

Access and acceptability of community-based services for older Greek migrants in Australia: user and provider perspectives

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Key Words:

Greek, informal care, community-based services, service access

Research aim:

this research fills an important gap in the literature around access to and acceptability of formal community-based services for older migrants

Results/Conclusion:

Results from users and providers showed that while many older Greeks experience service access issues, they also relied heavily on family for support and assistance at home. Reliance on family was both in preference to formal services or where formal services were used, to locate, negotiate and monitor such services. Common barriers identified by both groups included cost, transport and availability, but additional challenges were posed by language, literacy and cultural attitudes.

Implications:

Demographic changes including greater employment mobility and female workforce participation among adult children will have implications for both formal and informal care providers. Formal service providers need to ensure that services are promoted and delivered to take account of the important role of family in informal support while also addressing the access challenges posed by language and literacy. Research conducted by researchers from the same cultural background in the respondents native language can further advance knowledge in this area.

Cultural Group(s):

Greek

Location of study:

Adelaide

Age group:

Number included in study:

70 interviews/focus groups with older Greek people, 22 telephone interviews with community-based service providers

Type of participants:

older Greeks in Adelaide

Research approach:

Qualitative

Type of data:

Primary

Secondary data sources used:

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

Implications/ Recommendations:

Notes: