Improving aged care services – Australian practices and experience for providing care for people with dementia

Elite Health Care Australia

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Ageing in China

- In 2016 the number of people in China aged over 60 has reached 202 million, representing 15.5 per cent of the population.

- It is projected the number of people in China aged over 60 will reach 302 million (representing 24 per cent of the population) by 2050.

- In Australia, it is predicted that 22 per cent of the population will be over 60 years of age by 2017.
Dementia in China

- By 2010 there were approximately 9.19 million with Dementia in China.
- China had more individuals living with Alzheimer's disease in 2010 than any other country in the world.
- It is estimated that this will increase five times with a total of 27 million people with dementia in China by 2050.
- It should be noted that there are 2 main causes of Dementia in China, 1 is Alzheimer’s Disease and the other is Vascular Dementia, (there are more than 100 causes).
Dementia

- Is a condition of the brain that results in difficulties with memory, planning, communication and eventually mobility, daily functions and sensory functions for example vision.
Dementia affects each person differently although there are many common needs. In addition to the Person with the diagnosis of dementia it is important to also recognise the needs of the carer/s
Australia

- Many services available:
- Dementia awareness:
  - Community
  - Support groups
  - Education/training
In home services

- Visits to the home for individual assessments
- Carer support in home
  - showering the person with dementia
  - Household assistance
  - In home respite
  - Taking person with dementia out
Community

- Respite services for the carer.
  - More than 1–2 hours at a time
  - Staff visit home and take person with dementia out for half a day as an example
Adult Day Care Services

- Person with dementia attends from half a day to five days a week, during day hours.
- Transport
- They are provided with all care by staff, can include shower at centre if required
- Provided with meals
- Provided with meaningful activities
- Provided with socialisation
- Provide advice/feedback to carer at home
Facility based respite

- Person with dementia has overnight stays in facility
- Generally a block of days for example 1 – 2 weeks at a time
- Variety of reasons e.g. carer can go on a holiday, have a break at home, extensive assessment of the person with dementia, lead in to permanent admission...
- Initially up to 63 days per year
- Can have additional 21 days in emergency situations
In community

Retirement villages, Independent living units

husband and wife live together.

- Community services can be provided to assist
Facility based admission

- Long term options.
- Person with dementia and their partner
- Person with dementia can be placed into dementia specific area
- All staff are trained
- 24 hour care
- Dementia specific training to those working in the unit.
- Special considerations in dementia specific unit
Summary

- Variety of services.
- Person with Dementia and their family carer are provided assistance

Many issues:
- fees and charges
- Misconceptions by person with dementia, family carers and rest of family, general community.