering from dementia should consider ending their lives because they are a burden on the NHS and their families, according to the influential medical ethics expert Baroness Warnock.

[The Telegraph 19 September 2008](#)

Carol Thatcher was rebuked for revealing her mother had dementia, but it is nothing to be ashamed of

This Sunday is World Alzheimer's Day, an annual event, and it's happening this year at rather an encouraging time. It is encouraging not because of any great breakthrough in the diagnosis or treatment of this terrible disease, but because sufferers and their relatives are increasingly willing to talk about it.

[The Guardian 19 September 2008](#)

Inflammation can worsen dementia

Inflammation in the brain resulting from infection or injury may accelerate the progress of dementia, a new study by Trinity College Dublin researchers has suggested.

The results have led researchers to warn that people with dementia should be protected from infection and inflammation as much as possible.

[Irish Health 16 September 2008](#)

Current Awareness New Library Stock

Acute care

Astell, Arlene J., Clark, Stella A. and Hartley, Nicholas T.

Predictors of discharge destination for 234 patients admitted to a combined geriatric medicine/old age psychiatry unit.

This study aimed to examine the factors that predicted discharge destinations of all patients admitted to a combined geriatric medicine/old age psychiatry unit over a 4-year period.

International journal of geriatric psychiatry 23(9), September 2008, 903-908

O'Reilly, Jacqueline [et al.]

Post-acute care for older people in community hospital : a cost-effectiveness analysis within a multi-centre randomised controlled trial.

This study aimed to compare the cost effectiveness of post-acute care for older people provided in community hospitals with general hospital care.

Age and ageing 37(5), September 2008, 513-520

Travers, Catherine M. [et al.]

The acute-aged care interface : exploring the dynamics of 'bed blocking'.

This study aims to understand the dynamics underlying 'bed-blocking' in Australian public hospitals that is frequently blamed on older people.

Australasian journal on ageing 27(3), September 2008, 116-120

Art therapy

West, Chris

Art therapy.

The author, a former carer, discovered a talent for drawing late in life. Last month, her charcoal drawings of the brain - inspired by her mother's dementia - went on show at Birmingham's City University.

Nursing older people 20(7), September 2008, 18-19

Assessment/Diagnosis

Hodges, John R.

Cognitive assessment for clinicians.

There have been enormous advances over the last decade in our understanding of cognitive function, particularly aspects of memory, language and attention, but there have not so far been made accessible to clinicians. This book translates these advances in theory into clinical practice and provides a practical approach to cognitive valuation at the bedside, based on methods developed at the Cambridge clinic.

Oxford : Oxford University Press, 2007.

Bergh, Sverre, Selbæk, Geir and Engedal, Knut

Reliability and validity of the Norwegian version of the Severe Impairment Battery.

The Severe Impairment Battery (SIB) is developed to test cognitive function in patients with dementia of moderate to severe degree. The authors conducted a study to assess the inter-rater reliability and the validity of the Norwegian version of SIB.

International journal of geriatric psychiatry 23(9), September 2008, 896-902

Culverwell, Alison [et al.]

Screening for dementia in primary care : how is it measuring up?

Despite evidence that early identification of dementia is of growing policy and practice significance in the UK, limited work has been done on evaluating screening measures for use in primary care. This paper aims to offer a clinically informed synthesis of research and practice-based evidence on the utility, efficacy and quality of dementia screening measures.

Quality in ageing 9(3), September 2008, 39-44

Poon, Vickie Wan-kei

Assessment of the severity of dementia : validity and reliability of the Chinese (Cantonese) version of the Hierarchic Dementia Scale (CV-HDS).

This study aimed to examine the validity and reliability of the Chinese (Cantonese) version of the Hierarchic Dementia Scale (CV-HDS) for Chinese older persons in Hong Kong.

International journal of geriatric psychiatry 23(9), September 2008, 909-914

Behaviour

Scott, Ann and Hutchison, Tania

Jimmy : assessing and exploring unmet needs.

In this fifth case study demonstrating the support model used by the Newcastle Challenging Behaviour Service, the authors describe their work with staff caring for an elderly man whose agitated behaviour in the evenings caused problem for them and for other residents.

The journal of dementia care 16(5), September/October 2008, 30-33

Care

Downs, Murna and Bowers, Barbara J. (eds.)

Excellence in dementia care : research into practice / edited by Murna Downs and Barbara Bowers.

Maidenhead : Open University Press, 2008.

This textbook draws on the knowledge of researchers, practitioners, and professionals in the care of people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. It is informed both by a profound respect for people with dementia and a commitment to including them in decisions about their care and lives.

James, Oliver

Contented dementia : 24-hour wraparound care for lifelong well-being / Oliver James.

London : Vermilion, 2008.

Dementia is a little understood and currently incurable illness, but much can be done to maximise the quality of life for people with the condition. This book outlines a method for managing dementia that will allow both person with dementia and carer to maintain the highest possible quality of life, throughout every stage of the illness.

Carers

Adams, Kathryn Betts, McClendon, McKee J. and Smyth, Kathleen A.

Personal losses and relationship quality in dementia caregiving.

Models of the dementia caregiving stress process specify that the impairments and behavioural problems of the person with Alzheimer's disease or related disorder (ADRD) and primary subjective stressors, such as burden, along with secondary stressors and appraisals, lead to negative outcomes such as depression. This study focused on the affective and relational aspects of this process, examining the associations of personal and relational losses and perceived relationship quality to ADRD caregivers' depressive symptoms, using a series of multiple regressions to specify a path model.

Dementia 7(3), August 2008, 301-319

Cooper, Claudia [et al.]

Coping strategies, anxiety and depression in caregivers of people with Alzheimer's disease.

There have been few longitudinal studies investigating the impact of coping on psychological morbidity in caregivers of people with dementia. Findings have been inconsistent and little attention has been paid to anxiety in caregivers. The authors explored the hypothesis that the relationship between caregiver burden and anxiety and depression is mediated by coping style.

International journal of geriatric psychiatry 23(9), September 2008, 929-936

Curtice, Martin

Supporting carers before, during and after a death.

What does it mean to offer post-palliative care for the families of people with dementia? The author explains how one continuing care facility reaches out to families and continues to offer support after the death of a loved one.

The journal of dementia care 16(5), September/October 2008, 24-25

Great Britain. Department of Health

Carers at the heart of 21st-century families and communities.

London : Department of Health, 2008.

The carers' strategy sets out the Government's short-term agenda and long-term vision for the future care and support of carers.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_085345?IdcService=GET_FILE&dID=142069&Rendition=Web

Citizenship**Boyle, Geraldine**

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 : promoting the citizenship of people with dementia?

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 came into force in England and Wales during 2007. This paper examines the extent to which the legislation promotes the social citizenship of people with dementia, focusing on its effectiveness in protecting liberty and promoting self-determination and in providing social rights to facilitate autonomy.

Health and social care in the community 16(5), September 2008, 529-537

Counselling**Fox, Mike**

Counselling people with dementia and alcohol problems.

The author explains the challenges, but also the potential, of counselling for people with dementia who also have alcohol problems.

The journal of dementia care 16(5), September/October 2008, 28-30

Delirium**Tropea, Joanne [et al.]**

Clinical practice guidelines for the management of delirium in older people in Australia.

Delirium is a common and serious condition which is often overlooked or misdiagnosed in older people. In 2006, the first set of Australian national clinical practice guidelines for the management of delirium in older people were developed. This paper provides an abbreviated version of these guidelines, including recommendations for the detection of delirium, assessment and prediction of risk factors for delirium, prevention of delirium and interventions to manage people with delirium.

Australasian journal on ageing 27(3), September 2008, 150-156

Demographics**Audit Commission .**

Don't stop me now : preparing for an ageing population.

London : Audit Commission, 2008.

England's population is ageing and the trend is accelerating. This is a significant demographic change that has not been seen before. The change brings both opportunities and challenges and there is a need for councils to make an independent life an option to as many people as possible, for as long as possible. This study focuses on people aged 50 and over; specifically people who are living independently and do not have a need for social care services.

Depression

Luppa, Melanie [et al.]

Direct costs associated with mild cognitive impairment in primary care.

This study aimed to determine the prevalence and associated risk factors of depression in elderly life sentence prisoners.

International journal of geriatric psychiatry 23(9), September 2008, 963-971

Luchsinger, José A. [et al.]

Depressive symptoms, vascular risk factors, and Alzheimer's disease.

Depressive symptoms in the elderly are associated with an increased Alzheimer's disease (AD) risk. The authors sought to determine whether the association between depressive symptoms and AD is explained by a history of vascular risk factors and stroke.

International journal of geriatric psychiatry 23(9), September 2008, 922-928

Murdoch, Nicholas

Depression in elderly life sentence prisoners.

This study aimed to determine the prevalence and associated risk factors of depression in elderly life sentence prisoners.

International journal of geriatric psychiatry 23(9), September 2008, 957-962

Down's syndrome

Prasher, V. P. [et al.]

Total serum cholesterol levels and Alzheimer's dementia in patients with Down syndrome.

The risk for dementia in Alzheimer's disease (DAD) in adults with Down syndrome (DS) is higher than in the general adult population. Hypercholesterolaemia has been reported as a risk factor for DAD in the general population. This study investigated the role of serum cholesterol levels in the onset of DAD in the DS population.

International journal of geriatric psychiatry 23(9), September 2008, 937-942

Driving

Berndt, Angela, Clark, Michael and May, Esther

Dementia severity and on-road assessment : briefly revisited.

Drivers with dementia should cease driving if unsafe. This report aims to add to the evidence concerning use of global dementia severity as an indicator of driving performance.

Australasian journal on ageing 27(3), September 2008, 157-160

Mizuno, Yoko, Arai, Asuna and Arai, Yumiko

Determination of driving cessation for older adults with dementia in Japan.

This study investigated who plays a major role in deciding driving cessation of older adults with dementia, what are current practices of family caregivers regarding attempts for driving cessation of older adults with dementia and what are the necessary requirements for enabling the cessation of driving.

International journal of geriatric psychiatry 23(9), September 2008, 987-989

Drug therapy

Ruths, Sabine [et al.]

Stopping antipsychotic drug therapy in dementia nursing home patients : a randomised, placebo-controlled study - The Bergen District Nursing Home Study (BEDNURS).

This study aimed to explore the impact on BPSD of stopping long-term antipsychotic treatment in nursing home patients with dementia.

International journal of geriatric psychiatry 23(9), September 2008, 889-895

Thompson, Amanda and Jesson, Barbara

Medicines and people with dementia : 1. common problems and concerns.

In the first of a new series on medication for people with dementia, the authors discuss the problems that can arise with drugs prescribed for people with dementia and ways of avoiding these.

The journal of dementia care 16(5), September/October 2008, 15-16

Tiller, John [et al.]

Antipsychotic use in the elderly : what doctors say they do, and what they do.

This study aimed to review psychiatrists' attitudes and actual practice on the use of typical and atypical antipsychotics in the elderly.

Australasian journal on ageing 27(3), September 2008, 134-142

Wood-Mitchell, Amy [et al.]

Factors influencing the prescribing of medications by old age psychiatrists for behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia : a qualitative study.

This study aimed to examine the process by which consultant old age psychiatrists prescribe for behavioural and psychiatric symptoms of dementia and explore the factors that influence their decisions.

Age and ageing 37(5), September 2008, 547-552

Elder Abuse

Failures in the system : our inability to learn from inquiries.

The Rowan report was published in 2003, following an investigation into allegations of abuse on a ward providing long-term care for older people with mental health problems. The factors identified as important were similar to those identified in inquiries before and after the Rowan inquiry. Why do organisations fail to learn the lessons of the past? This paper examines what happened following publication of the Rowan report and the ensuing publicity.

The journal of adult protection 10(3), August 2008, 5-13

End of life care

Audit Scotland .

Review of palliative care services in Scotland.

Edinburgh : Audit Scotland, 2008.

This study examined a range of issues including access to palliative care services, the quality of palliative care services and the extent to which these are joined up, the extent to which the Scottish Government provides clear direction and promotes coordinated planning and delivery of palliative care and local planning arrangements for palliative care services.

http://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/docs/health/2008/nr_080821_palliative_care.pdf

Scotland. Scottish Government .

Living and dying well : a national action plan for palliative and end of life care in Scotland.

Edinburgh : Scottish Government, 2008.

Living and Dying Well uses the concepts of planning and delivery of care, and of communication and information sharing as a framework to support a person centred approach to delivering consistent palliative and end of life care in Scotland.

www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/239823/0066155.pdf

Ethnic minorities

Jones, Adrian

Meeting the sheltered and extra care housing needs of black and minority ethnic older people : a Race Equality Foundation briefing paper.

This briefing paper advises on changes needed to accommodate the sheltered and extra care housing needs of black and minority ethnic older people.

Housing, care and support 11(2), August 2008, 41-48

Willis, Rosalind

Ethnicity and family support.

"They look after their own" is a phrase with which we are all familiar but to what extent do ethnic and minority groups care for and support their family members?

Working with older people 12(3), September 2008, 27-30

Exercise

Ecotherapy : the green agenda for mental health.

London : Mind, c2007.

Ecotherapy is a natural, free and accessible treatment that boosts our mental wellbeing.

Whether it's a horticultural development programme supervised by a therapist or simple walk in the park, being outdoors and being active is proven to benefit our mental health.

Falls**Nazarko, Linda**

Falls part 1 : causes and consequences.

Falls are a major health issue for older people.

British journal of healthcare assistants 2(8), August 2008, 381-388

Nazarko, Linda

Falls part 2 : individual risk factors.

Falls occur because of factors relating to the person who falls, the environment that the person is in and the quality of care a person receives. This article, the second in a series, examines the risk factors relating to the individual.

British journal of healthcare assistants 2(9), September 2008, 430-433

Housing**Crosby, Gillian and Clark, Angela**

A place to live.

The authors examine the policies that are driving the housing agenda forward and the housing options that are currently available to older people, stressing the need for consultation all the way.

Working with older people 12(3), September 2008, 12-14

McLaughlin, Tricia and Mills, Anthony

Where will we live when we get older?

In Australia there will be a strain on economic growth as a large part of the population moves from pre-retirement to post-retirement age over the next 25 years. A disproportionate amount of this strain will be concentrated in aged-care housing or retirement accommodation. This study looked at four aged-care or retirement providers across Australia and examined the performance of the current housing stock managed by these providers.

Quality in ageing 9(3), September 2008, 15-21

International**Brijnath, Bianca R.**

The legislative and political contexts surrounding dementia care in India.

Currently there is no specific policy on dementia care in India. Rather, the responsibility for care for people with dementia is not clearly articulated and formal care services straddle mental health and aged care. The result is that much care is placed upon individual families.

This paper critically reviews Indian legislative and policy documents on this field of care, namely, the Mental Health Act 1987, the National Mental Health Programme, the National Policy on Older Persons and the Senior Citizen's Act 2007.

Ageing & society 28(7), October 2008, 913-934

Rogero-García, Jesús, Prieto-Flores, María-Eugenia and Rosenberg, Mark W.

Health services use by older people with disabilities in Spain : do formal and informal care matter?

The aim of this paper is to examine the relationship between informal and formal care and the use of health services among older people in Spain.

Ageing & society 28(7), October 2008, 959-978

Joint Working

Bravo, Gina

Assessing the impact of integrated delivery systems : practical advice from three experiments conducted in Quebec.

Interest has grown in integrated care models as means of responding better to the needs of frail older adults. In order to provide appropriate input for health policy reforms, the effects of integrated care must be assessed with sound methodologies. Based on three experiments conducted in the province of Quebec, Canada, this article provides practical advice on key issues involved in evaluating integrated care models.

Journal of integrated care 16(4), August 2008, 9-18

Legislation

Dow, John

What does the Human Rights Act add?

Private care homes will become directly subject to the Human Rights Act, under new provisions in the Health and Social Care Bill. What difference will this make in practice?

Journal of integrated care 16(4), August 2008, 19-21

Nursing

Working with older people in Scotland : a framework for mental health nurses / NHS Education for Scotland.

Edinburgh : NHS Education for Scotland, [2008?].

NHS Education for Scotland.

Older people – health and welfare

Atkinson, Lorraine

Old and inside : older people in prison.

The number of older people in prison is growing. As more and more people over the age of 60 struggle to cope behind prison walls, the prison service and the wider community are failing to meet their complex needs, according to the author.

Working with older people 12(3), September 2008, 34-37

Chin, Ai-Vryn [et al.]

Vascular biomarkers of cognitive performance in a community-based elderly population : the Dublin Healthy Ageing study.

This study aimed to investigate the association between markers of vascular disease and cognition in a community-dwelling non-demented elderly population while adjusting for vascular and non-vascular confounds.

Age and ageing 37(5), September 2008, 559-564

Hutchinson, Susan L. [et al.]

Beyond fun and friendship : the Red Hat Society as a coping resource for older women.

How older women cope with challenges and losses in later life influences not only their physical health but also their psychological wellbeing and quality of life. The purpose of the analysis report in this paper was to understand how participation in a women's leisure-based social group - the Red Hat Society - serves as a coping resource for older women.

Ageing & society 28(7), October 2008, 979-999

Jones, Ian Rees [et al.]

Ageing in a consumer society : from passive to active consumption in Britain / Ian Rees Jones ... [et al.].

Bristol : The Policy Press, 2008.

Series: Ageing and the lifecourse

Targeted as the 'grey consumers', people retiring now participated in the creation of the post-war consumer culture. These consumers have grown older, but have not stopped consuming. Based on analysis of British data, this book examines the engagement of older people with consumer society in Britain since the 1960s.

Person-centred care**Allan, Kate**

Positive emotion, being in the moment.

In the first of two articles, the author introduces the ideas of 'positive psychology' and explains how it can help in our work with people with dementia.

The journal of dementia care 16(5), September/October 2008, 20-23

Hill, Heather 1950-

Talking the talk but not walking the walk : barriers to person-centred care in dementia / Heather Hill.

Saarbrücken, : VDM Verlag Dr. Müller, 2008.

This book documents a research study in an aged care facility which tried to set up a person-centred program for their residents with dementia. Beginning with a discussion of the different perspectives on dementia and dementia care, the author goes on to document the difficulties encountered by this facility.

Sheard, David

See it, hear it, feel it.

It's time for less dissociation, facing up to the truth, says the author, describing Dementia Care Matters' approach. Enabling, which helps care services to focus on the real lived experience of people with dementia through the use of a qualitative evaluation tool.

The journal of dementia care 16(5), September/October 2008, 12-13

Planning - Health and Social Care**Manthorpe, Jill and Iliffe, Steve**

Strategising for dementia.

As the consultation deadline for the National Dementia Strategy draw rapidly close, the authors follow up their call in the last issue for social work input into the No Secrets review, by urging social workers to emphasise to policymakers a need to link new initiatives with the realities of social care.

Professional social work September 2008, 18-19

Scotland. Scottish Government .

Better health, better care : action plan : what it means for you.

Edinburgh : Scottish Government, 2008.

The Better Health, Better Care: Action Plan for NHS Scotland was launched in December 2007. This followed a very wide consultation with the people of Scotland. Better Health, Better Care: Action Plan: What It Means For You, summarises the main areas of the Action Plan and sets out the key actions which will lead to better health and better care for all the people of Scotland.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/publications/2007/08/13165824/0>

Relatives

Hibberd, Penny [et al.]

A family-centred approach to dementia care.

The authors describe the background to family-centred care and discuss how this approach can help people with dementia to maintain family relationships in a familiar environment with the people they know best.

The journal of dementia care 16(5), September/October 2008, 26-27

Reminiscence

Schweitzer, Pam and Bruce, Errollyn

Reminiscence, communication and conversation.

Reminiscence activities can provide a focus and stimulation for continued conversation with people with dementia. In this article, based on their book, the authors describe the principles and some ideas for good practice.

The journal of dementia care 16(5), September/October 2008, 18-20

Research

Bryman, Alan.

Social research methods / Alan Bryman.

Edition 3rd ed.

Oxford : Oxford University Press, c2008.

First published: 2001.

Residential care

Alzheimer's Society .

Putting care right : your guide to choosing a care home.

London : Alzheimer's Society, [2008].

This booklet gives advice on what to look for when choosing a care home for a person with dementia.

Eastwood, Keith [et al.]

Improving communicable disease outbreak preparedness in residential aged care facilities using an interventional interview strategy.

This study aimed to improve the capacity of residential and aged care facilities to respond to communicable disease outbreaks.

Australasian journal on ageing 27(3), September 2008, 143-149

Petch, Alison

The price is right.

Is what you charge for residents to stay in your care home 'reasonable' given the service provided? The author explains how one toolkit helps owners determine a fair market price.

Community care 1740, 25 September 2008, 34-35

Weeks, Lori E.

Family relationship quality after admission to a long-term facility.

This research examines how moving to a residential care home, a specific form of care facility, influences the quality of the relationship between seniors and their family members and how policies in these homes can facilitate relationships between residents and their family members.

Quality in ageing 9(3), September 2008, 22-30

Restraint

Hughes, Rhidian

Restraints part 1 : definition and policy considerations.

This is the first of a series of four articles that examines the use of restraints in health and social care settings. This article comments on the different definitions of restraint before going on to discuss the broader policy context.

British journal of healthcare assistants 2(9), September 2008, 433-446

Rural areas

Atterton, Jane

Demographics of the ageing rural population.

There are perhaps a considerable few among us who dream of retiring to the countryside, to spend our autumn years in a rural idyll. According to the authors, more and more people are doing just that. Based on their research and with international comparisons, this article examines the realities of England's ageing rural population and explodes a few myths about this demographic group's contribution to rural life.

Working with older people 12(3), September 2008, 19-22

Manthorpe, Jill [et al.]

Elderly people's perspectives on health and well-being in rural communities in England : findings from the evaluation of the National Service Framework for Older People.

The National Service Framework for Older People (NSFOP) set out a series of service standards to raise quality, to redress variations in service use and to enhance the effectiveness of services across health and social care in England and alluded to the challenges of meeting such standards in rural communities. This paper reports findings from the consultations undertaken as part of the midpoint review of the NSFOP in 2006, presenting and analysing the views and experiences of 713 elderly people from rural areas.

Health and social care in the community 16(5), September 2008, 460-468

Sensory impairment

De Silva, Maneesha Lakmalie [et al.]

A mini-mental status examination for the hearing impaired.

Age and ageing 37(5), September 2008, 593-595

Staffing

Castle, Nicholas G.

Further examination of the influence of caregiver staffing levels on nursing home quality.

Weak empirical evidence exists showing that nursing home staffing levels influence quality of care. The authors propose that weak findings have resulted in many prior analyses because research models have underspecified the labor composition needed to influence care processes that, in turn, influence quality of care.

Engberg, John

The gerontologist 48(4), August 2008, 464-476

Technology

James, Ian

Technology in dementia care.

The author introduces a new service which aims to support independence and well-being for people with dementia and carers through innovative touchscreen technology.

The journal of dementia care 16(5), September/October 2008, 14

Reid, Jayne

Signs of the times.

The author reports on a range of signage developed specifically for people with dementia.

The journal of dementia care 16(5), September/October 2008, 11