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Advancing practice in the care of people with dementia: a national approach to education and knowledge transfer

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Advancing practice in the care of people with dementia: a national approach to education and knowledge transfer

Abstract

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Poster Abstracts

P013

Topic: Preparing a Sustainable and Educated Workforce

ADVANCING PRACTICE IN THE CARE OF PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA: A NATIONAL APPROACH TO EDUCATION AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER.

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¹Victoria and Tasmania Dementia Training Study Centre, La Trobe University, Melbourne, ²NSW/ACT Dementia Training Study Centre, University of Wollongong, Wollongong, ³Queensland Dementia Training Study Centre, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, ⁴SA&NT Dementia Training Study Centre, Alzheimer's Australia South Australia, Adelaide, ⁵WA Dementia Training Study Centre, Curtin University, Perth, ⁶Dementia Training Study Centres, University of Wollongong, Wollongong, Australia

Objectives: In 2006 the Australian Government established Dementia Training Study Centres (DTSC) nationally with the aim of strengthening the capacity of health professionals in all care sectors to provide appropriate, evidence-based prevention, intervention, assessment, treatment and care for people living with dementia. This was to be achieved through the development of evidence-based education resources, education delivery and links with the Dementia Collaborative research Centres to facilitate knowledge transfer.

Since their inception the Dementia Training Study Centres have evolved into a cohesive national program which now delivers dementia education to health professionals across Australia through the provision of e-learning, on-line resources, face to face delivery, Fellowships, knowledge translation projects and consultancy services.

This paper will present the innovative approach taken by the DTSC program and discuss how this multi-faceted model has enabled the program to reach health professionals from all disciplines, all care sectors and all regions of Australia. The paper will show how the DTSC program has developed a strong focus on knowledge transfer and has successfully tailored education delivery to the specific needs of each professional target group.

A number of DTSC projects will be highlighted as a means of demonstrating how the program is ideally positioned to increase the capacity of the healthcare workforce to provide evidence –based care to people living with dementia across the entire trajectory from assessment and diagnosis to end of life.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

Keywords: Education, Knowledge transfer, Workforce