



Educational Research (ISSN: 2141-5161) Vol. 12 (4)

Available online @ <http://www.interestjournals.org/ER>

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Short Communication

How to Support People suffering with Dementia in Iran? A Nursing Care Approach

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Abstract

In the World Alzheimer Report 2009, Alzheimer Disease International estimated that 36 million people worldwide with dementia, with numbers doubling every 20 years to 66 million by 2030, and 115 million by 2050. 58% of those with dementia currently live in low and middle income countries, rising to 71% by 2050. Dementia develops when the parts of the brain that are involved with learning, memory, decision-making, and language are affected by any of various infections or diseases. The most common cause of dementia is Alzheimer's disease, but there are numerous other known causes. Comparing Iran's population age pyramid in the past two decades illustrates that the structure of age pyramid is reversing. It shows that in the coming years the present young population will incline towards aging. There are some important characteristics of dementia in general and Alzheimer Disease specifically in Iran in terms of culture, public knowledge and socioeconomic aspects. The prevalence of cognitive impairment and dementia is increasing in Iran. Although there is no confirmed study available on the prevalence of dementia at the national level in Iran, but some studies indicate that some 700,000 individuals are diagnosed with Alzheimer's in Iran so the disease should be taken seriously. An important aspect of the nurse's role is to observe and report any potential signs of underlying dementia. Iranian Nurse, as a healthcare professional, who comes in contact with people with dementia must be able to signpost them to appropriate support. In this article we will present A Nursing Care Approach for People with Dementia in Iran.

Biography

Fatemeh Eslami has completed his Bachelor's degree program in Nursing 2003, Kashan University of Medical Sciences and Health Care Services, and Master's Degree in the field of Social Sciences Research at North Tehran Branch from Azad University of Tehran, Iran. She is the nursing staff of Shahid Lavasani Hospital, a hospital of Ministry of Cooperatives, Labor, and Social Welfare.

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Cite this article: FatemehEslami ; How Do Support for People with Dementia in Iran? A Nursing Care Approach; Webinar on Personalized Medicine and Heath Care; May 28, 2021 .