

# The debate on ethnicity and dementia: from category fallacy to person-centred care?

**Author/s:** Iliffe, S. Manthorpe, J. | **Year:** 2004 | **Publication type:** Journal article | **Peer reviewed:** | **Topic area/s:** Dementia

**Reference:**

**Key Words:**

**Research aim:**

Positioning paper: We argue that these issues are applicable to all individuals with dementia, independent of apparent ethnicity, and that promotion of cultural competence in service provision should not be relegated to an ethnic minority agenda.

**Results/Conclusion:**

the experiences of people with dementia and their carers show that the important issues for service providers to consider are language, religious belief and observance, cultural practices (including food and personal care practices) and social support and coping mechanisms (i.e. do not group everyone from a particular ethnicity into a single category or group). We argue that these issues are applicable to all individuals with dementia, independent of apparent ethnicity, and that promotion of cultural competence in service provision should not be relegated to an ethnic minority agenda.

**Implications:**

The task for health and social care providers is therefore to recognise the diversity of users and to increase access to appropriate quality mainstream person-centred services, rather than to develop segregated or specialized services.

**Cultural Group(s):**

**Location of study:**

**Age group:**

**Number included in study:**

N/A

**Type of participants:**

**Research approach:**

Positioning paper

**Type of data:**

**Secondary data sources used:**

**Specific scales or analytical techniques used:**

**Implications/ Recommendations:**

**Notes:**