

Course: BSc (Hons) Health and Social Care
Module: Independent Project (BMHP6020_BIRM)

Component 1: Element 1 - Project Proposal

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Element 1 – Project Proposal

My project title:

Investigating the significance of effectively caring for dementia patients in healthcare

1) Aim:

This research into dementia aims to explore the different types of dementia and how crucial it is to provide support to patients suffering with dementia within the health and social care field as well as identifying major existing challenges when providing care to patients with dementia.

2) Objectives:

- The specific objectives that will guide my research is to firstly define 'dementia', how it can manifest in various ways and to examine the extent of impact it may have on patients and their daily lives.
- It is also crucial to analyse the importance of providing sufficient care and attention to patients with dementia in healthcare and current challenges that may be faced when caring for individuals with dementia by reviewing existing data.
- This will then prove useful for evaluating the different challenges that dementia patients face
- This will then allow investigation into what further action can be put in place to ensure individuals with dementia are well-cared for and heard in a health and social care setting.

3) Background/Rationale:

Dementia is an ongoing issue within the health and social care field, with over 900,000 people in the UK being affected by it according to the NHS

The term 'dementia' is used as an umbrella term for the loss of brain function such as memory, problem solving and language, which can detrimentally impact daily life as well as impacting loved ones. Some of the conditions that come under dementia are Alzheimer's, vascular dementia, and Lewy body dementia. The occurrence of dementia is now also on the rise due to the rapidly increasing population of elderly people, not only in the UK but around the world.

Due to the cognitive-declining nature of dementia, individuals with the condition often lose independence and always require care to assist with everyday activities.

Psychological care is also needed . Therefore, the highest quality of care is needed for an individual with dementia to ensure they feel understood and cared for. However, this can be difficult to achieve when the individual can often become confused, loss of communication, and resistant to help because of not wanting to lose independence.

4) Methods:

- This research will use secondary research, reviews, policy documents and quantitative data to obtain a wide range of understanding surrounding dementia in health and social care, supported by statistical evidence.
- The sources used will be relatively new (no older than ten years), peer reviewed and relevant to the research aim.
- The findings from these sources will then be analysed to assess what impact dementia may have on these individuals.
- Conclusions will then be made on how to best ensure dementia patients are being treated and care for effectively. All sources used will be referenced appropriately to avoid plagiarism.

5) Resources:

- Paper
- Pen
- computer
- Alzheimer's Society
- World Health Organisation

6) Timescale:

1. Conduct a review on all sources and gather evidence
2. Analyse data to identify patterns or trends
3. Interpret data relating to research aim

7) Self-reflection as researcher (any strengths or challenges):

A wide range of secondary sources will be used, making the research comprehensive and in-depth analysis will take place. However, due to the complexity of dementia there may be some aspects difficult to come to conclusions on and accurately interpret.

References:

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