Dementia Bulletin June 2019

Articles

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**Developing vocational rehabilitation services for people with long-term neurological conditions: Identifying facilitators and barriers to service provision.**
[This study aimed to understand existing vocational rehabilitation service provision in one locality in London (population 3.74 million), identify any gaps and explore reasons for this, to support service development.]
Contact the library for a copy of this article

**Effects of nonpharmacological interventions on functioning of people living with dementia at home: A systematic review of randomised controlled trials.**
[In studies judged to have a lower risk of bias, in-home tailored exercise, individualised cognitive rehabilitation, and in-home activities-focussed occupational therapy significantly reduced functional decline relative to control groups in individual studies. There was consistent evidence from studies at low risk of bias that group-based exercise and reminiscence therapies were ineffective at reducing functional decline.]
Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users

**Non-pharmacological interventions for Lewy body dementia: a systematic review.**
[Most studies reported beneficial effects of the interventions used, though the only sizeable study was on dysphagia, showing a benefit of honey-thickened liquids. Given the heterogeneity of interventions and poor quality of the studies overall, no quantitative synthesis was possible.]
Freely available online

Reports

The following report(s) may be of interest:

**End of life dementia care: helping people live well and die well.**
The Mental Elf; 2019.
https://www.nationalelfservice.net/mental-health/dementia/end-of-life-dementia-care/
[A group of UCL Mental Health MSc students summarise a recent clinical review of the challenges we face in providing end of life dementia care.]
Freely available online
Hidden No More: Dementia and disability.
All Party Parliamentary Group on Dementia; 2019.
[This report from the All Party Parliamentary Group on Dementia shines a spotlight on dementia as a disability. The evidence reveals that, across the country, people with dementia are not having their disability rights upheld. The report seeks to highlight the human impact that this has on people living with dementia. It focuses on themes of equality, non-discrimination, participation and inclusion.]
Freely available online

Steps to better understanding resistant behaviours and the culture of bedside dementia care in hospitals.
NIHR Dissemination Centre; 2019.
https://discover.dc.nihr.ac.uk/content/signal-000779/understanding-dementia-care-in-hospitals
[NIHR Signal. This in-depth study confirmed that people living with dementia are often resistant to care in acute hospital settings. It found that small interventions that are easy to implement had potential to change ingrained ward behaviour and strengthen staff understanding and care of patients with dementia.]
Freely available online

Widely used class of drugs linked to dementia.
NHS Behind the Headlines; 2019.
https://www.nhs.uk/news/medication/widely-used-class-drugs-linked-dementia/
[Researchers found that use of anticholinergics was linked with between a 6% and 49% increased risk of dementia, depending on the dose and duration of use. With this type of study, it is always difficult to prove direct cause and effect. The causes of Alzheimer’s in particular are poorly understood and various other health and lifestyle factors could be involved in the mix. Nevertheless, this is an important finding that needs looking into further.]
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