Minority ethnic groups in dementia care: a review of service needs, service provision and models of good practice

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Key Words: literature review, dementia, cognitive assessments, language

Research aim:
Literature review of articles about ethnic groups in dementia care

Results/Conclusion:
Sixty-seven English language articles were obtained for the review, the majority of which (44, 65.7%) had US origins. Broadly, the main issues covered in the literature were the under-utilization of services by minority ethnic groups; the prevalence of dementia in different ethnic groups; the experience of care giving in different racial groups and language as a factor in cognitive assessment. Although it has been argued that the instruments used to assess cognitive function are culturally biased, the available published evidence would seem to suggest that the fundamental issue is language ability, rather than minority group membership per se.

Implications:
Studies of help-seeking among various ethnic groups in the US have found that many do not prioritize dementia as a health problem in the face of more pressing concerns. There was little consensus amongst the articles about whether services should be provided specifically for different ethnic groups, reflecting a lack of evidence concerning the efficacy of different models of service provision.

Cultural Group(s):
Minority ethnic groups

Location of study:
United States

Age group:

Number included in study:
67

Type of participants:
Articles reviewed in this literature review

Research approach:

Type of data:
Literature review

Secondary data sources used:

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

Implications/Recommendations:

Notes: