

Health concerns and expectations of Anglo and ethnic older Australians: A comparative approach

Author/s: Quine, Susan | **Year:** 1999 | **Publication type:** Journal article | **Peer reviewed:** | **Topic area/s:** General CALD, Culturally Appropriate Care

Reference:

Key Words:

health concerns, cross cultural comparison, health literacy, traditional medications

Research aim:

This study aims to identify ethnic variation in health concerns and expectations of older Australians from non-English-speaking backgrounds, necessary to facilitate culturally appropriate services. This paper presents findings from 12 focus group sessions (4 Anglo, 3 Italian, 2 Chinese, 2 Arabic, 1 Greek) with older (60+) Australians.

Results/Conclusion:

Common areas of concern were inadequate medication information, labelling and instructions. Anglo participants differed from ethnic participants in their use of herbal remedies, language, relationship with pharmacist and doctor and awareness of health rights. Other concerns and expectations were specific to a particular ethnic group.

Implications:

The findings should increase health professionals' awareness of the similarities and differences which exist between mainstream Anglo and ethnic Australians, and also between ethnic groups, thereby avoiding the use of a blanket approach when communicating with, or planning policies for, ethnic older Australians.

Cultural Group(s):

Anglo, Italian, Chinese, Arabic, Greek

Location of study:

New South Wales

Age group:

60+

Number included in study:

55

Type of participants:

community dwelling older people who had been referred to an aged care team 8 Anglo, 11 Italian, 17 Chinese, 19 Arabic participants recruited mainly through Senior Citizens groups

Research approach:

Qualitative

Type of data:

Primary

Secondary data sources used:

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

Implications/ Recommendations:

Notes: