

For love, for faith, for duty, for deed: Beliefs and values about caring in Anglo-Celtic, Greek, Italian, Polish, Turkish and Vietnamese communities in Victoria

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Key Words:

CALD carers, informal care, service use, cross cultural comparison, perceptions on caring

Research aim:

This report presents the findings from a study conducted by Carers Victoria into the beliefs and values of carers from six ethnic groups residing in Melbourne. The primary purpose of the research was to collect qualitative data to assist service providers and policy makers in their efforts to encourage carers to access support services and maintain their own health and wellbeing.

Results/Conclusion:

A number of universal notions and issues emerged as affecting carers across all ethnic backgrounds including the view that care is predominantly a family-based responsibility, the fact that caring has both emotional and physical impacts on carers, as well as impacts on their relationships and their lifestyles, and the fact that carers define themselves primarily by their filial relationships within the family (eg as 'wife', 'son', or 'daughter') and not as 'carers'. Attitudes toward self care varied markedly between carers from the different ethnic groups. There were notable differences in attitudes toward and uptake of the use of professional carers support services between carers from the six target groups

Implications:

Cultural Group(s):

Anglo-Celtic, Greek, Italian, Polish, Turkish, Vietnamese

Location of study:

Victoria

Age group:

Number included in study:

91

Type of participants:

People who provide full-time care to someone aged 65+, first generation in Australia (except Anglo-Celtic group), from same background as care recipient, do not receive many carer support services

Research approach:

Qualitative

Type of data:

Primary

Secondary data sources used:

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

Implications/ Recommendations:

Notes:

Research project for Carers Victoria