

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

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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.



Assisting People with Dementia.

- ▶ 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.

