

Thursday 27 August 2020

Reconsidering person-centred dementia care

Next week's session of the Dementia Australia National Symposium Series 2020 – Dementia care is quality care will highlight how person-centred care can become an everyday experience for people living with dementia.

Prof Dawn Brooker, Director of the University of Worcester Association for Dementia Studies UK, will be presenting on the topic at the fifth in our Symposium Series.

"Providing excellent dementia care is a challenge around the world," Prof Brooker said.

"By taking a systematic approach and using evidence about what works, we can transform people's lives."

Person-centred care promotes the rights and perspectives of the individual living with dementia.

It is an approach to service development and service delivery that sees services provided in a way that is respectful of, and responsive to, the preferences, needs, values and life experience of people living with dementia and those who care for them.

The importance of this has been brought into even sharper focus by the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Symposium Series is the culmination of the [Dementia Australia Quality Care Initiative](#), a project that has focused on raising the quality of dementia care.

Prof Brooker, recipient of the UK's National Dementia Care Awards Lifetime Achievement Award, is regarded as a global expert on the effective implementation of person-centred dementia care.

"Relating to people not as patients, but as fellow citizens, means that I don't fear getting dementia as much as I did," Prof Brooker said.

"If I get dementia, I want to feel confident that staff who will support me will be skilled and compassionate and that care organisations will be truly person-centred – that is my hope for the future."

Still to come in the Symposium Series are presentations from Dementia Advocates as well as [James Adonis](#), author and leadership educator and [Ita Buttrose](#) AC OBE, Dementia Australia Ambassador and Chair ABC.

The free online series is being presented weekly for six consecutive weeks beginning Tuesday 4 August. To learn more about the speakers and to register visit the Dementia Australia website [here](#).

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Dementia Australia is the national peak body and charity for people, of all ages, living with all forms of dementia, their families and carers. It provides advocacy, support services, education and information. An estimated 459,000 people have dementia in Australia. This number is projected to reach almost 1.1 million by 2058. Dementia Australia's services are supported by the Australian Government.

National Dementia Helpline 1800 100 500

Interpreter service available

(The National Dementia Helpline is an Australian Government Initiative)

Dementia is a National Health Priority Area

www.dementia.org.au

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When talking or writing about dementia please refer to [Dementia-Friendly Language Guidelines](#).