

Cultural diversity, ageing and HACCC: trends in Victoria in the next 15 years

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Key Words:

Victoria, demographic analysis, service needs

Research aim:

The central findings of this research concern the impending and sustained growth in Victoria's culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) population over the next two decades.

Results/Conclusion:

The current and future cohorts of the older CALD population are widely dispersed across all LGAs in the Melbourne metropolitan area, but numbers in regional and rural Victoria are very small. Beyond the community care system, access to community-based English language teaching should be expanded to attract middle aged and older members of CALD communities, not in order to contain the demand for culturally oriented community care services at some time in the future, but in order to enhance people's everyday participation in the wider community over the many years before that time.

Implications:

This growth calls for a range of strategies for delivering culturally oriented community care; these strategies must involve a mix and match of roles for ethno-specific, multi-cultural and mainstream agencies. These limitations will best be addressed by developing a more structured research agenda on ageing in CALD communities; it should promote a mix of methods that complement each other, and should enable comparisons with ageing in the total population.

Cultural Group(s):

Location of study:

Victoria

Age group:

Number included in study:

N/A

Type of participants:

Research approach:

Type of data:

Literature review

Secondary data sources used:

ABS Census data 1996

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

Implications/ Recommendations:

Notes:

Population projections at the small area level across Victoria for older CALD populations, literature review of programs and research in place around older CALD