

# Cross Cultural Newsletter

## *“Dementia: Updates on Primary Care Assessment Pathway: Part I, Part II”*

*Presenters: Dr Gary Cheung, Dr Michal Lynn Boyd, Dr Sarah Cullum*

16<sup>th</sup> May, 2017

Once again we had a full attendance for our meeting on the 16th instant. Over 75 members attended.



The topic for the night was **“Dementia: updates on primary care assessment pathway—do Asians have different needs?”** The speakers were **Drs Gary Cheung, Michal Boyd, and Sarah Cullum**. The aim for this evening was to provide background knowledge and to stimulate interest in those intending to participate in the forthcoming research on the Asian’s needs for dementia care.

The three speakers are all powerful orators. I must confess that I could only capture the essentials. Those interested in the details, please access our website (password available for members from Diane)

Gary started in outlining the issue, providing rationale to highlight the need and significance for a research and to provide information on the existing document [“The New Zealand Framework for Dementia care”](#). He raised the question whether modifications of the document are necessary for Asians? Michal then described her research protocol and lessons learnt from the Waitemata experience. Finally, Sarah raised research questions regarding the device of a research strategy which would serve as the basis for our next workshop on how a research could be conducted among Asians.

Gary highlighted the significance of prevalence and needs of the is expected to increase between importantly, using the Cognitive screen that population at risk accounted for almost 5.5% of total separates these into ethnic groups, compared with other groups is research on the prevalence and needs would therefore be necessary if one were to provide adequate care, including early intervention. As a background for discussion, Gary provided the document [“The New Zealand Framework for Dementia Care”](#) to serve as background for further discussions. The pathway suggested by the document essentially comprises of assessment (history, symptoms investigations), early intervention, and the implementation of support such as living arrangement and end of life care plans. This pathway mainly involves GPs, practice nurses, and NGO groups such as Dementia Auckland.



a need for a research to understand the population. The population of Asians over 65 2011 and 2026 by 203% . More Performance Scale in research locally to shows that undiagnosed dementia research population. More alarmingly, if one the odds ratio for Asians to have dementia as 2.18 (Other ethnicities hover around 1). A

With the above background information, Michal enlightened our members on the research both she and her associates did in the Waitemata DHB regarding Primary Health Care Cognitive impairment pathway pilot evaluation. The research examines many components of the Cognitive impairment Pathway: viz. an algorithm

to guide identification, diagnosis, and management in GP practice; an education programme to GP teams ( and practice nurses) to enhance earlier diagnosis and management; integrate Dementia Auckland's key worker into GP practice to support patients; the distribution of cognitive impairment resources; increase of GP telephone access to WDHB geriatricians and psychiatrists and last but not least, the involvement of involve specialists, GPs, practice nurses and NGO such as [Dementia Auckland](#) to design and fine tune the programme. For details of the research results, please refer to the website. All in all, the lessons learnt were that success of the programme depends on the importance of cooperation between GP, GP practice nurses in particular and in ensuring the appropriate support provided to patients. Apart from the above important components, success also lies in the availability of appropriate funding that would ensure the sustainability of the programme.

Sarah then addressed how the existing [LILACS NZ study](#) of prevalence of dementia only includes those people that are already identified, not the 1/3 to 1/2 not identified. This calls for a more comprehensive, appropriate and culturally sensitive research approach. As a prelude to the next workshop, Sarah generated detailed research questions for the participants to explore viz: The rationale for the research should include the needs of both the demented and their families in health, day care, and transport etc and what the cost would be. In regards to the methodology of research especially among a more sensitive population such as the Asians, Sarah did some brain storming and listed a number of research questions relating to: how to measure prevalence, where to start—e.g. bottoms up approach starting with the community and the front line workers; the nature of the research:-qualitative vs quantitative; and finally, challenges such as what the best way would be to get more in-depth knowledge. Also, a more important issue is what is the best way to get people interested and involved? As an illustration of a qualitative approach, Sarah showed a video documentary entitled "[Older people from BME communities in Bristol talk about their experiences of dementia](#)"

As usual, the evening ended with lots of discussions.

*As an addendum to the above, please allow me to encourage all of our members to participate in the next workshop. In the past many years, our group has mainly been the Mary (the recipient) and not the giver like Martha. It is now high time to give back rather than receive alone. With this in mind, I hope to see you all in our next workshop on **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June**. The flyer is already on its way to you.*



PIS Consent  
University of Auckland

Members who wish to either have a DVD or access to our website to view the presentation, please contact Diane or see below.

### Highlight of next two meetings:

**In July**, our tentative topic would be about the use of family support groups to enhance management of patients.

**In August**, our plan is to present the second session on "Case studies and panel discussion on the diagnosis and management of Eating disorders among Asians."

Thank you again for your support of our group. I look forward to see you all in our next meeting.

Yours sincerely

S Wong for Cross cultural interest group.

Lastly, I must take this opportunity to thank our members for contributing to the dinner. Your support helps a great deal towards continuation of our future sessions.



**Here is the Vimeo link information:**

Here is the link:

Copy and paste this address into your internet browser *Search Box*

(you can right click on the address – select copy and then paste): <https://vimeo.com/218351351>

Please enter the password exactly as it is spelt:

WongConsultationGroup1234

*For a more accurate rendition of the presentation, **please request the DVD** from Diane Evans at [dianee@adhb.govt.nz](mailto:dianee@adhb.govt.nz) (please send \$2 stamps to help cover costs). Post stamps to ADHB CMHS, Cross Culture, Bldg 7, Level 4, GCC, Greenlane, 1051.*

For ADHB staff, previous newsletters and flyers can be viewed on the Intranet – click on this link:

[http://adhb.intranet/Mental Health/Resources/CrossCulture.htm](http://adhb.intranet/Mental_Health/Resources/CrossCulture.htm)