

Vol 6 no 2
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Seating is our featured topic this month

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Forthcoming event

Effective responses to continence workshop 5th May 2009

Are you finding dealing with someone's continence problem frustrating? Do you wonder how you can help a person if they behave in a way that challenges?

This workshop will help you:

- Understand the common types of behaviour linked to dementia and continence problems
- Discover how you can be sensitive to the feelings of people with dementia with continence problems
- Identify practical ways in which you can help the person receiving care

This workshop is aimed at care staff working in hospitals, care homes, day care, extra care housing workers and home carers working in the community.

Cost: £120 per delegate

For more information see

<http://stirling.jellycommunications.com/eventsdet.asp?id=374&tab=172>



In the headlines

Supplements of vitamin D could cut Alzheimer's risk

A new study has shown a close association between mental function in older people and levels of vitamin D in the body. The vitamin, made in the skin by the action of sunlight, is already credited with keeping the immune system and bones strong, especially in older age.

Telegraph.co.uk 23 January 2009

Brain-training games 'do more harm than good'

Brain-training computer games could do more harm than good, researchers have warned. If healthy older users neglect the proven benefits of physical exercise in favour of the games then they could be harming their health.

The Telegraph 11 February 2009

Quilting, pottery and computer games 'may cut risk of dementia'

A new study suggests that taking up hobbies such as quilting, pottery and even playing computer games in later life may substantially cut the risk of dementia.

Telegraph.co.uk 17 February 2009



The Dementia Services
Development Centre



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Seating Introduction

Are we sitting comfortably?

It is easy to underestimate the importance of correct seating in supporting older people to remain healthy. Good seating is an important contributing factor in ensuring the older person remains well: many older people, because of immobility, spend long periods of time sitting. Therefore, maximising their ability to interact and remain engaged with their surroundings as well as maintaining good overall skin care, respiration and so on become important considerations when choosing seats.

A highly specialist chair for an older person should be prescribed for that individual by an Occupational Therapist or someone with advanced training in prescription of seats. In saying that, people who provide care environments need to consider a range of factors when deciding what to choose as generic seating stock.

Think about:

- Pressure relief. It can prevent the development of pressure sores.
- The finish of the fabric. Particularly important for cleaning and infection control.
- Colour contrast. Make sure the seats have good colour contrast with the surroundings to help those with impaired vision.
- Seat height and depth. This is important to ensure good posture and to facilitate safe transfers from sitting to standing and vice versa.
- Armrests are helpful for facilitating safe transfers
- What activities does the person require to do while using the seat? This will influence the choice of some seats with tables: for example some older people will need a table type facility. What functions does the person with dementia need to carry out while seated? Some examples are:
 - For nutrition - being comfortable while eating meals or being fed
 - For creative activities - reading a book or magazine, putting on makeup
 - For personal care and other self care activities such as nail care, shaving, care of teeth etc.
 - For hydration - somewhere for a glass of water, or the cup of tea.
 - For good respiratory support by encouraging correct posture
 - For the management of pain, through good positioning and pressure relief. Don't forget that 64-86% of older people are in chronic pain all the time (Tsai & Chang), 2004
 - For prevention of deformity and contractures
 - As part of a holistic approach to preventing falls
 - For exercise - chair based movement and dance activities can be lots of fun as well as helping to promote, range of movement, and maintenance of muscle strength and muscle bulk.
 - Mobility - How mobile is the chair? Can the person's chair be moved easily so they can take in a different view of their surroundings.
- Staff needs - The staff may need to undertake manual handling activities to support the older person to transfer, and the style of chair should be chosen with this in mind.
- Intimacy - sometimes if the choice of seating includes a settee it allows the person with dementia to sit closely to someone else, for example to be held when needing comfort, or for those times when the family visit with small children who want to cuddle up to their grandparent, or when the older person needs support to hold the baby, or put their feet up and stretch out.
- Communication needs are vital: the use of seating can make an enormous difference to supporting the older person to remain engaged. Think about positioning so as to have eye contact with others, to facilitate easy communication between the person and staff, visitors and other residents or perhaps for using a talking mat. Think about positioning a chair near some form of stimulus such as the garden, or near a window where it is possible to watch the world go by.

When we think about it, there is a lot to consider. Are you sitting comfortably?

Maria McManus

Associate Director, Dementia Services Development Centre - Northern Ireland

Seating Web Resources

Nursing and Residential Care

Choosing the correct chair for the elderly client

http://www.internurse.com/cgi-bin/go.pl/library/article.cgi?uid=11111;article=NRC_5_3_113_117

Justeldercare.com

Lift chairs: making use of technology in taking care of the elderly

<http://www.justeldercare.com/2006/06/21/lift-chairs-making-use-of-technology-in-taking-care-of-the-elderly/>

Nursing Homes

Designing and selecting long-duration seating for the aging - seat designs for the aged

http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m3830/is_n8_v42/ai_14562924

Alzheimer's Australia

Furnishings and décor

<http://www.alzheimers.org.au/upload/FurnishingsDecor.pdf>

National Citizens' Coalition for Nursing Home Reform

Individualized wheelchair seating: for older adults

<http://www.nccnhr.org/uploads/T8IndividualizedWheelchairSeatingForOlderAdults.pdf>

Provider Magazine

Providing restraint-free care

<http://www.providermagazine.com/pdf/caregiving-12-2006.pdf>

Advances in skin & wound care

A randomized control trial to evaluate pressure-reducing seat cushions for elderly wheelchair users

http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_qa3977/is_200105/ai_n8939918

American Society of Biomechanics

Effects of body mass index on seat interface pressures of elderly that were institutionalised

<http://www.asbweb.org/conferences/2000/pdf/087.pdf>

British Medical Journal

Should elderly patients be made to sit in chairs?

<http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/327/7421/997>

University of Rochester

As elders rock, emotional burden of dementia eases

<http://www.rochester.edu/pr/releases/med/watson.htm>

Seating

Topic Reading List

McInnes E, Bell-Syer SEM, Dumville JC, Legood R, Cullum NA.

Support surfaces for pressure ulcer prevention.

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2008, Issue 4.

Pressure ulcers (also called bed sores) are ulcers on the skin caused by pressure or rubbing at the weight-bearing, bony points of immobilised people (such as hips, heels and elbows). Different pressure relieving surfaces (e.g. beds, mattresses, mattress overlays and cushions) are used to cushion vulnerable parts of the body and distribute the surface pressure more evenly.

Wagland, Janet

Chairs : guidelines for the purchase of lounge, dining and occasional chairs for elderly long term residents.

Stirling : University of Stirling, 1997.

This book aims to increase interest in seating for people with dementia. By understanding the principles of good seating, and the construction needs for that seating, one has a tool for effective assessment, purchase and evaluation of this essential component in our daily life. The provision of suitable seating for the aged population will not only increase their ability to function effectively and improve their comfort but, in the case of those who have dementia, will also reduce agitation and wandering behaviour.

Lowery K

What is the prevalence of environmental hazards in the homes of dementia sufferers and are they associated with falls?

International journal of geriatric psychiatry. 15(10), October 2000, 883-886.

The relationship between the presence of environmental hazards in the homes and care environments of people with dementia and falls was examined. Falls were assessed using carer diaries in 65 dementia patients and hazards were assessed by an occupational therapist using a home hazard checklist. No significant association was found between hazards and falls although 10% of falls were attributed to a specific hazard. Hazards identified included low chairs, absence of grab rails and toilets too low.

Add Specialized Seating Technology

The Warren chair (for my father).

Los Angeles, CA : ADD Specialized Seating Technology, 2002.

A product brochure for the Warren chair, which is designed to be comfortable to sit in and easy to get out of.

Volicer, Ladislav

Does wheelchair use improve ambulation and quality of life?

Alzheimer's care today. 8(3), July-September, 2007.

Maintaining mobility for as long as possible and ensuring comfortable placement for those who can no longer ambulate is an important goal for individuals with dementia. Wheelchair use may not promote this goal because wheelchairs only rarely improve mobility and standard sling bottom wheelchairs are not comfortable for long-term sitting. Therefore, it is important to maintain ambulation by walking exercises, such as a walker with a built-in seat. Individuals who can no longer ambulate even with assistance need padded comfortable lounge chairs that can be tilted back and allow for easy repositioning.

Evans, Subhadra

Older adults' use of, and satisfaction with, electric powered indoor/outdoor wheelchairs.

Age and ageing. 36(4), July 2007, 431-435.

Research documenting the experiences of electric powered indoor/outdoor wheelchair (EPIOC) users has generally failed to take into account the specific needs and concerns of older adults. This study sought to qualitatively examine the older EPIOC users' satisfaction with the chair and service providers.

Christenson, Margaret A.

Chair design and selection for older adults.

In, *Christenson, Margaret A. Aging in the designed environment*, pp. 67-86

New York; London: Haworth Press, 1990

Although the publication is now dated, and the context and practices of care homes may have changed, the principles of chair design are still sound, taking account of the needs of the ageing body, helping to promote autonomy, safety and comfort.

British Standard guide to dimensions in designing for elderly people.

London: British Standards Institution, 1991

Includes tables of anthropometric data as applied to seating dimensions which would typically be used in the design of living and dining areas

Lavery, Katheryn

Restraint : whose choice? Whose risk? Whose decision?

The journal of dementia care. 13(5), September/October 2005, 12-13.

Should a person with dementia ever be strapped into their chair? The author explores the issues.

Hiatt, Lorraine

Interior design, In *Hiatt, Lorraine, Nursing home renovation designed for reform*. Ch.6.

London : Butterworth-Heinemann, 1991.

Section on chairs and seating, includes a chart of dimensions and specifications for seating, and a list of common seating problems which can be addressed by informed choices of furnishings.

Sobczac, Julie

Alive & kicking : the carer's guide to exercises for older people.

London : Age Concern England, 2001.

Regular activity is essential in helping older people to remain agile and independent. This guide contains a wealth of ideas for health professionals, day centre managers, residential or nursing home managers, activity organisers, relatives and carers. Contents include: becoming an effective instructor; motivating the exerciser; structuring an exercise class; safety issues and medical advice; exercise warm-ups and injury prevention; head to toe chair exercises.

Current Awareness

Dementia in the News

Staying calm 'prevents dementia'

People who are more laid back are less likely to develop dementia in old age, a study has suggested.

[BBC News Online 20 January 2009](#)

Dementia relatives 'admit abuse'

More than half of those looking after a relative with dementia told researchers that they had mistreated them.

[BBC News Online 23 January 2009](#)

Apple juice could guard against Alzheimer's

Research has found that consuming two glasses of apple juice a day could delay the onset of the brain disorder, which affects more than 400,000 people in the UK.

[Telegraph.co.uk 24 January 2009](#)

Cutting back on calories 'can help improve memory'

Cutting back on calories can help older people improve their memory and may reduce the risk of dementia, a new study suggests.

[Telegraph.co.uk 26 January 2009](#)

Dementia 'must get top priority'

The government's main advisor on its dementia strategy for England has said the condition must not be regarded "as an inevitable part of growing old".

[BBC News Online 27 January 2009](#)

New therapy 'can reverse' Alzheimer's memory loss

A new therapy can prevent and reverse the memory loss and death of brain cells associated with Alzheimer's, a new study suggests.

[Telegraph.co.uk 8 February 2009](#)

Alzheimer's disease could be tackled by treating patients' livers

Scientists believe that helping the liver to clear amyloid-beta protein from the blood could provide a new way of combating the devastating effects of Alzheimer's, the most common form of dementia.

[Telegraph.co.uk 15 February 2009](#)

Scientists want your brain to help find cure for Alzheimer's

Medical breakthroughs and new treatments could be made more quickly if there was an increase in the number of people donating their brain for research, according to experts.

[Scotsman.co.uk 17 February 2009](#)

Terry Pratchett: We need to talk about dementia

As Terry Pratchett receives his knighthood, Cassandra Jardine examines how this writer and other public figures have brought a Cinderella illness into the spotlight.

[Telegraph.co.uk 17 February 2009](#)

People with Alzheimer's could improve memory by listening to their favourite music

A new study suggests that people with Alzheimer's disease could slow the course of the disease by listening to their favourite songs.

[Telegraph.co.uk 24 February 2009](#)

Current Awareness New Library Stock

Alzheimer's disease

Cohen, Miri, Werner, Perla and Azaiza, Faisal
Emotional reactions of Arab lay persons to a person with Alzheimer's disease.
Aging & mental health 13(1), January 2009, 31-37
This study aimed to assess emotional reactions of Israeli Arab people to persons with Alzheimer's Disease (AD) and assess the associations of perceptions of threat of AD, personal experience with AD and socio-demographic characteristics with emotional reactions to persons with AD.

Fazio, Sam and Mitchell, David B.
Persistence of self in individuals with Alzheimer's disease : evidence from language and visual recognition.
Dementia 8(1), February 2009, 39-59
The persistence of self in individuals with probable Alzheimer's disease was investigated via language and visual self-recognition.

Nourhashémi, Fati [et al.]
Alzheimer's disease progression in the oldest old compared to younger elderly patient : data from the REAL.FR study.
International journal of geriatric psychiatry 24(2), February 2009, 149-155
This study aimed to describe the progression of Alzheimer's disease in the oldest old and to compare it with the younger elderly.

Oyebode, Jan Rachel [et al.]
Coping with challenges to memory in people with mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease : observation of behaviour in response to analogues of everyday situations.
Aging & mental health 13(1), January 2009, 46-53
This study aimed to describe ways of coping in people with mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease when faced with situations that are challenging to their memory.

Care of people with dementia

Stevenson, Annie
Challenge of an ageing society.
Community care 1754, 22 January 2009, 28
The growing public awareness of dementia requires a strong health and social care response.

Innes, Anthea.
Dementia studies : a social science perspective / Anthea Innes.
Thousand Oaks, CA : SAGE Publications, 2009.
What is dementia? How should we organise dementia care? This book critically examines the main approaches to understanding dementia (bio-medical, social-psychological and socio-gerontological) and the main principles and ideologies of care.

Carers

Bottiggi, Kara and Schmitt, Frederick A.
The impact of caregiver executive skills on reports of patient functioning.
The gerontologist 48(6), December 2008, 781-792
The authors investigated the cognitive skills of caregivers, specifically their executive functioning, as a potential explanatory variable of discrepancies between caregiver report of and patient performance on activities of daily living.

Haley, William E. [et al.]

Long-term effects of bereavement and caregiver intervention on dementia caregiver depressive symptoms.

The gerontologist 48(6), December 2008, 732-740

The purpose of this study was to examine the joint effects of bereavement and caregiver intervention on caregiver depressive symptoms.

Lamura, Giovanni [et al.]

Family carers' experiences using support services in Europe : empirical evidence from the EUROFAMCARE study.

The gerontologist 48(6), December 2008, 752-771

This article explores the experiences of family carers of older people in using support services in six European countries: Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Sweden, and the UK.

Ross, Angela

An assessment of anticipatory grief as experienced by family caregivers of individuals with dementia.

Alzheimer's care today 10(1), January-March 2009, 8-21

This study contributes a deeper understanding of the anxiety, stress and depression of caregivers of people with dementia by examining the presence and extent of grief as part of their experience.

Weyl, Muriel

Love song at the end of the day : a wife's journey.

Dementia 8(1), February 2009, 9-15

The author, whose husband has Alzheimer's disease, tells of her experience of caring for her husband, how she copes with caring and how they continue to enjoy their lives together.

Complementary therapies

Torrington, Judith

Guidance to activity in dementia care : a checklist and design guide to promote enjoyable activity for people with dementia / Judith Torrington ... [et al.].

Leicester : atdementia, 2007.

This tool is designed to help people with dementia continue to enjoy activities. It is a series of checklists identifying the things that need to happen for people to experience fulfilment or pleasure.

http://www.atdementia.org.uk/editorial.asp?page_id=161

Foster, Bev

Music for life's journey : the capacity of music in dementia care.

Alzheimer's care today 10(1), January-March 2009, 42-49

Music is a powerful medium. Its effects can invigorate or calm us, excite and persuade us, and lift our spirits, especially when we are cognitively impaired or facing end of life. It may be that in Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, musical memory is spared.

Rennemark, Mikael [et al.]

Relationships between physical activity and perceived qualities of life in old age : results of the SNAC study.

Aging & mental health 13(1), January 2009, 1-8

The aim of the present study was to investigate the relationships of different types of quality of life to strenuous and light physical activity in old age.

Carlson, Michelle C. [et al.]

Exploring the effects of an "everyday" activity program on executive function and memory in older adults : Experience Corps.

The gerontologist 48(6), December 2008, 793-801

There is little empirical translation of multi-modal cognitive activity programs in "real-world" community-based settings. This study sought to show in a short-term pilot randomised trial that such an activity programme improves components of cognition critical to independent function among sedentary older adults at greatest risk.

Slegers, Karin, Van Boxtel, Martin P.J. and Jolles, Jelle

The efficiency of using everyday technological devices by older adults : the role of cognitive functions.

Ageing & society 29(2), February 2009, 309-325

Older adults experience more problems than younger people when using everyday technological devices. One potential cause of these difficulties is age-related decline of cognitive functions. To test the role of cognitive abilities in performing such tasks, the authors designed the Technological Transfer Test, which comprises eight technological tasks that are common in modern life.

Depression

Stansbury, Kim L., Brown-Hughes, Travonia and Harley, Debra A.

Rural African American clergy : are they literate on late-life depression?

Ageing & mental health 13(1), January 2009, 9-16

This exploratory study examined rural African American clergy's knowledge of and experience in providing support to African American elders with late-life depression.

Zauszniewski, Jaclene A. and Bekhet, Abir K.

Depressive symptoms in elderly women with chronic conditions : measurement issues.

Ageing & mental health 13(1), January 2009, 64-72

Depression is prevalent in elderly women with chronic conditions and measuring depressive symptoms is complicated by co-occurring chronic illnesses. The 20-item Center for Epidemiological Studies Depression (CES-D) Scale is commonly used with elders, but its length may result in missing data. This study compared reliability and validity estimates for the 20-item CES-D and its 12 short forms.

Casado, Banghwa L. [et al.]

Healthy IDEAS : implementation of a depression program through community-based case management.

The gerontologist 48(6), December 2008, 828-838

The purpose of this study was to describe the implementation of HIDEAS (Healthy IDEAS - Identifying Depression, Empowering Activities for Seniors) and assess its feasibility.

Schoevers, R.A. [et al.]

Depression and excess mortality : evidence for a dose response relation in community living elderly.

International journal of geriatric psychiatry 24(2), February 2009, 169-176

This study aimed to investigate the association between depression severity and duration with mortality in community-living elderly.

Elder abuse

McGarry, J. and Simpson, C.

Identifying, reporting and preventing elder abuse in the practice setting.

Nursing older people 21(1), February 2009, 33-39

This article aims to explore the complexities that surround elder abuse as a phenomenon and to recognise effective strategies for identifying, reporting and preventing elder abuse.

End of life care

Sanders, Sara and Swails, Peggy

Caring for individuals with end-stage dementia at the end of life : a specific focus on hospice social workers.

Dementia 8(1), February 2009, 117-138

During this ethnographic study, the beliefs and practices about dementia care of 13 hospice social workers were documented through interviews, in-field observations and chart reviews.

Moorman, Sara M. and Carr, Deborah

Spouses' effectiveness as end-of-life health care surrogates : accuracy, uncertainty, and errors of overtreatment or undertreatment.

The gerontologist 48(6), December 2008, 811-819

The authors document the extent to which older adults accurately report their spouses' end-of-life treatment preferences, in the hypothetical scenarios of terminal illness with severe physical pain and terminal illness with severe cognitive impairment.

Sloane, Philip D.

Dying with dementia in long-term care.

The gerontologist 48(6), December 2008, 741-751

This study aimed to better understand the experiences and potential unmet need of persons who die in long-term care.

Memory clinics

Morgan, Debra G. [et al.]

Improving access to dementia care : development and evaluation of a rural and remote memory clinic.

Aging & mental health 13(1), January 2009, 17-30

This paper describes the development, operation and evaluation of a memory clinic designed to improve access to diagnosis and management of early stage dementia for older persons living in rural and remote areas of the province of Saskatchewan, Canada.

Ramakers, Inez H.G.B. [et al.]

Characteristics of help-seeking behaviour in subjects with subjective memory complaints at a memory clinic : a case-control study.

International journal of geriatric psychiatry 24(2), February 2009, 190-196

The aim of this study was to investigate which factors determine why people with subjective memory complaints seek medical attention.

Older people - health/welfare

Brønnum-Hansen, Henrik [et al.]

Lifetime according to health status among the oldest old in Denmark.

Age and ageing 38(1), January 2009, 47-51

Policy makers face increasing demands for care of the aged and therefore need more information about the health status of very old people. This study aimed to quantify the average lifetime according to health status among the oldest old in Denmark.

Cheng, Sheung-Tak

The social networks of nursing home residents in Hong Kong.

Ageing & society 29(2), February 2009, 163-178

The degree of social support available to older persons who are institutionalised is under-researched. This study investigated the structural and functional support exchanges with their social network members of 72 nursing home residents in Hong Kong.

Gunnarsson, Evy

'I think I have had a good life': the everyday lives of older women and men from a lifecourse perspective.

Ageing & society 29(1), January 2009, 33-48

Research on the everyday lives of older women and men who are not in need of help from elder care is scarce. The aim of this study was to describe, analyse and interpret from a lifecourse perspective how older women and men experience everyday life.

Johansson, Karin

Creating possibilities for action in the presence of environmental barriers in the process of 'ageing in place'.

Ageing & society 29(1), January 2009, 49-70

The need for an understanding of 'ageing in place' as a progressive process has emerged among researchers in the field of environmental gerontology. The aim of this study was to explore this process, in relation to home modification services.

Spice, Claire L. [et al.]

The Winchester falls project : a randomised controlled trial of secondary prevention of falls in older people.

Age and ageing 38(1), January 2009, 33-40

The mortality and morbidity of falls in older people is significant, with recurrent fallers being at an increased risk. This study aimed to determine the effectiveness of two interventions, one based in primary care and the other in secondary care, at preventing further falls in recurrent fallers.

People with dementia – health/welfare

Mickel, Andrew

How to work with people with dementia.

Community care 1755, 29 January 2009, 30-31

In anticipation of a new dementia strategy, the author talks to Anchor Trust's dementia expert about how practice in the field can be transformed through training.

Person-centred care

Magee, Helen, Parsons, Suzanne and Askham, Janet

Measuring dignity in care for older people : a research report for Help the Aged.

London : Help the Aged, 2008.

This study was carried out to identify indicators of dignity in care for older people. The aim was to make recommendations on the best way to measure each of the Help the Aged domains of dignified care: personal hygiene; eating and nutrition; privacy; communication; pain; autonomy; personal care; end-of-life care and social inclusion.

Bright, Les

Measuring dignity : ask an older person.

Nursing older people 21(1), February 2009, 10

Dignity is fundamental and is about the daily practice that each of us engages in, as well as high-level policy initiatives, national campaigns and structural changes aimed at embedding high quality.

Planning – health and social care

Hope, Phil

Time to drive personalisation.

Community care 1756, 5 February 2009, 30

There are many best practice examples showing how personalisation can be made a reality, writes the author ahead of a major conference on the subject.

Hunt, Louise

We really want some answers.

Community care 1756, 5 February 2009, 32-33

A consultation exercise now in its 10th year allows older people to tell adult care managers in Tameside, Greater Manchester, what they expect from services.

Schiff, Rebekah [et al.]

Advance end-of-life healthcare planning in an acute NHS hospital setting : development and evaluation of the Expression of Healthcare Preferences document.

Age and ageing 38(1), January 2009, 81-85

This study aimed to design and evaluate a document to enable older inpatients in an NHS hospital to discuss and record end-of-life healthcare preferences.

Policy

Great Britain. Dept. of Health .

Living well with dementia : a National Dementia Strategy.

London : Department of Health, 2009.

This strategy provides a strategic framework within which local services can deliver quality improvements to dementia services and address health inequalities relating to dementia; provide advice, guidance and support for health and social care commissioners and providers in the planning, development and monitoring of services; and provide a guide to the content of high-quality services for dementia.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_094058?IdcService=GET_FILE&dID=183634&Rendition=Web

Grout, Gwyn [et al.]

Dementia strategy : a four country approach.

Nursing older people 21(1), February 2009, 20-21

Nursing Older People's experts anticipate what the National Dementia Strategy for England will mean for dementia services in the UK.

Research

Ackerman, Michelle L. [et al.]

Examination of cognitive and instrumental functional performance as indicators for driving cessation risk across 3 years.

The gerontologist 48(6), December 2008, 802-810

The purpose of this study was to prospectively examine the role of cognitive and instrumental functional performance in driving cessation while accounting for any contributions of demographics, vision, physical performance, and health among a sample of older adults without dementia.

Pruchno, Rachel A. [et al.]

Convenience samples and caregiving research : how generalisable are the findings?

The gerontologist 48(6), December 2008, 820-827

The authors contrast characteristics of respondents recruited using convenience strategies with those of respondents recruited by random digit dial methods.

Okereke, Olivia I. [et al.]

A profile of impaired insulin degradation in relation to late-life cognitive decline : a preliminary investigation.

International journal of geriatric psychiatry 24(2), February 2009, 177-182

Insulin degradation may be related to Alzheimer's disease pathology. In preliminary analyses the authors considered the relation of combined lower insulin secretion and higher insulin - possibly a phenotype for impaired insulin degradation - to cognitive decline.

Residential care

Clare, Linda [et al.]

The experience of living with dementia in residential care : an interpretative phenomenological analysis.

The gerontologist 48(6), December 2008, 711-720

This study aimed to explore the subjective experience of life with dementia in residential care from the perspective of the person with dementia, and to understand the psychological impact of being in this situation.

Stosz, Laura and Carpenter, Iain

The use of an assessment tool in care homes.

Nursing older people 21(1), February 2009, 24-25

From the United States comes an assessment tool that can create reports on residents and the care home. Now, managers are unleashing its potential in the UK.

Risk assessment

Russell, Melissa A. [et al.]

Development of the Falls Risk for Older People in the Community (FROP-Com) screening tool.

Age and ageing 38(1), January 2009, 40-46

The aim of this study was to develop a brief screening tool for use in the emergency department to identify people who require further assessment and management following a fall.

Nazarko, Linda

Falls part 6 : risk management.

British journal of healthcare assistants 3(2), February 2009, 87-90

Sometimes it is not possible to eliminate or significantly reduce a person's risk of falling. In such cases the best we can do is minimise the risks of harm when falls occur. This article discusses how to reduce the risk of injury when a person remains at risk of falls.

Spirituality

Béphage, Gaëtan

Care approaches to spirituality and dementia.

British journal of healthcare assistants 3(1), January 2009, 43-46

The aim of this article is to raise awareness of the significance of spirituality to dementia patients, and to highlight some strategies that can promote spiritual wellbeing.

Types of dementia

Cole, Martin G. [et al.]

Persistent delirium in older hospital patients : a systematic review of frequency and prognosis.

Age and ageing 38(1), January 2009, 19-26

The authors sought to determine the frequency and prognosis of persistent delirium in older hospital patients by systematically reviewing original research on this topic.

Knol, Wilma [et al.]

Validity and reliability of the Simpson-Angus Scale (SAS) in drug induced Parkinsonism in the elderly.

International journal of geriatric psychiatry 24(2), February 2009, 183-189

This study aimed to evaluate internal consistency and inter-rater reliability of the SAS and the correlation of the SAS with the Parkinsonism subscale of the Schedule for Assessment of Drug-Induced Movement Disorders in older people.

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Both forms are here <http://www.dementia.stir.ac.uk/information.asp?tab=61>
Please print out and complete with your request details and signature, and return to:

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Iris Murdoch Building
University of Stirling
FK9 4LA
01786 467740