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Embodied creativity in advanced dementia research

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Title (max 200 characters):

Embodied creativity in advanced dementia research

Short abstract (max 300 characters):

An exploration of the past, current and future possibilities of embodied creativity in research with people living with advanced dementia. We will examine to what extent this can be a collaborative process, what creative approaches might achieve and what are the potential ethical concerns

Long abstract (max 250 words):

People living with advanced dementia can be excluded and treated as 'the other', when society continues to overvalue cognitive skills, language ability and verbal communication. We consider here our own research, which identifies the person through an embodied, inter-embodied or post-humanist perspective. People living with advanced dementia are at risk of exclusion from studies, because of inadequate research methodologies and methods, and/or complex ethical processes. Learning from our previous studies where traditional methods predominated, we will examine the potential use of creative methods to achieve collaboration with people living with advanced dementia. We question how we can collaborate with this group, how we know we are collaborating, and how much further creative methods extend. For this vulnerable group, considered unable to give informed consent, we surface ethical concerns. Finally we speculate how past and current research can influence the future of collaborative, creative methods with people with advanced dementia.