An Investigation of the use of Aged Care Services by the Italian Community in West/South West Sydney

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Key Words: Services, service provision, Italian community, Sydney

Research aim: This research project and report was developed to identify the barriers that may be limiting the older Italian communities access to aged care services, with the hope that in future these obstacles may be addressed.

Results/Conclusion: The findings clearly indicate that there appear to be several barriers, which may be causing the older Italian community in Western Sydney to avoid using aged care services. The avoidance may be caused by: 1) The older Italian communities limited knowledge of aged care services. 2) The older Italian communities limited English skills. 3) The older Italian communities ‘mentality’ as reliance on family, belief that aged care services are a last resort, lack of trust of the services, stigma associated with aged care services and/or cost associated with aged care services.

Implications: A variety of methods to overcome these barriers have been recommended to increase the accessibility of aged care services for the Italian community in West/South West Sydney.

Cultural Group(s): Italians in South West Sydney

Location of study: New South Wales (Sydney)

Age group: Not specified

Number included in study: 66 older Italians and one service provider

Type of participants: Older Italians in South West Sydney

Research approach: Mixed methods

Type of data: Primary

Secondary data sources used:

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

Implications/ Recommendations:

Notes: