New additions to the Dementia Library

Alternative therapies
Matthewson, J.
Changes enable and stimulate.
The journal of dementia care 20(5), September/October 2012, 14
The author shares the fruits of a union between Equal Arts and Shadon House, a local authority-run dementia resource centre.

Outhwaite, A. and Killick, J.
'Jagged pieces of truth'.
The journal of dementia care 20(5), September/October 2012, 26-27
The authors report on a poetry project in Herefordshire which involved mentoring poets new to the dementia field - and winning them over to a whole new way of working.

Assessment/diagnosis
Chrisp, T.A.C. [et al.]
Dementia early diagnosis: triggers, supports and constraints affecting the decision to engage with the health care system.
Aging & mental health 16(5), July 2012, 559-565
There is very often a lengthy delay between first noticing symptoms of dementia and making first contact with Health Care Professionals (HCPs). This article identifies influences on the decision to contact HCPs for the first time.

Schneider, K.
Think pathways, not numbers.
The journal of dementia care 20(4), July/August 2012, 23-25
The author questions whether statistics on diagnosis rates are reliable or meaningful at the local level - and instead suggests focusing on the diagnosis pathway and outcomes for people with dementia.

Snow, A.L. [et al.]
Psychometric properties of a structured interview guide for the rating for anxiety in dementia.
Aging & mental health 16(5), July 2012, 592-602
The Rating Anxiety in Dementia (RAID) is a clinical rating scale developed to evaluate anxiety in persons with dementia. This report explores the psychometric properties and clinical utility of a structured interview format of the RAID (RAID-SI), developed to standardise administration and scoring based on information obtained from the patient, an identified collateral, and rater observation.

Carers
Contador, I. [et al.]
Prediction of burden in family caregivers of patients with dementia: a perspective of optimism based on generalised expectancies of dementia.
Aging & mental health 16(6), August 2012, 675-682
The aim of this study was to investigate the predictors of burden for informal caregivers of patients with dementia.

Fauth, E.
Caregivers' relationship closeness with the person with dementia predicts both positive and negative outcomes for caregivers' physical health and psychological well-being.
Aging & mental health 16(6), August 2012, 699-711
Closer relationships between caregivers and care recipients with dementia are associated with positive outcomes for care recipients, but it is unclear if closeness is a risk or protective factor for the health and psychological well-being of caregivers.
Communication

Hobson, P.
Communication : making sense of what people with dementia say.
British journal of healthcare assistants 6(7), July 2012, 334-337
Dementia is a disorder that affects the person's ability to process language and information in such a way that will enable them to communicate their physical needs, feelings and emotions. This can lead to feelings of frustration for both the healthcare assistants (HCAs) and the person with dementia. The focus should be on the HCAs developing the ability to enter the world of the person with dementia and adapt their ways to enable them to make sense of what the person is attempting to communicate.

Design

Marshall, M. and Delaney, J.
Dementia-friendly design guidance for hospital wards.
The journal of dementia care 20(4), July/August 2012, 26-28
Mary Marshall introduces resources aimed at equipping general hospitals brighter and better places for people with dementia. June Delaney shares one ward's story of transformation.

Turner, L.
A legacy of inspiration.
The journal of dementia care 20(4), July/August 2012, 29-31
The author shares the story of how one hospital ward was transformed by involvement in the King's Fund Enhancing the Healing Environment programme.

End of life care

Aminoff, B.Z.
End-stage dementia : Aminoff suffering syndrome and decubitus ulcers.
Dementia 11(4), July 2012, 473-481
This study aimed to study possible interrelations between decubitus ulcers and Aminoff suffering syndrome in end-stage dementia.

Bartlett, A. and Clarke, B.
An exploration of healthcare professionals' beliefs about caring for older people dying from cancer with a coincidental dementia.
Dementia 11(4), July 2012, 559-565
This qualitative study examined the beliefs of five healthcare professionals about caring for patients dying from cancer with a coincidental dementia. Using a methodology based on Heidegger's phenomenology the phenomenon under scrutiny was opened out to discover the essence of what it really means for these healthcare professionals to be working with this group of patients.

Longstay care

Sheehan, B.D. [et al.]
Patients and proxy measurement of quality of life among general hospital in-patients with dementia.
Aging & mental health 16(5), July 2012, 603-607
The authors aimed to investigate quality of life ratings among people with varying severity of dementia and their carers, recruited in general hospital.

Bailey, L., Cox, J. and Merritt, J.
Caring for older people with dementia in hospital. Part one: challenges.
Nursing older people 24(8), October 2012, 33-37
Nursing students often care for older people with dementia during placements. The quality of the students’ experience is important. This article aims to explore nursing students’ experiences of caring for older people with dementia in hospital.
Nursing
Andrews, J.
A nurse manager’s guide to support patients with dementia.
Nursing older people 24(6), July 2012, 18-20
This article explores how nurse managers in acute settings can prepare nurses to manage patients with dementia. It includes advice on identifying patients’ diagnosis on admission, working with carers and encouraging exercises, and emphasises the importance of establishing a rapport with patients.

Trueland, J.
Soothing the senses.
Nursing standard 26(43), June 27-July 3 2012, 20-22
The Namaste programme is a systematic method of treating people with advanced dementia. It uses sensory approaches to reach people who are often overlooked at the end of their lives. Here, nurses in south London care homes explain how it has brought comfort and pleasure to the 'silent residents' and made nursing more purposeful and rewarding.

Person-centred care
Argyle, E.
Person centred dementia care : problems and possibilities.
Working with older people 16(2), 2012, 69-77
Dementia care is an issue of increasing policy focus, with person centred approaches becoming synonymous with quality provision in this area. However, the implementation and efficacy of this approach is difficult to measure and there are still huge variations in working practices, with task centred approaches traditionally predominating over more holistic forms of care. This article aims to critically assess the implementation of a person centred approach.

Dupuis, S.L. [et al.]
Moving beyond patient and client approaches : mobilising 'authentic partnerships' in dementia care, support and services.
Dementia 11(4), July 2012, 427-452
Drawing on the authors’ experience working directly with persons with dementia, family members and professionals, and systematic research on a number of mutual partnership initiatives, the purpose of this paper is to present an approach that views persons with dementia as equal partners in the context of dementia care, support and formal services.

Technology
Burrow, S. and Brooks, D.
ATdementia : an information resource on assistive technologies that help support the independence of people with dementia.
Dementia 11(4), July 2012, 553-557
This article describes the development of a web-based resource called ATdementia which was designed to provide independent information on assistive technologies for people who are living with dementia.

Godwin, B.
The ethical evaluation of assistive technology for practitioners : a checklist arising from a participatory study with people with dementia, family and professionals.
The gerontologist 6(2), 2012, 123-135
This study aims to examine whether assistive technology contributes to person-centred care, whether users can participate in research and to explore ethical dilemmas with users, family and professional carers.

Meiland, F.J.M.
Usability of a new electronic assistive device for community-dwelling persons with mild dementia.
Aging & mental health 16(5), July 2012, 584-591
This study aimed to evaluate a newly developed integrated digital prosthetic, the COGKNOW Day Navigator, to support persons with mild dementia in their daily lives, with memory, social contacts, daily activities and safety.