

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

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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: