

# Moving towards culturally competent dementia care: have we been barking up the wrong tree?

**Author/s:** Mackenzie, J. Bartlett, R. Downs, M. | **Year:** 2005 | **Publication type:** Journal article | **Peer reviewed:** | **Topic area/s:** Dementia

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**Key Words:**

Dementia, CALD, Health and Social Services

**Research aim:**

In an attempt to make a preliminary contribution towards a debate on solution-focused culturally appropriate care, this paper draws from empirical studies and recent conceptual developments on different views of dementia, and discusses their possible impact on service use and the expectations of users.

**Results/Conclusion:**

The need for an approach that complements cultural influences on health beliefs is essential, in order to work towards providing flexible services able to meet the need of diverse populations. In this paper we have explored four possible explanatory models for understanding dementia. Currently, culturally appropriate service provision for older people in the UK is patchy, and a systematic evaluation of the success, or otherwise, of locally generated initiatives is overdue. However the differing explanations for dementia considered in this paper, along with their likely impact on helpseeking behaviour, provide an alternative starting point for considering how culturally appropriate dementia care might be achieved.

**Implications:**

**Cultural Group(s):**

CALD

**Location of study:**

United Kingdom

**Age group:**

Not specific

**Number included in study:**

N/A

**Type of participants:**

**Research approach:**

**Type of data:**

Literature review

**Secondary data sources used:**

**Specific scales or analytical techniques used:**

**Implications/ Recommendations:**

**Notes:**