Experiences and Perceptions of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Family Carers of People With Dementia

**Author/s:** Boughtwood, Desiree Leone Adams, Jon Shanley, Chris Santalucia, Yvonne Boughtwood, Desiree Leone Adams, Jon Shanley, Chris Santalucia, Yvonne Kyriazopoulos, Helena

**Year:** 2011

**Publication type:** Journal article

**Peer reviewed:**

**Topic area/s:** Dementia


**Key Words:**
dementia, family care giving, informal care

**Research aim:**
The study examined the experiences and perceptions of these family carers from a CALD background with regard to their caregiving for a person living with dementia (PLWD)

**Results/Conclusion:**
Analysis revealed that while considerable similarities exist across the experiences and perceptions of carers from all 4 CALD communities, there were nevertheless some important distinctions across the different groups. Arabic-speaking and Chinese-speaking carers did not take an advocacy role in hospitals as described by the Italian-speaking and Spanish-speaking carers. Arabic-speaking and Chinese-speaking carers also reported less conflict with other family members about caregiving decisions than Italian-speaking and Spanish-speaking carers. Gender was not described as impacting care decisions in these latter CALD communities to the extent that it was by the Italian-speaking and Spanish-speaking carers participating in the study. Arabic-speaking carers expressed much emotion and grief about the condition of the PLWD, worry about the future, and the impact of caring on themselves. However, Arabic-speaking carers were also less concerned about dementia-related behaviors than the other 3 groups. Unlike carers from the other CALD communities, Chinese-speaking carers did not report worrying about the safety of the PLWD.

**Implications:**
Anglo-Australians were not included, which would enable more direct comparisons between CALD and non-CALD family carers.

**Cultural Group(s):**
Italian, Arabic, Spanish-speaking, Chinese

**Location of study:**
New South Wales (West Sydney)

**Age group:**

**Number included in study:**
N/A

**Type of participants:**

**Research approach:**
Qualitative

**Type of data:**
Primary

**Secondary data sources used:**

**Specific scales or analytical techniques used:**

**Implications/Recommendations:**

**Notes:**