Making a Difference in Dementia: Nursing vision and strategy

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Today

- Update on progress made in delivering the strategy one year on.
- Examining the ongoing work at the RCN in support of dementia care.
- Raising the profile of the wider nursing contribution to dementia care.
Blackfriars Consensus 2014

The Science

- Vascular component in many dementias.
- Vascular risk factors - tobacco, poor diet, physical inactivity and alcohol; and intermediate disease precursors such as raised blood pressure, raised blood cholesterol, obesity and diabetes.
Blackfriars Consensus 2014

The Art

◆ Protective factors also play a part and these include education and intellectual and social engagement.
Making Every Contact Count

◆ Staff should use every contact they have with people as an opportunity to help people stay in good health – by not smoking, eating healthily, drinking less alcohol, and exercising more.
Dementia Friendly Generation

◆ School Nurses
◆ Healthy brains for life
◆ Intergenerational work
Ongoing dementia care work at the RCN

- Recognition people who live with dementia have among the highest levels of multi morbidity of any long term condition (Banerjee 2014).

- Integrating dementia care into many aspects of our activity.
Examining the ongoing work at the RCN on dementia care

- Dementia specific care in our end of life project.
- Joint conference with RCN Pain and Palliative Forum for Autumn 2015.
- Providing, regularly updated dementia and older people’s pages;

http://www.rcn.org.uk/development/practice/older_people
http://www.rcn.org.uk/development/practice/dementia
Continued support ...

- Commitment to the care of people with dementia in general hospitals (SPACE principles).
- Triangle of Care
- Exploration of a community of practice.
- Reprint of our pocket guides.
And ...

- Sharing the evaluation of our dementia work with acute trusts
- Safeguarding guidance.
- Evaluation of our care homes resources.
- Restrictive interventions guidance.
Raising the profile of the wider nursing contribution to dementia care

◆ A focus on prevention;
  – of developing dementia.
  – of a loss of ability and personhood when diagnosed.
  – of distress.
Where do we see this?

- Practice nurses involved in diagnosis.
- In curriculum development.
- Dementia competencies for all staff.
- Specialist dementia roles.
- Specialist older peoples roles.
Thank you

“The future depends on what you do today.”

Mahatma Gandhi