

Health and Social Care workers understanding of dementia-related visual impairment

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In this presentation.....

- Qualitative research study to explore Health and Social Care workers understanding and experience of working with people with dementia-related visual impairment
- Development of online CPD course with Royal College of Occupational Therapists for their members.

Research Study - through Focus Groups and Interviews

nursinghomestaff

optometrist admiralnurse

rovi

socialwork

occupationaltherapist

What we did

- Showed video clips of people with dementia-related visual impairment
- Discussed:
 - Awareness of visual problems experienced by clients with dementia
 - Familiarity and understanding of different types of dementia
 - Assessment, and management for people with dementia – related visual problems
 - Helpful resources, training and support

What we found:

- Most described a general experience and understanding of dementia but with participants from one group saying:
“They’re [GPs] not particularly interested in the type of dementia, as how... what the effects are...” (OTFG5)
- All had received some form of dementia care training
- Very few had personal experience of working with people with younger onset or rarer forms of dementia.
- Participants had a greater awareness of memory loss and visual hallucinations in dementia

Visual problems

Glaucoma

Cataracts



Lack of
spectacles

Macular
degeneration

Bonnet's syndrome

“Where does one [problem] begin and the other stops? (OTFG5)

“... I come across a lot of people with hallucinations and I’m sort of now wondering whether they are seeing a shape, light, something, and the brain translates it into something that’s tangible like a person ... (SWOTFG4)

“I think its like as if seeing snippets of the picture and they were just able to see little, little bits and then put the picture together like a jigsaw puzzle...” (SWFG3)

“You know when we have people with PCA, they initially present with bad eyesight but it’s sometimes its things like not being able to fit a key into a lock ... because they are trying to fit it in sideways. So a lot of people would look at that as an apraxia.... (OT2)

Interventions provided

Focus on
function

Intuition

Colour
contrast

Lighting

-I've got someone who would be happy if I was to install so much lighting in the house that you could land a plane in it" ROVI2

Educating
families

Teaching
strategies

Decluttering

They might not be in your path, but your brain's seeing them, so your brain's saying 'oh there's 5 chairs in this room' and you're thinking 'blimey, 5 chairs'. But if there are only 2 chairs there's one of them that's in your way, ... then it's easier because you don't feel so intimidated by all the chairs in the room...." OT2

Conclusion of Study

- Nursing home staff, social workers and occupational therapists receive generalised training about dementia and are less aware of more uncommon forms and younger onset dementia.
- Memory loss and hallucinations are known features of dementia,
- Visual impairments not necessarily considered as part of dementia
- Problems with everyday functioning more often attributed to memory loss, poor concentration
- Problems with vision attributed with ageing problems with sight (e.g. cataracts, glaucoma)
- They do not always know the type of dementia that their clients have and how this affects them
- They have limited access to evidence from research.

Why provide training?

- Wanting to know the specific diagnosis
- Training about different types of dementia
- Wanting access to evidence from research.
- Wanting tangible support to give the right decision

Online CPD course with collaboration with Royal College of Occupational Therapy

RCOT to launch new CPD course to mark Dementia Awareness Week

To coincide with Dementia Awareness week, which runs from Monday 21 May to Sunday 27 May, RCOT will launch a new CPD short course: Understanding and supporting people with dementia-related visual impairment.

The course has been developed by RCOT's professional development team, in collaboration with Dr Anne McIntyre, senior lecturer in occupational therapy at Brunel University London and Dr Keir Yong, neuropsychologist research associate at the Dementia Research Centre at University College London (UCL).

Dr Yong is the project lead for the 'Seeing what they see' study, a four-year research programme, funded by the Economic Social and Research Council (ESRC) and National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). Dr McIntyre is part of the research team.

The research programme aims to better understand the functional impact of dementia-related visual impairment; ultimately to develop home-based interventions maximising independence and quality of life of individuals living with dementia-related visual impairment and their caregivers.

The CPD short course supports the translation of the research findings from this programme into practice. The course will comprise of a workbook and a powerpoint presentation, which can be downloaded by members to run themselves in a group. The workbook has three components: pre-session work, group work and a post-session reflection; while the powerpoint will help people facilitate their own group session.

Dr Stephanie Tempest, education manager for professional development at RCOT said: "The course has been

Home > News > RCOT launch new CPD course to mark Dementia Awareness Week

RCOT launch new CPD course to mark Dementia Awareness Week

Understanding and supporting people with dementia related visual impairment

DANIELA.DONOHUE
24 MAY 2018

This week, May 21st – 27th, is Dementia Awareness Week in most of the UK, also known as Dementia Action Week, and RCOT is delighted to announce the launch of a [new CPD course](#) to support professionals working with people with dementia-related impairments.

The course has been developed in collaboration with Dr. Anne McIntyre, senior lecturer in occupational therapy at Brunel University and Dr. Keir Young, neuropsychologist research associate at the Dementia Research Centre at University College London.

The course supports the translation of their research findings and represents an important evidence-based learning resource for RCOT members. The course comprises a workbook and PowerPoint presentation, to be downloaded by members and facilitated in a group session.

Commenting on the new course, Dr. Stephanie Tempest, education manager for professional development at RCOT said: "The course has been

Learning Together to share research a pilot CPD project

Dr Stephanie Tempest, RCOT Professional Development Manager
Dr Anne McIntyre, Senior Lecturer in Occupational Therapy, Brunel University

RCOT keen to explore
development of accessible
learning resources

For members, with members
- Learning Together

Pilot process to
produce new
resource - CPD
Short Course




More information at: <https://www.rcot.co.uk/practice-resources/learning-zone/cpd-short-courses>

Understanding and supporting people with dementia-related visual impairment

CPD Short Course Workbook

Understanding and supporting people with dementia-related visual impairment



Lehmann et al. (2011); Shakespeare et al. (2015)

Name of participant: _____


Please bring this workbook with you to the Group CPD session

Acknowledgements

Thank you to Dr Anne McIntyre MRCOT, for her expert support in developing this resource, Dr Keir Yong and the Seeing What They See research team <http://www.seeingwhattheysee.org.uk>

Understanding and supporting people with dementia-related visual impairment

Please use the accompanying notes in the workbook when completing this Group CPD session



Photos courtesy of: Lehmann et al. (2011); Shakespeare et al. (2015)

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Understanding and supporting people with dementia-related visual impairment


My three reflective learning points from the CPD Short Course which will inform future practice:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

On completion of this resource please email your three reflective learning points to cpd@rcot.co.uk. These points will be deleted upon issue of certificate and all learning points will be analysed to evaluate the impact of this collaborative learning resource.

7

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Thank you!