Centre for Policy on Ageing
Information Service

Selected Readings

Older People from Black and minority ethnic groups

July 2020
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2020

The enormous economic burden of dementia in the United States of America falls disproportionately on families coping with this devastating disease. Black Americans, who are at greater risk of developing dementia than white Americans, hold on average less than one-eighth of the wealth of white Americans. This study explores whether dementia exacerbates this wealth disparity by examining dementia’s effect on wealth trajectories of black versus non-black Americans over an eight-year period preceding death. The study uses five waves of data (beginning in 2002 or 2004) on 2,429 decedents in the 2012 and 2014 waves of the Health and Retirement Study (HRS). It finds that dementia is associated with a loss of 97 per cent of wealth among black Americans, compared with 42 per cent among non-black Americans, while wealth loss among black and non-black Americans without dementia did not differ substantially (15% versus 19%). Dementia appears to increase the probability of wealth exhaustion among both black and non-black Americans, although the estimate is no longer significant after adjusting for all covariates (for blacks, odds ratio (OR) = 2.04, 95% confidence interval (CI) = 0.83, 5.00; for non-blacks, OR = 1.47, 95% CI = 0.95, 2.27). Dementia has a negative association with home-ownership, and the loss or sale of a home may play a mediating role in the exhaustion of wealth among black Americans with dementia. (RH)
ISSN: 0144686X
From : http://www.cambridge.org/aso

Ethnicity and grandparental child care in the United Kingdom; by Valeria Bordone, Maria Evandrou, Athina Vlachantoni.: Cambridge University Press, April 2020, pp 713-734.
Ageing and Society, vol 40, no 4, April 2020, pp 713-734.
In Europe, around 58 per cent of grandmothers and 50 per cent of grandfathers provide care to their grandchildren. Whilst the highest rate of grandparental engagement is found in Northern countries, care-giving grandparents in Mediterranean countries look after their grandchildren more frequently, often daily. In the UK, 17 per cent of grandparents with a grandchild under 16 provide intensive levels of child care of at least 10 hours a week and around one in 30 provides full-time care. Various factors influence these figures, including rates of parental and grandparental employment, educational attainment, cultural context and ethnicity. Parents from Other White, Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi and African communities are less likely to use child care than White British parents, while the opposite is true for Caribbean parents. However, for parents using child care, Other White, Caribbean and African groups are the least likely to be using grandparent care. (NH)
ISSN: 0144686X
From : https://doi.org/10.1017/S0144686X18001265

2019

Befriending services for culturally diverse older people; by Janine Wiles, Tessa Morgan, Tess Moeke-Maxwell (et al.).: Taylor and Francis, October 2019, pp 776-793.
Befriending services may address loneliness and social isolation amongst older people. However social diversity is rarely reported in investigations of befriending services, and non-users’ views are also rarely explored. In this research, the authors explored older adult service users’ and non-users’ experiences of, and attitudes towards, a befriending service. The research draws on interviews and focus groups with 76 older adults, 10 volunteer visitors and 20 service providers in New Zealand (NZ). Those recruited comprised at least 10 people aged 65+ from each of four broad cultural groups: Maori, New Zealanders of European descent; Pacific living in NZ (including Samoan, Tongan, Fijian), and Asians living in NZ (Chinese and Korean). Participants agreed that the befriending service helped alleviate social isolation and loneliness, and that supportive services to foster connection are needed. Barriers to engagement included lack of knowledge, appropriateness of services and feeling undeserving. The befriending service was most successful when a match went beyond a transactional ‘professional-client’ relationship to resemble genuine friendship, underpinned by mutual interests and norms of reciprocity and reliability. The authors also identified five clear ideas about what characterises an ideal supportive service: supported opportunities for getting out, genuine and reciprocal relationships, reliability, visitor characteristics, and connecting people to their culture. Befriending adds to social networks, and enhances connectedness to the community. Loneliness is alleviated when mutually beneficial and genuinely reciprocal relationships develop. However, group interventions or connections to community groups may be more appropriate for some. (RH)
Little health-related research exists on older Asian immigrants in New Zealand. The aim of this review was to critically examine literature on the health and well-being of this population group. An integrative literature review was conducted from December 2017 to February 2018 in which a range of databases were trawled. Two themes were identified: firstly, the 'challenges stemming from an unfamiliar environment' faced by older Asian immigrants, and secondly, their 'strategies for adjusting to a new home'. These themes suggested how participation in community and leisure activities, as well as adapting their outlook on life, contributed to these older migrants' health and wellbeing within a New Zealand context. A multitude of challenges in maintaining health and wellbeing confronted these older Asian immigrants, nevertheless, they created strategies to respond and positively influence their health following later life migration. (JL)
ISSN: 14406381
From: http://www.wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/ajag

The aim of this special issue of International Journal of Care and Caring is to shed light on linkages between intergenerational family care relations and informal and formal social support networks, in order to enhance knowledge of the psychological and physical well-being of older people and their families in various cultural contexts. The editors consider this focus to be timely, given ongoing discourses relating to ageism, social exclusion, ageing in place, and policies on generational equity in work, pensions and care. Articles cover: theoretical perspectives on eldercare; helping service industries for dementia care in Australia; organisation and delivery of social services to older people in the countries of the former Soviet Union; and family care by minority ethnic groups in England and Wales. The Debates and Issues section includes three items which analyse projects and services aimed at promoting quality of life of older people and carers in Israel, Canada and Austria. (RH)
ISSN: 23978821
From: http://www.policypress.co.uk/journals/international-journal-of-care-and-caring

Depression in carers of people with dementia from a minority ethnic background: systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials of psychosocial interventions; by Nazire E Akarsu, Martin J Prince, Vanessa C Lawrence, Jayati Das-Minshi.: Wiley, June 2019, pp 790-806.
A systematic review and meta-analysis was carried out in order to determine the effectiveness of interventions in reducing depression in ethnic minority carers of dementia sufferers. The authors systematically searched a range of relevant databases from 1990 to 2015, supplemented by a grey literature search, hand searches of bibliographies and contacting authors. Study quality was assessed independently by two researchers using the Effective Public Health Practice Quality Assessment Tool, with an inter-rater reliability of Cohen's kappa of 0.72. Narrative synthesis and meta-analysis were used to assess intervention effectiveness. Meta-regression was used to assess whether factors such as intervention type, peer support and ethnicity accounted for heterogeneity. 13 studies were eligible for inclusion, with 1,076 participants in control groups and 980 participants in intervention groups; 12 studies provided estimates for meta-analysis. All studies were from the
United States. Interventions were associated with an overall mean reduction in depression in caregivers. Meta-regression did not indicate any potential sources of heterogeneity, although narrative synthesis suggested that interventions developed with the target ethnic minority group's preferred mode of engagement in mind alongside cultural adaptations may have enhanced effectiveness. Psychosocial interventions for depression in ethnic minority carers of dementia sufferers are effective and could be enhanced by cultural adaptations. High quality studies targeting ethnic minority groups outside the United States are needed. (JL)

ISSN: 08856230
From: http://www.orangejournal.org

Care interventions to support people with dementia from ethnic minorities must be evidence-based to receive funding, but what if research is lacking? The author investigates whether minority ethnic groups are being overlooked by the research community. (RH)
ISSN: 13518372
From: http://www.journalofdementiacare.co.uk

Journal of Housing for the Elderly, vol 33, no 2, April-June 2019, pp 103-119.
Residential care and assisted living services provide support to seniors who may not have the ability to live independently. However, East Asian residents often do not have sufficient access to culturally specific activities, which may result in psychosocial stress and isolation. This Canadian study presents a geographic analysis method to evaluate spatial distribution of culturally tailored senior care facilities in Metro Vancouver. The authors identify geographical disparities, indicating that many East Asian seniors have poor local access to a culturally tailored facility. The authors recommend the use of geographical analysis techniques (and geographical information systems, GIS) to improve the analysis and planning for senior care in an increasingly diverse population. (RH)
ISSN: 02763893
From: http://www.tandfonline.com

Housing and the older ethnic minority population in England; by Nigel de Noronha, Race Equality Foundation; Housing Learning and Improvement Network.: Race Equality Foundation; Housing Learning and Improvement Network, February 2019, 32 pp.
The evidence on housing disadvantage amongst the older black and minority ethnic (BME) population is explored. As the age profile of BME and migrant people converges towards that of the general UK population, it is likely that their future housing needs will entail increased demand for supported housing and adaptations to their homes. This report identifies the demographic changes in the BME population; the extent to which older BME people experience housing disadvantage compared to the white British population; what factors may contribute to this disadvantage; and the spatial concentration of BME older people in urban areas in England. It uses 2011 Census microdata and 2011 Census aggregate data: housing deprivation is indicated by overcrowding, having no central heating, or living with another household. The briefing is part of a broader dialogue with the Race Equality Foundation, Housing LIN and the Centre for Ageing Better. It reflects the opportunity to improve the quality of life of older BME people, by collecting evidence of the barriers that affect their experiences of housing and the ways that local agencies have overcome them. It finds a seemingly ongoing gap in the evidence base regarding the extent to which older BME people have access to suitable, high quality extra care and specialist housing that meets their needs. (RH)
From: https://www.housinglin.org.uk/_assets/Resources/Housing/Support_materials/Briefings/HLIN_Briefing_BME_Housing.pdf

Prevalence and context of racism experienced by older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders; by Jeromey B Temple, Margaret Kelaher, Yin Paradies.: Wiley, March 2019, pp 39-46.
The aim of this study was to examine the prevalence and context of racism self-reported by older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The 2015 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey was used to measure the prevalence, contexts and demographic differences in reports of racism. Multivariable logistic regression was used to examine the association of age with racism in later life. Results showed that a sizeable
minority of older Aboriginal people reported experiences of unfair treatment (31%) and avoidance (15%), often occurring in contexts critical to human capital investments. Specific demographic groups, including those with higher levels of education, were more likely to report experiences of unfair treatment. The prevalence of unfair treatment and avoidance remains relatively high in later life (albeit lower than younger ages), with a significant reduction from age 65. Addressing racism, particularly in contexts crucial to human capital, is important for the health and wellbeing of older Aboriginal people. (JL)
ISSN: 14406381
From: http://www.wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/ajag

This study aims to assess racial differences in subjective well-being (SWB), and to examine whether the pathways of social support and social engagement to SWB vary by racial groups in the United States of America. The authors used a local sample (N = 1,035) and a nationally representative sample of 7,7018 from the Health and Retirement Study (HRS) to compare life satisfaction and happiness between non-Hispanic Whites and Blacks aged 55 and over. They evaluated the extent to which race, other socio-demographic characteristics, health, social engagement and social support explained the variances in SWB. They also examined the moderation effects of race on the relationships of SWB with age, social support and social engagement. Multiple regression analyses showed that non-Hispanic Blacks were at least as satisfied as, and even happier than White peers, after equalising social resources and health variables. Social support was significantly related to SWB, and it seemed that positive support was more important to Whites than to Blacks in predicting life satisfaction. In addition, the racial crossover effect existed, that is, the old-old (aged 80+) Blacks were happier than their White peers. Findings indicate a national trend of the race paradox in SWB and underscore the importance of social support in promoting older adults' well-being. Future research is recommended to investigate other potential mechanisms among Black older Americans to explain their relatively better SWB.
ISSN: 0144686X
From: http://www.cambridge.org/aso

Validation of a brief Multicultural Cognitive Examination (MCE) for evaluation of dementia; by T Rune Nielsen, Kurt Segers, Valérie Vanderaspoldt (et al).: Wiley, July 2019, pp 982-989.
The aims of this study were to present the psychometric properties of a newly designed cognitive screening instrument, the Multicultural Cognitive Examination (MCE), and to compare it with the Rowland Universal Dementia Assessment Scale (RUDAS) in a multicultural population. This was a Western European cross-sectional multicentre study. The MCE consists of four components evaluating separate cognitive functions and was constructed by adding measures of memory, verbal fluency and visuospatial function to the RUDAS to create a scale with 0 to 100 points. A total of 66 patients with dementia and 123 cognitively intact participants were included across six memory clinics; 96 had minority ethnic background and 93 had majority ethnic background. Moderate to large differences were present between patients with dementia and control participants on all MCE components. The MCE significantly improved diagnostic accuracy compared with using the RUDAS alone, with area under the curves of .918, .984, and .991 for the RUDAS, MCE composite and demographically corrected composite scores, respectively. Diagnostic accuracy of the MCE did not significantly differ between minority and majority ethnic groups. Across MCE subcomponents, patients with Alzheimer's disease (AD) dementia performed significantly poorer on the memory component compared with those with non-AD dementia. The MCE is a brief cross-cultural cognitive screening instrument that expands evaluation of the cognitive functions covered by the RUDAS, does not require any specialised training and may be useful for classification of mild dementia or dementia subtypes. (JL)
ISSN: 00856230
From: http://www.orangejournal.org

2018

Research suggests that religion plays a critical role in individuals' attitudes toward death in later life. The purpose of this study was to investigate whether a previously unexamined aspect of religion _ secure attachment to God _ is associated with death anxiety among U.S. older adults and whether this association varies across race. Using longitudinal data from a representative sample of 936 adults aged 65 and older, the analyses
revealed that secure attachment to God is associated with a decrease in death anxiety over time. Furthermore, the negative association between secure attachment to God and change in death anxiety is greater for older Blacks than their White counterparts. These results indicate that religion serves a protective function against death anxiety in later life. Moreover, religion provides greater psychological benefits for older Blacks than older Whites, reinforcing a long-standing claim that religion is particularly valuable for individuals from marginalised backgrounds. (JL)

ISSN: 01640275
From: http://www.journals.sagepub.com/home/roa

Attempts to embed human rights into health care have failed to dislodge the medical model of service evaluation in the NHS. The author argues that renewed effort is required to protect and promote health care rights, particularly where migrant and black and minority ethnic (BAME) communities are concerned. (RH)
ISSN: 13518372
From: http://www.journalofdementiacare.co.uk

Do community-dwelling Maori and Pacific peoples present with dementia at a younger age and at a later stage compared with NZ Europeans?: by Sarah Cullum, Katherine Mullin, Irene Zeng (et al.).: Wiley, August 2018, pp 1098-1104.
Ethnicity may affect presentation to clinical services in people with dementia, however, no studies have examined this in Maori or Pacific peoples in New Zealand (NZ). The objective of this study was to examine routinely collected clinical data from a memory assessment service in South Auckland to examine the presentation of dementia in the major NZ ethnic groups. A total of 360 patients presenting to a memory service with a new diagnosis of dementia were included in this study. Demographic data (age, sex and ethnicity) and dementia subtype and severity were analysed. There were 142 NZ European, 43 Maori, 126 Pacific and 49 other ethnicities presenting with a new diagnosis of dementia. After adjustment for gender and dementia subtype, Maori and Pacific patients were 8.5 and 5.3 years younger than NZ European patients. Pacific peoples tended to present with more advanced dementia after adjustment for age and gender. There was little difference in the subtypes of dementia between ethnic groups. Overall, Maori and Pacific peoples with dementia presented to an NZ memory service at a younger age than NZ Europeans, and Pacific peoples presented with more advanced dementia. A population-based epidemiological study is critical to determine whether Maori and Pacific peoples have indeed a higher risk of developing dementia at a younger age. (JL)
ISSN: 08856230
From: http://www.orangejournal.org

The purpose of this paper was to perform a literature review of empirical studies on elder mistreatment (EM) in South Asians and to discuss key implications for policy, practice and research. For this review multiple electronic databases in the international health and social science were searched and supplemented by grey literature and cross-references. Quality of papers was assessed against standard checklists. In total 16 studies met the inclusion criteria of the review of which 11 were cross-sectional design, and only six of them used standard instruments to measure EM. The prevalence estimates of overall EM retrieved from general population-based studies ranged from 9.3 per cent in India to 49.1 per cent in Nepal. Age, gender, residential settings, socioeconomic status, health, education and social structures and processes were key risk factors for EM in South Asian communities. Reporting and action taking were culturally rooted. While the review was not systematic, there were limitations associated with the paper in covering the diverse range of databases and studies. However this review provides a valuable synthesis of the empirical papers on the incidence, culturally specific risk factors and reporting trends of EM in South Asians. Additionally the review presents the papers evaluated for a quality to ensure the validity of empirical data. Finally the review includes several implications for policy, practice and future research on EM which may ultimately contribute in improving the health and wellbeing of older South Asians. (JL)
ISSN: 14668203
From: http://www.emeraldinsight.com/loi/jap


Previous research unequivocally shows that immigrants are less successful in the labour market than the native-born population. However, little is known about whether ethnic inequality persists after retirement. The authors use data on 16 Western European countries from the European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC, 2004-2013) to provide the first comparative study of ethnic inequalities among the population aged 65 and older. The focus is on the retirement income gap (RIG) between immigrants from non-European Union countries, magnitude of which is compared with country differences in welfare state arrangements. Ethnic inequality after retirement is substantial: after adjusting for key characteristics including age, education and occupational status, the average immigrant penalty across the 16 countries is 28 per cent for men and 29 per cent for women. Country-level regressions show that income gaps are smaller in countries where the pension system is more redistributive. The authors also find that easy access to long-term residence is associated with larger RIGs, at least for men. There is no clear evidence that immigrants’ access to social security programmes, welfare state transfers to working-age households, or the strictness of employment protection legislation affect the size of the RIG. (RH)

ISSN: 0144686X
From: http://www.cambridge.org/aso


The present study aimed to evaluate the feasibility and acceptability of a tailored evidence-based intervention consisting of a leaflet and a letter to encourage timely help-seeking for dementia and memory problems in Black African and Caribbean older adults. Participating GP surgeries were randomised to send either the intervention or a control leaflet about ageing well to Black patients aged 50 years and above without known dementia. Patients were then interviewed two weeks later about the intervention's acceptability using closed and open-ended questions and they completed a Theory-of-Planned-behaviour questionnaire about what they would do if they developed memory problems, which they also completed four months later. Five of 26 surgeries approached agreed to invite patients. 65 patients responded, of whom 61 (93.8%) agreed to participate. At two weeks the authors consented and interviewed 47/61 (77%) patients, of whom 24 received the intervention. At four months 43/47 (91.5%) of these patients were followed up. At two weeks 44/47 (93.6%) found either intervention acceptable to receive by post, including 23/24 of the intervention. 19 of 24 (79.2%) reported reading the intervention leaflet compared with 13/24 (56.5%) controls. The intervention leaflet made 16/24 (66.7%) think about visiting their doctor for memory problems and led four to help-seeking behaviour. It was calculated that 191 patients and 24 surgeries were required for an efficacy trial. Given the intervention is acceptable, inexpensive and unlikely to cause harm, it would be appropriate to disseminate it without a larger RIGs, at least for men. There is no clear evidence that immigrants’ access to social security programmes, welfare state transfers to working-age households, or the strictness of employment protection legislation affect the size of the RIG. (RH)

ISSN: 08856230
From: http://www.orangejournal.org

Listen to the elders: design guidelines for affordable multifamily housing for the elderly based on their experiences; by Jung-hye Shin.: Taylor and Francis, April-June 2018, pp 211-240.


There is an increasing demand for affordable multi-family housing for a rapidly growing population of ethnic older people. Using the lived experiences of Korean American older people currently living in affordable housing in the Midwest as one such example, this study seeks to develop design guidelines to meet the specific living needs and desires of this ageing population. Verified against well-established building standards and accepted guidelines, these design recommendations lay the groundwork for multi-family housing that will assist older people to age in place in safe, healthier and happier environments. (RH)

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From: http://www.tandfonline.com


This study examines the prevalence of morbidity and disability among older Mexican Americans using 5-year age groups. Twenty-year panel data from the Hispanic Established Populations for the Epidemiological Study of
the Elderly (H-EPESE) are used to make detailed comparisons by nativity and gender. Results show that prevalence rates for most chronic conditions for both males and females do not vary by nativity. For disabilities, nativity is a significant predictor of increased instrumental activity of daily living (IADL) disability for foreign-born females, and reduced activity of daily living disability for US-born males. Additionally, results show significant interactions between nativity and age cohorts, with the gap increasing with age for males and decreasing with age for females. These results have important implications for health services and health policy. Given the rapid ageing of the Mexican American population, the prevention and treatment of medical conditions, particularly among the foreign-born, should be a major public health priority to reduce dependence from disabilities. (RH)

ISSN: 01640275
From: http://www.journals.sagepub.com/home/roa


The aim of this New Zealand based study was to explore the patterns of living arrangements, ethnicity and loneliness amongst older adults aged 65 years and above living at home. National interRAI-HC (International Residential Assessment Instrument-Home Care) assessments conducted between 1 September 2012 and 31 January 2016 were analysed. The analyses focused on the associations between loneliness, ethnic groups and living arrangements. There were 71,859 eligible participants with an average age of 82.7 years, comprising Māori (5%), Pasifika (3%), Asian (2%) and European/Other (89%) ethnic identification. Most stated that they were not lonely (79%), but those living alone were more likely to be lonely (29%) than those living with others (14%). Amongst those living alone, significant differences in the likelihood of being lonely emerged between ethnic groups. Ethnic identification and living arrangements were significantly associated with the likelihood of loneliness for those having an interRAI-HC assessment. Efforts to reduce the negative impacts of loneliness need a nuanced approach. (JL)

ISSN: 14406381
From: http://wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/ajag

Psychosocial risk factors and processes impeding adaptive capacities and contributing to psychosocial distress among later-life Egyptian immigrants; by Ihab Girgis.: Taylor and Francis, May-June 2018, pp 350-374.

This qualitative study explored and described the transactional and cumulative psychosocial stressors that later-life Egyptian immigrants encountered upon coming to the United States, and how they impeded their adaptive capacities, hindered their adjustment efforts and impacted their psychosocial wellbeing. Such stressors were more pronounced among those who immigrated to the United States from Egypt after reaching the retirement age of 60 for two reasons. Firstly they experienced pre-immigration stressors that forced or expedited their departure from Egypt under duress, thus incurring numerous financial and symbolic losses. Secondly, in the last developmental stage, when age-related losses were triggered, they were concomitantly exposed to a starkly different lifestyle, language, cultural norms, living and financial arrangements, roles and relationships. All such circumstances contributed to a sense of confusion, guilt, shame and being a burden on others, which culminated in withdrawal, isolation and distress. The findings of this study can be used to inform psychosocial and therapeutic interventions and guide the development of appropriate social work programmes, services and policies for later-life Egyptian immigrants in particular and older Arabic-speaking immigrants in general. (JL)

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From: http://www.tandfonline.com

Relationship between speaking English as a second language and agitation in people with dementia living in care homes: results from the MARQUE (Managing Agitation and Raising Quality of life) English national care home survey; by C Cooper, R Rapaport, S Robertson (et al.).: Wiley, March 2018, pp 504-509.

Not speaking English as a first language may lead to increased difficulties in communication with staff and other residents. In this study the authors tested the primary hypothesis that care home residents with dementia speaking English as a second language experience more agitation and overall neuropsychiatric symptoms. A secondary aim of the study was to explore qualitatively how staff consider that residents' language, ethnicity and culture might impact on how they manage agitation. Between 2014 and 2015 staff, residents with dementia themselves and their family carers from 86 care homes were interviewed about residents' neuropsychiatric symptoms, agitation, life quality and dementia severity. 25 staff were also qualitatively interviewed. 71 out of 1,420 (5%) of care home residents with dementia interviewed spoke English as a second language. After
controlling for dementia severity, age and sex, and accounting for care home and staff proxy clustering, speaking English as a second language compared with as a first language was associated with significantly higher Cohen-Mansfield Agitation Inventory and Neuropsychiatric inventory scores. Staff narratives described how linguistic and culturally isolating being in a care home where no residents or staff share one's culture or language could be for people with dementia, and how this sometimes caused or worsened agitation. Considering a person with dementia's need to be understood when selecting a care home and developing technology resources to enable dementia-friendly translation services could be important strategies for reducing distress of people with dementia from minority ethnic groups who live in care homes. (JL)
ISSN: 08856230
From: http://www.orangejournal.org

Risk factors for falls among older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in urban and regional communities; by Caroline Lukaszyk, Kylie Radford, Kim Delbaere (et al).: Wiley, June 2018, pp 113-119.
The objective of this study was to examine associations between fall risk factors identified previously in other populations and falls among Aboriginal people aged 60 years and older, living in New South Wales, Australia. Interviews were conducted with older Aboriginal people in five urban and regional communities. Associations between past falls and 22 fall predictor variables were examined using linear and multiple regression analyses. Of the 336 participants, 80 people (24%) reported at least one fall in the past year, and 34 (10%) reported two or more falls. Participants had an increased fall risk if they were female; used three or more medications; had arthritis, macular degeneration, depression, history of stroke; were unable to do their own housework; or were unable to do their own shopping. In all, falls were experienced by one-quarter of study participants. Fall risk factors identified for older Aboriginal people appear to be similar to those identified in the general population. Understanding of fall risk factors may assist with the development of appropriate and effective community-led fall prevention programmes. (JL)
ISSN: 14406381
From: http://www.wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/ajag

Understanding socioenvironmental contributors to racial and ethnic disparities in disability among older Americans; by Allison B Brenner, Philippa J Clarke.: Sage, February 2018, pp 103-130.
Our understanding of the mechanisms through which racial or ethnic disparities in disability in older adults develop and are maintained is limited. The authors examined the role of physical impairment, socioeconomic factors and health for racial/ethnic disparities in activities of daily living (ADL), and the modifying role of the indoor home environment. Using data for 5,640 participants from the United States National Health and Aging Trends Study (NHATS), negative binomial regression models were specified separately for men and women. Blacks and Hispanics reported more ADL difficulty than Whites. Living in homes with clutter was associated with higher rates of ADL difficulty, but it was not related to racial/ethnic disparities. Racial/ethnic differences were explained by physical impairment for men, but not for women. Socioeconomic factors and health accounted for remaining disparities for Black, but not for Hispanic women. Attention to individual and environmental factors is necessary to fully understand and address race/ethnic disparities in disability in older Americans. (RH)
ISSN: 01640275
From: http://www.journals.sagepub.com/home/roa

The authors report on the findings of a research project to investigate the barriers to black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) communities attending memory services, with the aim of identifying interventions to increase referrals and attendance. The project used online questionnaires which gathered the views of 24 GPs (14% response rate) and 11 interpreters. In addition, interviews were conducted with 55 people aged 36-86 from BAME communities. The interviews identified two overarching themes: service awareness (issues such as language, travel and money); and cultural differences in perception and attitudes towards dementia. (RH)
ISSN: 13518372
From: http://www.journalofdementiacare.co.uk
American Community Survey (ACS) data are used to develop typologies of the generational dynamics and living arrangements of the estimated 1.6 million African American older adult households who will encounter the most difficulty in ageing in place. This article offers policy recommendations and strategies to tackle the specific barriers and challenges that must be overcome, in order for these older adults to successfully live out their lives in their homes and community. (RH)
ISSN: 02763893
From : http://www.tandfonline.com

Workforce diversity and conflicts in care work: managers' perspectives; by Jill Manthorpe, Jess Harris, Jo Moriarty, Martin Stevens.: Policy Press, November 2018, pp 499-513.
The care workforce in England is ethnically diverse, yet little is known of how managers manage this aspect of human resources work. This article reports findings from a longitudinal study of the care workforce to offer insights into managers' views of staff demographics, relationships and management challenges and strategies. Three themes emerged from the analysis: sources of conflict; reactive approaches to limiting conflict; and proactive approaches to preventing and limiting conflict. Findings have implications for human resource management and the creation of supportive staff relationships within care work in countries where ethnic diversity is characteristic of the care workforce. (RH)
ISSN: 23978821
From : http://www.policypress.co.uk/journals/international-journal-of-care-and-caring

2017

Aging experiences of older immigrant women in Quebec (Canada): from deskilling to liberation; by Michele Charpentier, Anne Queniart.: Taylor and Francis, 2017, pp 437-447.
Older immigrant women's experiences of ageing are examined using data from qualitative research conducted in Quebec, Canada with 83 older women from different ethnocultural backgrounds (Arab, African, Haitian, Japanese, Chinese, Portuguese, Romanian, etc). Results are presented on how such immigrant women deal with material conditions of existence such as de-skilling, ageing alone, being more economically independent, and the combined effects of liberation from social and family norms associated with age and gender in the light of the migration route. For the majority, migration opened up possibilities for personal development and self-affirmation. The findings demonstrate the relevance of the intersectional approach in understanding the complexity and social conditionings of women's experiences of ageing. (RH)
ISSN: 08952841
From : http://www.tandfonline.com

Health and Social Care in the Community, vol 25, no 5, September 2017, pp 1571-1580.
Overall satisfaction levels with social care are usually high, but lower levels have been reported among black and minority ethnic (BME) service users in England. Reasons for this are poorly understood. This qualitative study therefore explored satisfaction with services among informal carer participants from five different ethnic groups. Fifty-seven carers (black Caribbean, black African, Asian Indian, Asian Pakistani and white British) were recruited from voluntary sector organisations and a local hospital in England, and took part in semi-structured interviews using cognitive interviewing and the critical incident technique. Interviews took place from summer 2013 to spring 2014. Thematic analysis of the interviews showed that participants often struggled to identify specific 'incidents', especially satisfactory ones. When describing satisfactory services, participants talked mostly about specific individuals and relationships. Unsatisfactory experiences centred on services overall. When rating services using cognitive interviewing, explicit comparisons with expectations or experiences with other services were common. Highest satisfaction ratings tended to be justified by positive personal characteristics among practitioners, trust and relationships. Lower level ratings were mostly explained by inconsistency in services, insufficient or poor care. Lowest level ratings were rare. Overall, few differences between ethnic groups were identified, although white British participants rated services higher overall, giving more top ratings. White British participants also frequently took a more overall view of services, highlighting some concerns but still giving top ratings, while South Asian carers in particular focused on negative aspects of
services. Together, these methods provide insight into what participants mean by satisfactory and unsatisfactory services. Cognitive interviewing was more challenging for some BME participants, possibly a reflection of the meaningfulness of the concept of service satisfaction to them. Future research should include comparisons between BME and white participants' understanding of the most positive parts of satisfaction scales and should focus on dissatisfied participants. (RH)

ISSN: 09660410
From: http://wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/hsc


This study focuses on the social well-being of older migrants in Italy, an important yet neglected topic in Italian political and scholarly debate. Knowledge about the lived experience of loneliness and its perceived causes was gathered by means of 34 in-depth interviews with Albanian and Moroccan migrants aged 50+ living in the Marche region. The findings show that the participants are surrounded by family, and are largely satisfied with the contact they have with relatives; this protects them from social isolation, but not from loneliness. Although they rarely express this to their spouse and friends (men) or their children (men and women), feelings of loneliness are widely experienced among the participants. The root of their loneliness largely relates to a lack of meaningful relationships with non-related age peers - having a chat, remembering old times, socialising with others when family members are busy, talking about intimate matters they cannot or will not share with relatives - which supports the argument of loneliness scholars that different types of relationships serve different functions and fulfil different needs. Having more contact with people outside the family circle, especially with co-ethnic peers, could reduce these feelings of loneliness substantially, but factors such as discrimination and lack of Italian language proficiency, free time, financial resources and nearby contact facilities are hindrances. These factors offer clues for public loneliness interventions. (RH)

ISSN: 0144686X
From: cambridge.org/aso

A collaborative exploration of the reasons for lower satisfaction with services among Bangladeshi and Pakistani social care users; by Margaret Blake ... (et al.).: Wiley, May 2017, pp 1090-1099.


This study explored underlying reasons for the expression of dissatisfaction with services among Bangladeshi and Pakistani social care users in England and investigated, using a collaborative approach, how these could be addressed. In-depth interviews were conducted in Birmingham, Leeds and London during 2012-2013 with 63 Bangladeshi, Pakistani and white British service users and 24 social care managers, social workers and care workers. A further 34 cognitive interviews were conducted within the same study. Following data analysis, three collaborative workshops involving service users and providers were held to validate the findings and to draw out policy and practice recommendations. Analysis of the cognitive interviews showed that higher dissatisfaction among Bangladeshi and Pakistani service users reported in social care surveys was not due to questionnaire design. Instead in-depth interviews showed that dissatisfaction across all three groups was expressed along the social care journey, including accessing care, communication with social workers and the nature of care received. While many issues were common to all three groups, cultural differences also emerged as affecting experiences of social care. These included misunderstandings about family roles in care; gender issues, especially relating to women; language and communication barriers, alongside the need for a more nuanced approach to ethnic 'matching'; and continuing limited cultural understanding among care workers. The collaborative workshops identified practical actions that could address some of the issues identified. These covered raising awareness of services within communities; improving support for informal carers; service user input to assessments; consistent and ongoing sharing of information; improving access; and more efforts to diversify and appropriately train the social care workforce. In conclusion, the paper presents the reality of dissatisfaction among these groups and argues for more action involving communities and service providers to address these persistent issues collaboratively. (JL)

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From: wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/hsc


This brief paper highlights some important messages in the literature pertaining to community care for older Aboriginal Australians. Such literature has been scarce until relatively recently. These key messages are particularly important as aged care sector reforms are implemented. The authors highlight significant research
findings concerning health, care preferences and service delivery challenges for the provision of community care for this population group. In order to to be successful, they argue, a service needs to be relevant. To be relevant, services need to take a community development approach in their development and ongoing management. (JL)

ISSN: 14406381
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This study aimed to describe demographic and socio-economic characteristics and to assess baseline health status and care needs among Japanese residents aged 60 years and over living in New South Wales, Australia. A postal questionnaire was used to survey older community-dwelling Japanese residents recruited from a number of different sources. 82 residents responded to the questionnaire (mean age: 70.5 years, range 60_85), and 56 (68.3%) were female. The respondents appeared to be socio-economically comfortable. While 63.4% of respondents noticed reduced strength and balance, and 45% had at least one chronic medical condition, the majority did not require help with personal care or domestic chores. However there were respondents who were considered at risk of subsequent development of major mobility limitations. Overall the respondents in the study demonstrated good function. There may be a role for interventional programmes aimed at maintaining functional independence. (JL)

ISSN: 14406381
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The problem of how to conceptualise elder mistreatment goes back several decades, and is especially important for ethnic minority populations, who may have perspectives that differ from the dominant society. This community-based participatory research study, which examined perceptions of mistreatment by family among 100 urban and rural older American Indians, permits a rare glimpse into how Native elders themselves understand this issue. Here, good treatment was conceptualised in terms of being taken care of, having one's needs met, and being respected. The authors found relatively high standards for how elders should be treated, such as the belief that an elder's needs should be anticipated and met without the elder needing to ask. This finding was despite widespread accounts of the mistreatment of elders within the community, largely through various acts of financial exploitation and neglect. Substance abuse and culture loss were blamed for much of the elder mistreatment that occurred in contemporary Native communities. (RH)

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From: http://www.tandfonline.com

“Communities of practice” are a popular way to promote mutual learning. The author and colleagues describe how the activities of the Culture and Ethnicity Community of Practice are making a difference to the work of Admiral Nurses. (RH)
ISSN: 13518372
From: www.careinfo.org

People from South Asian backgrounds present to dementia services relatively late, often responding to crises. The authors aimed to devise and validate a theory of planned behaviour questionnaire to measure attitudes that predict medical help-seeking for UK-based South Asian people, to assess the effectiveness of future interventions promoting earlier help-seeking. Focus groups were used to establish the content validity of culturally relevant questionnaire items, then participants were asked to complete the questionnaire. The authors analysed reliability and validity and established the concurrent validity of questionnaire attitudes through
correlation with willingness to seek help from a doctor for memory problems. They also correlated the scale with knowledge of dementia. The strongest predictor of willingness to seek help was perceived social pressure from significant others around help-seeking; these attitudes were associated with beliefs about the views of family members and embarrassment around help-seeking. Willingness to seek help was also strongly associated with attitudes about the benefits of seeing a doctor for memory problems, attitudes that were related to specific beliefs about what doctors can do to help. Attitudes in the questionnaire predicted 77% of variance in willingness to seek help, but no relationship was found with dementia knowledge. The authors present the Attitudes of People from Ethnic Minorities to Help-Seeking for Dementia (APEND) questionnaire, a valid and reliable measure of attitudes that influence help-seeking for dementia in people from South Asian backgrounds, which could assess the impact of intervention studies. It is suggested that interventions target attitudes specified here, rather than dementia knowledge. (JL) ISSN: 08856230 From: www.orangejournal.org

Discrimination and psychiatric disorders among older African Americans; by Dawne M Mouzon, Robert Joseph Taylor, Verna M Keith (et al): Wiley Blackwell, February 2017, pp 175-182. International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry, vol 32, no 2, February 2017, pp 175-182. This study examined the impact of everyday discrimination (both racial and non-racial) on the mental health of older African Americans. This analysis was based on the older African American subsample of the National Survey of American Life. The authors examined the associations between everyday discrimination and both general distress and psychiatric disorders as measured by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV). Six dependent variables were examined: lifetime mood disorders, lifetime anxiety disorders, any lifetime disorder, number of lifetime disorders, depressive symptoms as measured by the 12-item Center for Epidemiological Scale of Depression (CES-D), and serious psychological distress as measured by the Kessler 6 (K6). Overall racial and non-racial everyday discrimination were consistently associated with worse mental health for older African Americans. Older African Americans who experienced higher levels of overall everyday discrimination had higher odds of any psychiatric disorder, any lifetime mood disorder, any lifetime anxiety disorder and more lifetime DSM-IV disorders, in addition to elevated levels of depressive symptoms and serious psychological distress. These findings were similar for both racial discrimination and non-racial discrimination. This study documents the harmful association of not only racial discrimination, but also non-racial (and overall) discrimination with the mental health of older African Americans. Specifically, discrimination is negatively associated with mood and anxiety disorders as well as depressive symptoms and psychological distress. (JL) ISSN: 08856230 From: www.orangejournal.org

Ethnic elders and pension protection in the United Kingdom; by Athina Vlachantoni, Zhixin Feng, Maria Evandrou, Jane Falkingham: Cambridge University Press, May 2017, pp 1025-1049. Ageing and Society, vol 37, no 5, May 2017, pp 1025-1049. Pension receipt in later life is determined by the way in which individuals' pension contributions and circumstances over the life-course interact with eligibility rules. Within the British context, such pensions relate to sources such as the State Pension, an occupational or private pension, and Pension Credit. Existing research shows that membership of certain ethnic groups is associated with a lower likelihood of receiving occupational or private pensions. Data from Understanding Society (a longitudinal survey) allows us to build on existing evidence, by examining the factors associated with the receipt of three different kinds of pension income - State, occupational or private, and Pension Credit - among older men and women from separate Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups. The results show that belonging to certain BME groups reduces one's chances of receiving the State Pension, or an occupational or private pension, but increases the chance of receiving Pension Credit. The gender-specific analysis shows that these results hold true for many BME groups of men, whereas among women, only Pakistani women are less likely than White British women to receive an occupational or private pension. Such findings provide up-to-date empirical evidence that ethnic inequalities in pension protection are still evident, and contribute to the increasingly important debate in the United Kingdom and elsewhere regarding migrants' social security and welfare over the life-course and in later life. (RH) ISSN: 0144686X From: cambridge.org/aso
The experiences of reciprocity among Filipino older adults in Canada: intergenerational, transnational, and community considerations; by Ilyan Ferrer, Shari Brotman, Amanda Grenier.: Taylor and Francis, May-June 2017, pp 313-327.

The aim of this study was to illustrate the concept of reciprocity in the context of immigrant families. The authors recommend that the definition of reciprocity should account for exchanges beyond the immediate family, and render visible the simultaneous location of older people as care recipients and providers, and care arrangements across generations, borders, community and time. Adopting a critical ethnographic study on the ageing and care experiences of older Filipinos in Canada, this article analyses data from extended observations and in-depth semi-structured interviews with 18 older people, 6 adult children and 13 community stakeholders. Findings highlight the unique configurations of care among the Filipino community whereby older people engage in care exchange as active participants across intergenerational, transnational and fictive kin networks.

(JL)
ISSN: 01634372
From: http://www.tandfonline.com

The specific needs of Irish people in England are often overlooked. What does this mean for culturally sensitive dementia care? This article reviews literature which seems to confirm the "invisibility" of the Irish in England. As memory declines, a culturally appropriate Irish environment (including religious settings) become more important to this population.

(RH)
ISSN: 13518372
From: www.careinfo.org

The aim of this study was to investigate the impact of intensive grandchild care on depressive symptoms among grandparents. The study used data from 2008 to 2012 of the Korea Longitudinal Study of Aging. Using the data from 2008 at baseline, data included 5,129 individuals aged 50 years and more without depression with at least one grandchild. A generalised estimating equation was used to investigate the impact of intensive grandchild care on depression. Investigated factors included the intensity of grandchild care, measured by hours spent caring for a grandchild per week: (i) none (0 h); (ii) non-intensive grandchild care (1-39 hours per week); and intensive grandchild care (40 hours or more per week). Depressive symptoms were measured using the 10-item Center for Epidemiological Studies Depression scale. Among the participants 3.0% were providing non-intensive grandchild care, and 1.9% were providing intensive grandchild care. Compared with grandparents providing no grandchild care, those who provided intensive grandchild care experienced reduced depression. Men providing intensive grandchild care experienced a greater reduction in depression compared with women providing grandchild care. Grandparents who were receiving financial support from adult children were more likely to experience reduced depression than those receiving no such support. The results of this study reveal that intensive grandchild care is associated with lower levels of depression among older adults, particularly men. The findings emphasise the importance of encouraging older adults to participate in grandchild care, regardless of gender.

(JL)
ISSN: 08856230
From: http://www.orangejournal.org

The impact of personalisation on people from Chinese backgrounds: qualitative accounts of social care experience; by Fiona Irvine ... (et al.).: Wiley, May 2017, pp 878-887.
The purpose of this study was to provide an opportunity to hear the voices of people from Chinese backgrounds and their experiences of personalisation, with a particular focus on personal budgets. The study used individual semi-structured interviews and focus groups to collect data from physically disabled people from Chinese backgrounds who lived in England, were aged between 18 and 70, and received social care. Data were analysed using an iterative and thematic approach, with early analysis informing the subsequent analytical rounds. The findings revealed that personalisation has the potential to transform the lives of people from Chinese backgrounds, especially when tailored support is available for people to understand and access personal budgets and put them to creative use. However the impact of personalisation is barely evident because few eligible individuals access personal budgets or participate in co-production. This is related to a lack of encouragement
Interventions for healthy aging among mature Black lesbians: recommendations gathered through community-based research; by Kristie L Seelman, Mary Anne Adams, Tonia Poteat.: Taylor and Francis, 2017, pp 530-542. (RH)

Predictors of suicidal ideation in Korean American older adults: analysis of the Memory and Aging Study of Koreans (MASK); by Peter J Na, Kim B Kim, Su Leon Lee-Tauler (et al.).: Wiley, December 2017, pp 1272-1279. (JL)

Perceptions of dementia and use of services in minority ethnic communities; a scoping exercise; by Sahdia Parveen, Carol Peltier, Jan R Oyebode.: Wiley Blackwell, March 2017, pp 734-742. (JL)

Health and Social Care in the Community, vol 25, no 2, March 2017, pp 734-742. (RH)

The aim of this study was to investigate the prevalence and predictors of suicidal ideation among Korean American older adults and assess the self-rated mental health of Korean American older adults with suicidal ideation with or without depression. The Memory and Aging Study of Koreans was a cross-sectional, epidemiologic study of community-dwelling Korean American older adults living in the Baltimore-Washington area. Participants were interviewed using the Korean version of the Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9K). In addition demographic information, self-rated mental health and self-rated physical health status were obtained. 14.7% of Korean American older adults reported suicidal ideation. Predictors of suicidal ideation included living alone, major or minor depression (diagnosed by the PHQ-9K), shorter duration of residency in the US and poorer self-rated mental health. Of those who reported suicidal ideation 64% did not have depression. However their self-rated mental health was as poor as that of those with major or minor depression but without suicidal ideation. Suicidal ideation without depression was common among Korean American older adults. For this group of elders with poor self-rated mental health future studies should look to improving early detection of suicide risks and developing feasible suicide prevention interventions. (JL)

ISSN: 09856230
From: http://www.orangejournal.org
Women are living with HIV into middle and older age and are likely to face multiple comorbidities and stressors as they age. This study focused on understanding how women who experience multiple forms of oppression and ongoing adversity are still able to adapt and stand strong. Using a theoretical framework of resilience and a feminist research ideology, interviews of eight middle-aged and older African American women living with HIV were analysed. Despite experiences of HIV-related discrimination, trauma and violence, these women demonstrated a remarkable ability to adapt and maintain support. Implications for research and practice are discussed. (RH)
ISSN: 08952841
From: http://www.tandfonline.com

Role of art centres for Aboriginal Australians living with dementia in remote communities; by Melissa Lindeman, Paulene Mackell, Xiaoping Lin ... (et al.).: Wiley, June 2017, pp 128-133.
The objective of this study was to explore the role art centres in remote communities play for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians living with dementia. A comprehensive literature search was undertaken with no restrictions on articles regarding year of publication. Art programmes were found to be of benefit to both people living with dementia and their carers, particularly when programmes were administered in environments that were culturally revered. Findings indicated that remote art centres play a key role in maintaining traditions, culture and practices unique to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, but there is a gap in knowledge regarding how they cater for the needs of people with dementia. Addressing this gap will be helpful in remote areas where prevalence of dementia is up to five times that of non-Aboriginal people, and there are limited health and support services. Further research is required to explore strengths and gaps of current practices. (JL)
ISSN: 14406381
From: http://www.wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/ajag

America is undergoing a number of demographic transitions that will impact on society. By 2050 it is projected that there will be a decline in the proportion of White people but an increase in the proportion of Black, Asian and Hispanic people. As a result, these population projections will yield an increase in the number of ethnic older adults. These shifts require that minority ethnic ageing be placed at the forefront of research, practice and policy agendas at the local, state and national levels. This special issue contains an introduction followed by four articles which between them aim to stimulate discourse about minority ageing using a life-course perspective. Topics covered include: African American families’ responses to mild cognitive impairment; biopsychosocial risk factors for falls among older African Americans; Black-White differences in pathways to late-life functional limitations; and variability in late-life functional limitations among White, Black and Hispanic older adults. (JL)
ISSN: 01640275
From: journals.sagepub.com/home/roa

As Chinese immigrants in the United Kingdom age, they experience an increasing need to access health and care services. However, it has been reported that older Chinese immigrants have difficulties in accessing these services. This study explored the experiences of this population in using health and care services and the strategies that they adopted to address their difficulties. A grounded theory method with a two-staged research design was used. Stage 1 explored the participants’ experiences of ageing and use of health and social care services through focus group interviews. Stage 2 investigated the strategies individuals used to support access to and use of services through individual interviews. Forty-four older Chinese people and 15 supporters participated in interviews during August 2011 and May 2013. These older Chinese immigrants were challenged in knowing about and in accessing services. Their difficulties were attributed to language barriers, lack of information and instrumental support, and emotional and cultural issues regarding use of health and care services. Their supporters facilitated access to services and acted as a bridge between the service and the user; therefore, they were given the title 'Bridge People'. Bridge People have different backgrounds: family and friends, public sector workers and staff from community-based Chinese organisations. The defining attributes of these supporters were: bilinguality, bicultural, multifunctionality and accessibility. There is no charge for this
support; and the relationship between the Bridge Person and recipient involves trust and influence over decisions regarding use of health and care services. Bridge People should be recognised and identified by health, social care and housing services to promote engagement and use of services by older immigrant Chinese people. (RH)

ISSN: 09660410
From: wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/hsc

Migrants are an important component of the Australian aged care workforce, and workers from Asia are the fastest-growing migrant cohort in the sector. The authors differentiate between migrants from South-East, North-East and Southern Asia and comparing them to other migrants and Australian-born workers, by using data from the 2012 National Aged Care Workforce Census and Survey to examine experiences of working in aged care, including working arrangements, job satisfaction and future work plans. The findings provide a basis for developing more targeted and nuanced workforce strategies that could help attract and retain Asian-born workers and assist in their settlement and integration. (RH)
ISSN: 23978821
From: http://policypressco/journals/international-journal-of-care-and-caring

Well-being of older Aboriginal Australians: the importance of 'keeping spirit strong'; by Kate Smith, Lianne Gilchrist.: Wiley, June 2017, pp 112-113.
This article briefly examines Aboriginal Australian world views on spirituality and well-being, particularly where the ageing population are concerned. (JL)
ISSN: 14406381
From: http://www.wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/ajag

2016

American Indian/Alaska native elders: a growing demographic that is changing how we view aging; by Jordan P Lewis.: Taylor and Francis, May-June 2016, pp 277-280.
Today, American Indian and Alaska native (AIAN) Elders are more actively engaged in their families and communities, encouraging the development of intergenerational programmes, language and cultural revitalisation, being stewards in research conducted in their communities, as well passing on their knowledge and experiences on how to live as healthy Native people. Elders have traditionally been quiet and observant of their environment. However, the current and future cohorts of Elders are advocates, leaders, and culture bearers for their families and communities, and they are now in positions of leadership. Western society acknowledges the value of traditional knowledge; and AIAN Elders are viewed as exemplars of healthy ageing, and their lessons and experiences can be attributed to our own lives. This commentary highlights the paradigm shift in how society views older adults, specifically AIAN Elders and their role in health and well-being. It is one of four articles in this issue of Journal of Gerontological Social Work which focus on indigenous Elders. (RH)
ISSN: 01634372
From: http://www.tandfonline.com

Following service user requests, a culturally adopted version of Cognitive Stimulation Therapy (CST, A L Spector et al, 2001) was delivered in Punjabi at Slough Memory Clinic between May and August 2014. As far as the authors know, this was the first time CST had been delivered in a non-English language within a UK memory clinic (S Sharma, 2014). In a live, symbiotic manner, Punjabi group members led the adaptation process of the CST programme to suit their cultural requirements. This article highlights the importance of service user involvement in both the planning and adaptation stages of Punjabi CST. (RH)
ISSN: 20528914
From: http://www.bps.org.uk/newtworks-and-communities/member-microsite/dcp-faculty-psychology-older-people-fpop
Communities can't be left to 'look after their own'; by David Truswell.: Hawker Publications, November-December 2016, pp 26-28.


Black and minority ethnic (BAME) families are known to play a key role in providing social support and care for their older relatives: they 'look after their own'. There is evidence, though, that there are higher rates of vascular dementia and early onset dementia in this population, compared with UK White people. The author and colleagues describe how the organisation Culture Dementia UK works to raise awareness about dementia in the Afro-Caribbean and other UK minority ethnic communities, and to improve support through partnership working. (RH)
ISSN: 13518372
From: www.careinfo.org

Dementia among gypsies and travellers; by Mary Tilki.: Hawker Publications, July/August 2016, pp 12-14.

Journal of Dementia Care, vol 24, no 4, July/August 2016, pp 12-14.

This is the first of two articles looking at the impact of dementia on gypsies and travellers. It looks at the difficulties and challenges for services, which include: a shortage of sufficient, decent traveller sites; a culture of self-reliance; negative experience of trying to obtain social care; and barriers to access to health and social care services in general for this group. (RH)
ISSN: 13518372
From: www.careinfo.org

The experiences of Indian migrant care home staff working with people with dementia: a pilot study exploring cultural perspectives; by Brandon Ow Yong, Jill Manthorpe.: Emerald, 2016, pp 3-13.


Little is known about migrant Indian care workers working in long-term care facilities for people with dementia in England. In the light of political interest in immigration to the UK and continued staff shortages in parts of the social care sector, this paper aims to remedy such lack of information. This pilot study investigated the experiences of workplace acculturation among 12 migrant Indian care workers who were employed in English care homes. Qualitative face-to-face interviews were conducted in 2013. Analysis of the interviews was conducted using principles of interpretative phenomenological analysis. Five themes emerged from the analysis along an acculturation timeline. First, during the first six months of their employment, the migrant care workers recalled feeling vulnerable, seemingly marked by a sense of insecurity and an overwhelming state of cognitive burden within an unfamiliar cultural context. Second, simultaneously, the migrants felt perturbed about their new role as direct care workers. Third, few had been able to draw on their networks of friends and relatives to build up knowledge of their new work environments before starting care home employment. Fourth, two years into the work, although they reported feeling better adapted, psychological and socio-cultural adjustments were still thought to be needed. Fifth, most participants retained their ambition to be recognised as a qualified nurse in the UK, and to pursue a nursing career outside the social care sector. As this is a pilot study in which 12 migrant Indian care home workers were interviewed, further interviews might provide a greater range of views and experiences. The care homes that participated in this research were in the London region, where staff shortages are common in dementia services such as care homes. The findings suggest a need for employers and human resource managers to respond to the specific needs of Indian and other migrants working with older people resident in care homes. Such responses should reflect the timeline of their acculturation; and employers need also to acknowledge and address aspirations to move on to NHS work. To the best of the authors' knowledge, this study is unique in considering Indian care workers specifically as a substantial part of the migrant care workforce in the UK. It offers information about their perceptions, and suggests practical human response and managerial initiatives. (RH)
ISSN: 13663666
From: www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/wwop.htm

Haudenosaunee grandmothers caring for their grandchildren: the process of assuming the caregiving role; by Lori Hill.: Taylor and Francis, May-June 2016, pp 281-295.


This grounded theory study aims to understand the processes, motivations and reasons for Aboriginal grandmothers in Canada assuming the full-time caregiving role for their grandchildren. Fifteen Haudenosaunee grandmothers who were from the Six Nations community (an area some 25km southwest of Hamilton, Ontario) participated in this study. The results indicate that a series of complex factors, circumstances and processes contributed to them caring for their grandchildren. Of particular significance is that, prior to assuming their full-time caregiving roles, they had intermittently cared for their grandchildren as a means of preventing family breakdown. Many of them were accustomed to this type of care arrangement, as over half of the grandmothers...
had been cared for by their grandmothers or great-grandmothers. Ultimately, they cared for their grandchildren as a means of “keeping the state’s hands off” their grandchildren and avoiding child welfare involvement. Furthermore, the women in this study served important, vital roles for healing in Aboriginal families and communities. This is one of four articles in this issue of Journal of Gerontological Social Work which focus on indigenous Elders. (RH)

ISSN: 01634372
From: http://www.tandfonline.com

The health of older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples; by Dina LoGiudice.: Wiley, June 2016, pp 82-85.
The health of Aboriginal Australians is poorer than that of all other Indigenous cultures in developed nations, and recent studies suggest high rates of dementia and other conditions that are common in old age. This has implications for health promotion, provision of services and planning for older age in these communities. This article provides an overview on the health of older Aboriginal Australians. (JL)
ISSN: 14406381
From: http://www.wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/ajag

Indigenous peoples around the world endure health and social disparities. In the United States, such disparities are typically ameliorated through conventional care services and organisations. This ethnographic multi-site study was conducted over 12 months of fieldwork across urban, rural and remote village sites in Alaska, to examine points of tension that characterise culturally pluralistic care services in the United States, specifically Alaska, within context of Indigenous colonial histories. This work incorporates relational and participatory action research principles with Alaska Native Elders. Ethnographic evidence was collected through multiple methods, including field notes, documents and interviews, with ethnographic analysis involving atlas.ti. Alaska Native Elders describe salient points of tension that characterise Alaska’s conventional care services through the following insights: generational curses - a pain; prejudice on both sides - wounded; and value-systems clash - fighting. This article concludes with discussion about collective anxieties and implications for care services. This is one of four articles in this issue of Journal of Gerontological Social Work which focus on indigenous Elders. (RH)
ISSN: 01634372
From: http://www.tandfonline.com

Health and Social Care in the Community, vol 24, no 6, November 2016, pp 769-778.
In the UK, stroke is the third most common cause of death for women, and the incidence in African Caribbean women is higher than that in the general population. Stroke burden has major consequences for the physical, mental and social health of African Caribbean women. In order to adjust to life after stroke, individuals affected employ a range of strategies which may include personal, religious (church) or spiritual support (i.e. prayer), individual motivation or resignation to life with a disability. This study explored these areas through the coping mechanisms that African Caribbean women utilised post stroke, in the context of stroke recovery and lifestyle modification efforts needed to promote healthy living post-stroke. A qualitative approach using interpretative phenomenological analysis was adopted. Seven women were recruited to the study. Semi-structured, in-depth interviews were audio recorded and were transcribed verbatim. Data were analysed using a four-stage framework: familiarisation, sense making, developing themes, and data refinement and analysis. Three main themes on coping emerged: the need to follow medical rules to manage stroke; strength and determination; and the use of religion and faith to cope with life after stroke. These findings illustrate both a tension between religious beliefs and the medical approach to stroke, and highlight the potential benefits that religion and the church can play in stroke recovery. Implications for practice include acknowledgement and inclusion of religion- and church-based health promotion in post-stroke recovery. (RH)
ISSN: 09660410
From: wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/hsc
The authors examined structures of (trans)national mother_child relationships in adulthood among non-Western immigrants in the Netherlands, and assessed the impact of acculturation on these intergenerational ties. Turkish, Moroccan, Surinamese and Antillean respondents to the Netherlands Kinship Panel Study (NKPS) were selected, whose mother lived in the Netherlands (N = 360) or abroad (N = 316). First, extending a previous typology of immigrant mother_child relations in the Netherlands, Latent Class Analysis was conducted for transnational relations. As expected, combining information about given and/or received emotional and financial support resulted in an emotional-interdependent and detached transnational mother_child relationship. Second, acculturation effects were estimated by using relationship assignment as a dependent variable, performing Logistic Regressions on the uni-national and transnational sample. Findings were mixed, suggesting acculturation impacts differently on family relations within and across borders. Overall, the results demonstrate the importance of reciprocal affective ties in a transnational context (also in the absence of financial or practical support), and show the relevance of distinguishing different facets of acculturation. (RH)
ISSN: 0144686X
From: journals.cambridge.org/aso

Ageing and Society, vol 36, no 7, August 2016, pp 1459-1482.
Immigration disrupts the bonding process in families. Maintaining close relationships with adult children can be an important protective factor for older immigrants’ health and well-being. This quantitative study examined factors associated with close parent-child relationships in a purposive sample of 236 older Chinese immigrants in Los Angeles who provided information regarding 365 children. Two-level regression models were estimated to investigate factors contributing to cohesive parent-child relationships among these older adults. The findings showed that co-residence, a characteristic that distinguishes immigrant families from most non-immigrant families, was associated with lower parent-child relationship quality. Frequent contact was associated with closer relationships. While receiving instrumental and monetary support from children was associated with favourable ratings of relationships with children, providing such support to children was not related to parents' assessment of relationship quality. Parental perceptions of children being respectful was also associated with better relationship quality ratings. Overall, the findings demonstrate how family-related changes in the immigration context shape parent-child relationships in later life. Implications for future research and practice are provided. (RH)
ISSN: 0144686X
From: journals.cambridge.org/aso

This pilot project asked, 'How do ethnically diverse older adult residents of assisted living (AL) facilities in British Columbia (BC) experience quality of life? And, what role, if any, do organisational and physical environmental features play in influencing how quality of life is experienced?' The study was conducted at three AL sites in BC: two ethnoculturally targeted and one non-targeted. Environmental audits at each site captured descriptive data on policies, fees, rules, staffing, meals, activities, and the built environment of the AL building and neighbourhood. Using a framework that understands the quality of life of older adults to be contingent on their capability to pursue 5 conceptual attributes - attachment, role, enjoyment, security and control - the authors conducted 3 focus groups with residents (1 per site) and 6 interviews with staff (2 per site). Attributes were linked to the environmental features captured in the audits. All dimensions of the environment - especially organisational - influence tenants' capability to attain the attributes of quality of life, most importantly control. Although many tenants accept the trade-off between increased safety and diminished control that accompanies a move into AL, more could be done to minimize that loss. Social workers can advocate for the necessary multi-sectoral changes. (RH)
ISSN: 01634372
From: http://www.tandfonline.com
Reaching out effectively to gypsies and travellers; by Mary Tilki.: Hawker Publications, September-October 2016, pp 12-14.
In the second of two articles on the impact of dementia on gypsies and Traveller communities, the author and colleagues look at how service commissioners and providers can reach out effectively. The article draws attention to the available evidence and suggests other useful information resources. (RH)
ISSN: 13518372
From: www.careinfo.org

Risk and protective factors for depressive symptoms among indigenous older adults: intimate partner violence (IPV) and social support; by Soonhee Roh, Catherine E Burnette, Kyoung Hag Lee (et al).: Taylor and Francis, May-June 2016, pp 316-331.
Research on depression and intimate partner violence (IPV) experienced by Indigenous older adults is virtually non-existent. Given the associations between IPV and depression and their disproportionately high rates among Indigenous peoples in a context of historical oppression, this inquiry examines how IPV and social support are associated with depressive symptoms for Indigenous older adults. The authors expand the knowledge base on IPV in later life, which primarily focuses on female samples, by including older men. It was predicted that: IPV will be positively associated with depressive symptoms; and levels of social support will be negatively associated with depressive symptoms. Hierarchical regression analyses of data from a sample of Indigenous older adults (N = 233) in the Upper Midwest of the US indicated that physical aggression (but not psychological aggression, sexual coercion, injury or negotiation) was positively associated with depressive symptoms, whereas social support was negatively associated with depressive symptoms. This is one of four articles in this issue of Journal of Gerontological Social Work which focus on indigenous Elders. (RH)
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From: http://www.tandfonline.com

Satisfaction with social care services among South Asian and White British older people: the need to understand the system; by Rosalind Willis, Priya Khambhaita, Pathik Pathak, Maria Evandrou.: Cambridge University Press, August 2016, pp 1364-1387.
Ageing and Society, vol 36, no 7, August 2016, pp 1364-1387.
National surveys show that people from minority ethnic groups tend to be less satisfied with social care services compared with the white population, but do not show why. Research indicates that barriers to accessing services include lack of information, perceptions of cultural inappropriateness, and normative expectations of care. Less research has examined the experience of minority ethnic service users after they access services. This study conducted in-depth interviews with 82 South Asian and White British service users and family carers, the majority of whom were older people. Thematic analysis was used. The key theme was understanding the social care system. Participants with a good understanding of the system were more able to adapt and achieve control over their care. Participants with a poor understanding were uncertain about how to access further care, or why a service had been refused. More White British than South Asian participants had a good understanding of the system. There was more in common between the South Asian and White British participants’ experiences than might have been expected. Language was an important facilitator of care for South Asian participants, but ethnic matching with staff was less important. Recommendations include better communication throughout the care process to ensure service users, and carers should have a clear understanding of social care services and hence a better experience. (RH)
ISSN: 0144686X
From: journals.cambridge.org/aso

Upon learning from the community: surveying dementia awareness in South East Asian communities; by Ian Scott, Faye Barrow, Serena Sharma.: British Psychological Society, January 2016, pp 50-57.
The Department of Health (DH) has highlighted the need to increase early diagnosis of dementia, increase the uptake of intervention following diagnosis, and reduce stigma of this debilitating condition (National dementia strategy, DH, 2009). Further, previous authors have highlighted the need to deliver culturally tailored services (C M Geibel et al, 2014; V Seabrooke & A Milne, 2004). An opportunity arose to learn about the perspective of dementia from a cross-section of the local Punjabi community who were attending a Dementia Information Group. Over a 5-week programme, the authors conducted a short dementia survey to members of the local Punjabi community. Results indicate that respondents hold some positive constructions of dementia and services, although some perspectives reflecting stigma and concerns about help-seeking were evident. Limitations of this study and recommendations for further research are briefly discussed. (RH)

The objective of this systematic review was to identify primary health care or aged care strategies that have or could support the well-being of older Indigenous peoples, with a particular focus on Australia and Canada. A search was undertaken of relevant databases in which papers which reported on the perspectives of older Indigenous peoples, community members and provider participants were included. Findings were pooled using a meta-aggregative approach. Three high-level synthesised findings _ maintaining Indigenous identity, promoting independence and delivering culturally safe care _ were believed to be important for supporting the well-being of older Indigenous peoples. As physical independence often diminishes with age, having the support of culturally safe primary health care and aged care services that understand the importance of maintaining an Indigenous identity and promoting independence will be crucial for the well-being of older Indigenous peoples. (JL) ISSN: 14406381 From: http://www.wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/ajag

“You don't know what you are saying 'Yes' and what you are saying 'No' to”: hospital experiences of older people from minority ethnic communities; by Jo Ellins, Jon Glasby.: Cambridge University Press, January 2016, pp 42-83. Ageing and Society, vol 36, no 1, January 2016, pp 42-83.

Improving responsiveness to the needs of older people from minority ethnic communities has been emphasised as a goal in England since the publication of the National Service Framework for Older People (NSF) in 2001. Despite this, people from minority ethnic groups consistently give poorer ratings of their health services than 'majority' populations, both in England and across many other health-care systems. Language barriers have been shown to play a particularly important role, and appear to be a stronger predictor of perceived quality of care than ethnic origin per se. This paper reports findings from a larger study exploring older people's experiences of care transitions, focusing on the findings from one case study area which explored the hospital and discharge experiences of older people from minority ethnic communities. A participatory approach was adopted, with older people from the local area collaborating in the design, delivery and analysis of the research as 'co-researchers'. Twenty-four in-depth narrative interviews were carried out with people who had experienced a recent hospital stay as a patient or a family member providing care and support. Our findings show that many aspects of the hospital experience, including the desire for personalised and humanistic approaches to care, are important to older people irrespective of ethnic background. However, older people from minority ethnic communities can also face language and cultural barriers which negatively affect the quality and experience of care. People who had limited English proficiency struggled to understand, communicate and participate in their care. Where professional services were not available or requested, interpreting was provided informally by other patients, family members, hospital staff in clinical and domestic roles, or not at all. We conclude that targeted strategies are required to ensure appropriate and effective hospital services for a multicultural population. (RH) ISSN: 0144686X From: journals.cambridge.org/aso

2015


The aim of the present study was to examine processes of aged care needs assessment for Aboriginal people in remote central Australia to assist development of appropriate models of aged care. This was a qualitative study involving 11 semistructured interviews with aged care assessors and two focus groups with Aboriginal community members. The study reported four major themes concerning how needs assessments relate to realities of service delivery: cultural perspectives on aged care, context of service delivery, equity and access to services, and programme (mis)alignments. Disparities were found to exist between assessment recommendations and service availability, with a potential mismatch between Aboriginal understandings of needs, interpretations by individual assessment staff and programme guidelines. Incorporating a conceptual framework, such as the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health, into service guidelines
to ensure structured consideration of a person's holistic needs may assist, as will building the capacity of communities to provide the level and type of services required. (JL)

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From: wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/ajag

Barriers to access and minority ethnic carers' satisfaction with social care services in the community: a systematic review of qualitative and quantitative literature; by Nan Greenwood, Ruth Habibi, Raymond Smith, Jill Manthorpe.: Wiley Blackwell, January 2015, pp 64-78.

Health and Social Care in the Community, vol 23, no 1, January 2015, pp 64-78.

As populations age, the numbers of carers overall and numbers of carers from minority ethnic groups in particular are rising. Evidence suggests that carers from all sections of the community and particularly carers from minority groups often fail to access care services. This may relate to barriers in accessing services and service dissatisfaction. The aim of this systematic review was to identify and summarise minority ethnic carers' perceptions of barriers to accessing community social care services and their satisfaction with these services if accessed. The following databases were searched from their start until July 2013: Social Care Online, Social Policy and Research, Scopus, PsychINFO, HMIC, ASSIA, MEDLINE, Embase, CINAHL Plus and AMED. Thirteen studies met the inclusion criteria. Most investigated either barriers to access or satisfaction levels, although three explored both. Only 4 studies investigated minority ethnic carers' satisfaction with social care, although 12 studies reported perceived barriers to accessing services. Few studies compared minority ethnic carers' perceptions with majority ethnic groups, making it difficult to identify issues specific to minority groups. Most barriers described were potentially relevant to all carers, irrespective of ethnic group. They included attitudinal barriers such as not wanting to involve outsiders, or not seeing the need for services and practical barriers such as low awareness of services and service availability. Issues specific to minority ethnic groups included language barriers and concerns about services' cultural or religious appropriateness. Studies investigating satisfaction with services reported a mixture of satisfaction and dissatisfaction. Barriers common to all groups should not be underestimated; and a better understanding of the relationship between perceived barriers to accessing services and dissatisfaction with services is needed before the experiences of all carers can be improved. (RH)

ISSN: 09660410

From: wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/hsc


Hospice UK and Together for Short Lives commissioned this report with the aim of learning how hospices and British Muslim communities can mutually strengthen engagement, so that hospices may provide the support needed by children and adults. Using research carried on over a 6-month period, the report looks at what is important to Muslims towards the end of life, and the barriers to engagement between hospices and Muslims in Britain. It also covers learning from national workshops, from the data, and from examples of best practice. Recommendations focus on three core areas. First, hospices and service providers should include information on religion and ethnicity in their records, to be used at registration of death and in preparing burial services. Second, hospices need to communicate and engage with local Muslim organisations, for example through community radio and television. Third, hospices, service providers and clinicians should seek specialist training programmes to better understand the "last journey" protocols and services. Joint training with mosques and Muslim burial services would also help in understanding what is needed from when a patient dies to the completion of burial rites of passage. (RH)

From: https://www.hospiceuk.org/what-we-offer/publications?kwrds=Bridging%20the%20gap


Research on care managers' experiences of the needs assessment process is scarce, even though the literature on needs assessment practice is relatively extensive. One of the research areas that has not received attention yet is the way in which care managers experience the challenges that are presumably posed by increased ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious diversity among prospective elder care recipients. This article addresses this research gap. It is based on a project that aims to shed light on care managers' experiences of the needs assessment process in general and cross-cultural needs assessment meetings in particular. The data derive from focus group interviews with 60 care managers in Sweden (N=60). This article focuses on care managers' experiences of needs assessment with older people who have immigrated late in life, who come from cultures considered different from the Swedish one and who have not mastered the Swedish language. This was the group of older people that the care managers mostly thought of when asked to describe their experiences of
cross-cultural needs assessment meetings. The interviewed care managers discussed the challenges that these meetings present, which were related to communication due to language barriers, different demands and expectations, insecurity regarding what is customary in such meetings, as well as perceived passivity among late-in-life immigrants. The article discusses the contributions of the findings to research on care management practices in general, as well as to needs assessment practice in particular. (RH)

ISSN: 0144686X
From: journals.cambridge.org/aso

Contracts and commissioning: what's happening to social care services for black and minority ethnic older people; by Valerie Lipman.; Emerald, 2015, pp 85-93.
Working with Older People, vol 19, no 2, 2015, pp 85-93.
This paper reports a mixed method study exploring current provision of targeted social care services for the growing populations of black and minority ethnic (BME) older people in England and Wales. Following a review of the policy and research literature, 12 semi-structured interviews were undertaken in 2013/2014. Most participants were recruited from BME policy and service provider organisations and organisations focusing on older people. There is some evidence that BME voluntary organisations are experiencing disproportionately greater funding cuts than mainstream voluntary service providers. Moreover, some mainstream providers reported reducing services targeted at BME older people, while others expressed the view that choices for BME older people are likely to become more limited following recent health and equalities policy changes. Practitioners should therefore contribute to data collection about protected characteristics, such as race/ethnicity to establish whether older BME people's needs are being assessed equitably; whether access to care and support is easy; and how market-shaping at local levels can ensure a range of providers. This study provides an overview of voluntary sector provision for the growing numbers of BME older people in need of care and support, which should be useful to practitioners and service commissioners. (RH)

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From: www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/wwop.htm

The purpose of this paper was to reflect on how qualitative approaches can improve a prevalence study on older adults' violence. The paper describes how qualitative data can help frame a complex and multidimensional problem, such as older adults' violence, within the culture where it happens and therefore prevent two risks present in prevalence studies: underestimation and overestimation. In order to measure violence and violent behaviours accurately, the authors first conducted four focus groups with the target population _ older adults aged 60 and over _ and 13 in-depth interviews with older adult victims of violence. Through content analysis of focus groups and in-depth interviews the authors sought to understand how violence is perceived, defined and limited by the general population and by victims. By employing qualitative methods the authors were able to operationalise violence and then decide upon and select specific behaviours to measure, rephrase questions and develop strategies to approach the general population through telephone interviews. These qualitative approaches helped reduce participant bias in the prevalence study and therefore to minimise the risks of underestimation and overestimation. (JL)

ISSN: 14668203
From: www.emeraldinsight.com/jap.htm

Ethnic/racial minority older adults and recovery: integrating stories of resilience and hope in social work; by Atsuko Karin Matsuoka.; Oxford University Press, December 2015, pp i135-i152.
Although a recovery approach is relevant to older adults, a significant gap exists in social work literature regarding mental health recovery among ethnic/racial minority older adults. This paper explores the meaning of 'recovery' and the applicability of the Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP), a recovery-based programme, to Japanese-Canadian older adults through qualitative data collected as part of an evaluation of two WRAP workshop series in a metropolitan city in Canada, 2010-12. All eight workshop participants (two male and six female, all Japanese speakers, aged 64-89 years) took part in the study. A strength-based critical social work approach, which incorporates the understanding of resilience and hope and the intersectionality of oppression, was used to facilitate the programme. Qualitative data analysis identified key themes of the participants' workshop experiences, including reaffirming self-worth, being positive (hope), being self-reflective and mindful, supporting each other and advocating for themselves. The participants experienced positive changes in line with Jacobson and Greenley's (2001) internal and external conditions for recovery. In particular, it found an
unexpected long-term outcome: the formation of a peer support group by participants. Social work practice in recovery is discussed. (RH)
ISSN: 00453102
From: www.bjsw.oxfordjournals.org

Using data from the UK Household Longitudinal Study, this article explores patterns of employment and the odds ratios of membership in an employer's pension scheme among working-age individuals from minority ethnic groups and the White British population, taking into account factors such as migration history and public or private sector employment. Findings show that ethnicity remains a strong determinant of a person's pension protection prospects through being in paid work, being an employee and working for an employer who offers a pension scheme. However, for those working for an employer who does offer a pension scheme, the effect of ethnicity on their odds of being a member of that scheme reduces, except among Pakistani and Bangladeshi people for whom the differentials remain. Information is also given on the pension protection of Polish workers. (NH)
ISSN: 01445596
From: http://wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/spol

The globalisation of international migration has increased the ethnic diversity of most ageing populations across the Western world. This has implications for gerontological research, policy and practice, and puts our understandings of ethnicity to the test. This paper presents the different perspectives that inform ethnicity scholarship (the essentialist/primordial perspective, the structuralist/circumstantialist perspective and social constructionism). It suggests that the way in which we regard ethnicity has implications for how gerontological research is designed, how policies for old age are formulated, and how gerontological practice is shaped. Through a review of contemporary gerontological research on ethnicity published in some of gerontology's main journals, the paper discusses some of the trends observed, and concludes that most research seems to be informed by essentialism and structuralism. This suggests that the gerontological imagination on ethnicity has yet to be informed by the latest developments in ethnicity scholarship. The author urges gerontologists to broaden their understanding of ethnicity, and suggests that much could be gained if we were to let the social constructionist perspective on ethnicity and the notion of intersectionality be sources of inspiration for the gerontological imagination on ethnicity. (RH)
ISSN: 0144686X
From: journals.cambridge.org/aso

Exploring gender, age, time and space in research with older Pakistani Muslims in the United Kingdom: formalised research 'ethics' and performances on the public/private divide in 'the field'; by Maria Zubair, Christina Victor. Cambridge University Press, May 2015, pp 961-985.
Reflecting on the authors' experiences of undertaking fieldwork for the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) New Dynamics of Ageing study of 'Families and Caring in South Asian Communities', this paper maps out the key methodological and ethical challenges for researching ageing ethnic minority populations. The paper highlights the importance of developing socially appropriate research methodologies and ethical frameworks for carrying out research. Using a reflexive approach, the paper explores the significance of gender, age, time and space to the fieldwork processes and 'the field' relationships formed at various stages of the research process. In particular, it focuses on three key emergent issues which presented particular challenges for the authors and their older Pakistani Muslim participants: (a) structuring of time in daily life; (b) gendered use of public and private spaces; and (c) orality of informal social contexts and relationships. Using illustrations from fieldwork and performativities of public/private identities, the authors highlight important tensions between formalised ethical and methodological dimensions of conducting funded research and the realities of being in 'the field'. The paper concludes by emphasising the need to explore further not only the ways in which researchers can adopt more socially and culturally sensitive data collection processes and methodologies at the micro level of their interactions with research participants, but also contextualising the particular challenges experienced by researchers and their participants in terms of the wider research frameworks and agendas as well as the broader social contexts within which they live and work. (RH)
Grannies, elders, and friends: aging Aboriginal women in Toronto; by Cyndy Baskin, Caitlin J Davey.: Taylor and Francis, January 2015, pp 46-65.
The term elder, when used in the Aboriginal context, describes an older person who is a cultural and spiritual guide and has insights and understanding to transmit the wisdom of previous generations. Aboriginal seniors also have important roles in their communities, albeit without the special status awarded to elders. Both Aboriginal seniors and elders are a growing population in Canada and their numbers are expected to increase. The aim of the present study, based in Toronto, was to highlight the strengths and resiliency of 12 female Aboriginal elders and seniors as they aged together. For these women, being actively involved in their families and the Aboriginal community gave them a solid grounding in who they were, what their roles were and how they contributed to the whole. Of particular significance was the support and friendship the women offered each other through their commonalities, activities and sense of humour. (JL)

‘Health is their heart, their legs, their back’: understanding ageing well in ethnically diverse older men in rural Australia; by Harriet Radermacher, Susan Feldman.: Cambridge University Press, May 2015, pp 1011-1031.
Older men from ethnic minority communities living in a regional town in Australia were identified by a government-funded peak advocacy body as failing to access local health and support services and, more broadly, being at risk of not ageing well. A qualitative study was undertaken to explore the health and well-being of ethnic minority men growing older in a rural community, and to identify the barriers they faced in accessing appropriate services from a range of different perspectives. Individual interviews were conducted with key informants (service providers and community leaders), followed by focus groups with older men from four ethnic minority communities. The men in this study showed signs that they were at risk of poor mental and physical health, and experienced significant barriers to accessing health and support services. Furthermore, environmental, technological, social and economic changes have brought challenges for the older men as they age. Despite these challenges, this study demonstrated how work, family and ethnic identity was integral to the lives of these older men, and was, in many ways, a resource. Key informants’ perspectives mostly confirmed the experiences of the older men in this study. The discrepancies in their views about the extent of health-promoting behaviour indicate some key areas for future health intervention, services and research. (RH)

The impact of migration experiences and migration identities on the experiences of services and caring for a family member with dementia for Sikhs living in Wolverhampton, UK; by Karan Jutlla.: Cambridge University Press, May 2015, pp 1032-1054.
This article is based on qualitative research carried out with members of the Sikh community caring for a person with dementia. The aim of the research was to explore how migration experiences and life histories affect perceptions and experiences of caring for a family member with dementia for Sikhs living in Wolverhampton in the West Midlands. The research sought to provide an in-depth understanding of the experiences of Sikhs caring for their family member with dementia using narrative interviews. Twelve Sikh carers of a family member with dementia were interviewed. The findings highlight that migration experiences and migration identities are important for understanding participants’ experiences of services and experiences of caring for a family member with dementia. Person-centred dementia care as a model for practice highlights the importance of understanding life histories to support people to live well with dementia, including their family carers. This paper reinforces this message, demonstrating the impact of specific migration experiences on the experiences of caring for a family member with dementia. (RH)

Over the last century Inuit have experienced rapid social changes that have greatly impacted their way of life, health and intergenerational traditions. Although there is a growing body of research concerning Inuit youth,
relatively little is known about older Inuit. In an effort to bridge this knowledge gap, a systematic review of peer-reviewed journal articles was conducted. This review identified a dearth of research on older Inuit and highlighted limitations in service provision to this primarily rural and isolated population. Implications for policy and practice and recommendations for future research are also discussed. (JL)
ISSN: 01634372
From: http://www.tandfonline.com

The language needs of residents from linguistically diverse backgrounds in Victorian aged care facilities; by Susannah J Runci, Barbara J Eppingstall, Eva S van der Ploeg ... (et al.).: Wiley, September 2015, pp 195-198.
The present study aimed to investigate the language needs of residents of aged care facilities within the State of Victoria, Australia, and to determine what language resources were accessible to them. Postal questionnaires were sent to 586 aged care facilities, enquiring about residents' and staff members' languages and language-specific resources. The response rate was 38%. The majority of facilities had residents who spoke non-English languages, and 55 different languages were represented. Three-quarters of the facilities employed staff members who spoke to residents in non-English languages and employed language-specific resources. The metropolitan and ethnographic facilities had a greater presence of non-English-speaking residents and staff and more commonly used language-specific resources in comparison with regional and mainstream facilities. Overall the study found a large number of languages used by many residents from non-English-speaking backgrounds, with evidence of a large unmet language resource need. Unmet need was greatest in rural areas. (JL)
ISSN: 14406381
From: wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/ajag

Living arrangements and loneliness of South Asian immigrant seniors in Edmonton, Canada; by Cheuk Fan Ng, Herbert C Northcott.: Cambridge University Press, March 2015, pp 552-575.
This paper examines the relationships between self-reported loneliness and living arrangements. A structured questionnaire with some open-ended questions was administered face-to-face in English, Hindi or Punjabi to a sample of 161 South Asian immigrants aged 60+ living in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada in 2003. The majority of respondents said that they never felt lonely. More than one in three (37.3%) respondents indicated that they felt lonely occasionally, frequently or all of the time. Those living alone were significantly more likely to report feeling lonely at least occasionally than were those living with others, especially those living with their spouse in an extended family. The fact that South Asian immigrant seniors typically lived with others, often in an extended family with or without their spouse, and rarely lived alone protected them to some extent from loneliness. However, the findings showed that among those living with others, it was the amount of waking time spent alone at home and the quality of family relationships rather than living arrangement per se that significantly predicted self-reported loneliness. Nevertheless, living in a larger household was associated with spending less time alone. The authors discuss plausible influences of culture on expectations regarding family and social relationships and on the meaning of being alone, as well as practical implications for addressing loneliness in a multi-cultural society. (RH)
ISSN: 0144686X
From: journals.cambridge.org/aso

Mental health and service issues faced by older immigrants in Canada: a scoping review; by Sepali Guruge, Mary Susan Thomson, Sadaf Grace Seifi.: Cambridge University Press, December 2015, pp 431-444.
Canadian Journal on Aging, vol 34, no 4, December 2015, pp 431-444.
An ageing population and immigration-based population growth necessitate research, practice and policy focusing on the mental health of older immigrants in Canada, especially, because their mental health appears to deteriorate over time. This review focuses on what is known about the social determinants of mental health for older immigrants in Canada, and what are the barriers they face in accessing mental health services? Findings reveal, first, that the key social determinants of mental health are culture, health services and gender. Second, older immigrants use fewer mental health services than their Canadian-born counterparts, due to cultural beliefs, lack of culturally and linguistically-appropriate services, financial difficulties, and ageism. Third, regardless of the subcategories within this population, older immigrants experience mental health inequities. The research evidence provides a clear message that addressing mental health service gaps for older immigrants should be a policy and practice priority for Canada’s health care system. (RH)
ISSN: 07149808
From: journals.cambridge.org/cjg
With the on-going ageing of the United States population, resolving health disparities continues to be a prominent and worthwhile goal, particularly in the areas of promoting minority health and reducing racial/ethnic disparities. This analysis employs the 2004 and 2005 Household Component records from the Medical Expenditures Panel Survey (MEPS), which correspond to data files H89 and H97, to examine utilisation by race across the entire distribution function. More specifically, the analysis applies the behavioural model of health services utilisation, and employs a Quantile Regression (QR) framework. This is a noteworthy contribution, because the conditional mean may not be the best approximation for a skewed-location distribution. In contrast, QR is robust to outliers and scale effects, since the estimation minimises least absolute deviation. The sample consists of 2,525 older adults at least 65 years of age, with 303 corresponding to Black and 2,222 corresponding to White. Results suggest older Blacks continue to utilise health services (i.e. office or clinic visits with a physician or medical provider) at lower levels, and this is more pronounced at and below the median quantile (i.e. below the 50th cut-off). Usual source of care (USC) continues to play an important role. Beliefs surrounding the need for insurance and medical intervention are also significant and explain some of the racial disparities. Although utilisation disparities persist for older Blacks, collaborative and flexible models of care can reach this group. (RH)
ISSN: 0144686X
From: journals.cambridge.org/aso

Perspectives on ageing, later life and ethnicity: ageing research in ethnic minority contexts; by Maria Zubair, Meriel Norris. Cambridge University Press, May 2015, pp 897-916.
This special issue of Ageing and Society focuses broadly upon questions and themes relating to the current conceptualisations, representations and use of 'ethnicity' (and ethnic minority experiences) within the field of social gerontology. Among its aims is to explore the issue of 'otherness' within the predominant existing frameworks for researching those who are ageing or considered aged, compounded by the particular constructions of their ethnicity and ethnic 'difference'. The range of theoretical, methodological and empirical papers included in this collection provides some critical insights into particular facets of the current research agendas, cultural understandings and empirical focus of ethnic minority ageing research. The main emphasis is on highlighting the ways in which ethnic cultural homogeneity and 'otherness' is often assumed in research involving older people from ethnic minority backgrounds, and how wider societal inequalities are concomitantly (re)produced, within (and through) research itself - for example, based on narrowly defined research agendas and questions; the assumed age and/or ethnic differences of researchers vis-à-vis their older research participants; the workings of the formalised ethical procedures and frameworks; and the conceptual and theoretical frameworks employed in the formulation of research questions and interpretation of data. The papers examine and challenge the simplistic categorisations and distinctions often made in gerontological research based around research participants' ethnicity, age and ageing and assumed cultural differences. The papers presented reveal instead the actual complexity and fluidity of these concepts, as well as the cultural dynamism and diversity of experiences within ethnic groups. (RH)
ISSN: 0144686X
From: journals.cambridge.org/aso

Research on minority ethnic ageing remains a neglected area within mainstream race and ethnicity studies as well as that of social gerontology. This paper examines the background and reasons for this, arguing that a focus on minority ethnic issues provides a reminder of the complexity of the lifecourse, and of the diversity of ageing as a cultural, economic and social construction. The discussion reviews definitions of ethnicity and their relevance to work in social gerontology. The paper provides an account of early studies of minority ethnic ageing, identifying the strengths and limitations of this research. Later work is then considered, notably that which focuses on issues connected with the rise of transnational communities and the changing character of neighbourhoods in urban environments. The paper argues that developing research on minority ethnic ageing has become especially important for understanding the impact of globalisation on re-defining communities, relationships and identities, within and beyond nation states. It is suggested that globalisation can be seen as a product of the movement of ethnic groups. Equally, ethnic groups are themselves transformed by the possibilities created by global change. The paper concludes with suggestions for embedding work on ethnicity within research in social gerontology. (RH)
South Asian older adults with memory impairment: improving assessment and access to dementia care; by Clarissa M Giebel, Maria Zubair, David Jolley ... (et al.). Wiley Blackwell, April 2015, pp 345-356.


With increasing international migration, the mental health care of migrants and ethnic minorities is a public health priority. South Asian older adults experience difficulties in accessing services for memory impairment, dementia and mental illness. This review aimed to examine barriers and facilitators in the pathway to culturally appropriate mental health care. A literature search of appropriate databases was carried out covering the period from 1984 through to 2012. 18 studies met the eligibility criteria for the review. South Asians and health professionals highlighted several difficulties which deterred help seeking and access to care: a lack of knowledge of dementia and mental illness and of local services; stigma; culturally preferred coping strategies; and linguistic and cultural barriers in communication and decision making. To improve access for these groups, service users and providers need to be better informed: services need to be more culturally tailored, sometimes employing staff with similar cultural backgrounds; health professionals can benefit from dementia education and knowledge of local services. These factors are key to the delivery of the National Dementia Strategy in England. (JL)


Communicating well with people from ethnic minorities who have dementia is essential. The authors discuss how interpreters can help and hinder. They offer some guidelines on working with interpreters in a dementia care setting regarding when to use an interpreter; and things to consider before booking an interpreter, and before, during and after the appointment. Maintaining patient confidentiality and having an interpreter who can be impartial throughout (so not a family member) is essential. The authors conclude that attention to guidelines for working with interpreters can ensure that such interactions are both effective and culturally sensitive. (RH)


This study examined care managers' perspectives on facilitating advance care planning (ACP) with ethnically diverse older people enrolled in Wisconsin Family Care, a care programme that coordinates medical and long-term care for frail, poor older people. Seven in-depth interviews and two focus groups were conducted with 24 lead supervisors and care managers of care management teams between July and August 2008; data were analysed with qualitative thematic analysis method. Participants identified four main sources of challenges: death and dying are taboo discussion topics; the dying process is beyond human control; family and others hold decision-making responsibility; and planning for death and dying is a foreign concept. Participants' recommendations coping with these challenges were to: develop trust with elders over time; cultivate cultural knowledge and sensitivity to respect value orientations; promote designating a healthcare proxy; recognise and educate families and community leaders as critical partners in ACP; and provide practical support as needed throughout the illness experience. These findings suggest important practice implications for care managers working with increasingly diverse cultural groups of older people at the end of life. (RH)


The Bangladeshi and Pakistani communities are characterised by high levels of morbidity, deprivation and social exclusion compared with both other minority groups and the more general population. Participants in this project had moved to the UK for either work (men) or marriage (women). Most never anticipated ‘growing old’
in the UK, but only a few intended to return to Bangladesh/Pakistan when they retired. The 110 participants were 60 Pakistani (60) and 50 Bangladeshi (50 men and 60 women, all aged 50+). Data were collected by in-depth interviews lasting about an hour; only 5 interviews were conducted in English. Strong links with the local community were found to be the norm, providing vital resources in coping with growing old in a foreign land, a focus for social engagement, and support in times of celebration (weddings) or stress (bereavement). Expectations of their children providing care for old age were strong and ‘state’ care services were viewed as being used only as a last resort. However, some participants were uncertain if their expectations would be realised in the future; and others were ambivalent about having such expectations of their children. (RH)


Research on Aging, vol 36, no 1, January 2014, pp 40-71. Despite the long-held view that Latinos’ value and reliance on family leads to greater involvement of extended family in caring for sick members and reduced perception of burden, some research reports low levels of social support and high levels of distress among Latino caregivers. The author explores this seeming discrepancy in a qualitative study of 41 Latino caregivers of family members with Alzheimer’s disease (AD) interviewing them regarding the role of familism in their caregiving experience. For some it facilitates caregiving in the traditional, expected manner. Other caregivers disavow its current relevance. Yet others feel a contrast between familism, which they may value in a general, abstract way and more personal, immediate negative feelings they are experiencing from caregiving. The author discusses these complex, multidimensional findings, the variation among caregivers, and presents implications for practice, policy, and research. (RH) ISSN: 01640275

From: roa.sagepub.com


Ageing and Society, vol 34, no 5, May 2014, pp 859-875.

A group of 141,345 immigrants from the Netherlands Antilles, a former Dutch colony in the Caribbean, live in the Netherlands. An increasing number of these migrants are at or above retirement age; and for them, the question of where they want to grow old becomes relevant. It is important for people to age in a place where they feel at home, as attachment to place increases well-being in old age. In this article, the authors discuss how older Antillean migrants in the Netherlands make their house and immediate living environment into a home. The article focuses on home-making practices in a broader cultural context, and in relation to well-being. These topics are examined by drawing on qualitative life-history interviews with Antillean older people who live in a co-housing community for older adults. It turns out that objects which remind the participants of their home country play an important role in making a home. Also, the community, with people from similar backgrounds, contributes to a sense of home. Finally, the presence of children and other family members is a key motivation for a participant’s decision to age in the Netherlands. (RH) ISSN: 0144686X

From: journals.cambridge.org/aso


Ageing and Society, vol 34, no 5, May 2014, pp 877-903.

Despite international growth in policies to increase the identification and response to elder abuse and neglect, there remain considerable barriers to treating the problem. Some of these barriers may be attributed to how older adults from different racial/ethnic backgrounds define, experience and seek to remedy elder mistreatment. Using focus group discussions based on case vignettes, this paper examines how older adults from different racial and ethnic backgrounds in the United States of America perceive elder mistreatment. Five focus groups were conducted with African Americans, English-speaking Latinos, Spanish-speaking Latinos, non-Latino Whites, and African American caregivers for older adults. While similar definitions and meanings of elder abuse were expressed across the different racial/ethnic groups, Latino participants introduced additional themes of machismo, respect, love and early intervention to stop abuse, suggesting that perceptions or beliefs about elder mistreatment are determined by culture and degree of acculturation in addition to race/ethnicity. Most differences in attitudes occurred within groups, demonstrating that perceptions vary by individual as well as by culture. In identifying scenarios that constitute elder mistreatment, some participants felt that certain cases of abuse are actually the persistence of intimate partner violence into old age. Participants also indicated that
victims may prefer to tolerate mistreatment in exchange for other perceived benefits (e.g. companionship, security); and out of fear that they could be placed in an institution if mistreatment is reported. Findings suggest the need for person-centred intervention and prevention models that integrate the cultural background, care needs and individual preferences of older adults. (RH)

ISSN: 0144686X
From: journals.cambridge.org/aso

The purpose of this paper was to explore US Chinese older adults' views regarding elder abuse interventions in order to understand barriers to and facilitators of help-seeking behaviours. The study design was qualitative, using a grounded theory approach to data collection and analysis. A community-based participatory research approach was implemented to partner with the Chicago Chinese community. A total of 37 community-dwelling Chinese older adults aged 60 and above participated in focus group discussions. Participants viewed many benefits of intervention programmes. Perceived barriers were categorised under cultural, social and structural barriers. Facilitators to implement interventions included increasing education and public health awareness, integrating social support with existing community social services, as well as setting an interdisciplinary team. Perpetrator intervention strategies were also discussed. This study has wide policy and practice implications for designing and deploying interventions with respect to elder abuse outcomes. Modifying the cultural, social and structural barriers that affect the health behaviour of Chinese older adults contribute to the salience of elder abuse interventions in this under-served population. (JL)
ISSN: 14668203
From: www.emeraldinsight.com/jap.htm

The purpose of this paper was to examine the prevalence and psychosocial correlates of fear of crime in an older Chinese population. An attempt was made to test a theoretical model which integrated the vulnerability model, 'broken windows' theory, victimisation theory and risk interpretation model. A cross-sectional survey was conducted with 453 older adults from a representative sample recruited from the city of Kunming using stratified sampling methods. More than half of the study participants reported fear of one or more types of depicted common crime. By comparison, a smaller percentage reported fear of domestic violence (FDV). Correlational analysis indicated different correlates for fear of common crime (FCC) and FDV. Female gender, a younger age, poor financial and health statuses, perception of greater social instability and neighbourhood disorder, direct and/or indirect victimisation and perception of a higher risk of victimisation were significantly associated with higher levels of FCC. Limited social networks, perception of greater neighbourhood disorder, direct and/or indirect victimisation and perception of a higher risk of victimisation were salient correlates of FDV. The results of hierarchical regression analyses showed that the integrated model explained 37 and 43 percent of the variance in FCC and FDV, respectively. This study found diverse patterns in terms of the prevalence and risk factors for FCC and FDV. The findings have important implications for policy, practice and research. (JL)
ISSN: 14668203
From: www.emeraldinsight.com/jap.htm

The purpose of this paper was to review and discuss existing literature and available research findings related to understanding elder abuse and neglect in culturally diverse communities, particularly the Chinese immigrant community in Canada. The conceptual understandings of elder abuse were examined, based upon the socio-cultural context and challenges faced by ageing Chinese immigrants. Previous literature and research publications related to elder abuse and neglect related to Chinese in Canada were reviewed and synthesised. Findings showed that from a culturally diverse perspective, influence of race, ethnicity, immigrant status and cultural norms on the recognition, identification, prevention and intervention of elder abuse and neglect are important to consider. A key message for professionals working with the ageing population, particularly older immigrants from ethno-cultural minority backgrounds, is that understanding the social cultural context in which elder abuse or neglect emerges is critical. For many of the ageing Chinese immigrants in Canada, the socio-
cultural circumstances that they have experienced, their social environment, and various barriers and challenges further prevent them from being aware of this emerging concern. Cultural norms and practices have played a critical role in their access to preventive and intervention services. This paper is a first attempt in the research community to synthesise a few critical issues related to elder abuse and neglect in the ageing Chinese immigrant community in Canada. In order to provide culturally competent services, service providers should be aware of cultural differences in attitudes towards elder mistreatment, including the ways in which specific types of abuse (e.g., financial abuse) are defined within ethno-cultural communities. (JL)

ISSN: 14668203
From: www.emeraldinsight.com/jap.htm

2013

Access and acceptability of community-based services for older Greek migrants in Australia: user and provider perspectives; by Catherine Hurley, Georgia Panagiotopoulos, Michael Tsianikas ... (et al.).: Wiley, March 2013, pp 140-149.
Health and Social Care in the Community, vol 21, no 2, March 2013, pp 140-149.
In most developed nations, ageing migrants represent a growing proportion of the older population. Policies that emphasise care in the community depend on older migrants having access to formal services along with informal support, yet little is known about how older migrants experience community-based formal services. By examining the views of both Greek elders in Australia and those of formal service providers, this research fills an important gap in the literature around access to and acceptability of formal community-based services for older migrants. A research team including two Greek background researchers used existing social groups and a snowball sampling method to conduct face-to-face interviews and focus groups with 70 older Greeks in Adelaide, Australia. In addition, 22 community-based service providers were interviewed over the telephone. Results from users and providers showed that while many older Greeks experience service access issues, they also relied heavily on family for support and assistance at home. Reliance on family was both in preference to formal services or where formal services were used, to locate, negotiate and monitor such services. Common barriers identified by both groups included cost, transport and availability, but additional challenges were posed by language, literacy and cultural attitudes. Demographic changes including greater employment mobility and female workforce participation among adult children would have implications for both formal and informal care providers. Formal service providers need to ensure that services are promoted and delivered to take account of the important role of family in informal support while also addressing the access challenges posed by language and literacy. Research conducted by researchers from the same cultural background in the respondent's native language can further advance knowledge in this area. (JL)
ISSN: 09660410
From: www.wileyonlinelibrary.com/journals/hsc

The accommodation experiences of older gypsies and travellers: personalisation of support and coalition policy; by Nicky Hodges, Sarah Cemlyn.: Cambridge University Press, April 2013, pp 205-219.
This article reports on a study exploring the accommodation experiences of older Gypsies and Travellers and how specialist Supporting People services can enhance their wellbeing and social inclusion. The findings suggest that through development of pro-active, culturally appropriate services, flexible tailored support and joint working, these services have contributed to their users' wellbeing. Cuts to Supporting People funding pose a serious threat, especially in the context of loss of other services and changes to accommodation policy under the banner of localism. Targeted funding to sustain these specialist services could be important to redress risks of further marginalisation of Gypsy/Traveller communities. (JL)
ISSN: 14747464
From: http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayJournal?jid=SPS

The purpose of this briefing is to examine the ageing of the ethnic minority populations of England and Wales as revealed by the 2011 Census. It complements the 2010 CPA/Runnymede report, 'The future ageing of the ethnic minority population of England and Wales', which used the 2001 Census as a base, to project ethnic minority ageing for England and Wales to 2051. The ageing characteristics of individual ethnic groups are examined and compared through key statistics and 'population pyramids' for each group. (RH)
Australian-Chinese families caring for elderly relatives; by Lia Bryant, Suzane Lim.: Cambridge University Press, November 2013, pp 1401-1421.
Ageing and Society, vol 33, no 8, November 2013, pp 1401-1421.
Caring for older relatives has predominately been explored from the standpoint of the needs and experiences of the hegemonic culture in multicultural countries like Australia, Canada and the United States of America. Australia, in particular, has paid scant attention to cultural and linguistically diverse groups in relation to caring for the aged. In this paper, the authors focus on Chinese-Australian families caring for ageing relatives. They explore the traditional value of filial piety which is said to underpin social norms and beliefs about caring for aged parents in Chinese cultures. Specifically, they draw on four in-depth interviews with Chinese-Australian care-givers of older relatives to identify meanings of filial piety and practices of filial piety. Findings indicate that while filial piety is still an important value in caring for the aged, meanings about how to practise filial piety are changing and vary across families. (RH)
ISSN: 0144686X
From: journals.cambridge.org/aso

Care relationships, quality of care and migrant workers caring for older people; by Kieran Walsh, Isabel Shutes.: Cambridge University Press, April 2013, pp 393-420.
Ageing and Society, vol 33, no 3, April 2013, pp 393-420.
Migrant care workers make a substantial contribution to older adult care in Ireland and the United Kingdom (UK). However, little is known about the relational aspects of care involving migrant care workers and older people. Given that the care relationship is closely linked to quality of care, and that the Irish and UK sectors are increasingly restricted by economic austerity measures, the lack of information is a concern for care practice and policy. This paper explores the relationship between migrant care workers (in this instance registered nurses and care assistants) and older people in Ireland and the UK. It draws on data collected in both countries, including focus groups with older people (n=41), interviews with migrant care workers (n=90) and data from a survey of and interviews with employers. The findings illustrate the complexity of the migrant care workers-older person relationship; the prevalence of need-orientated, friendship and familial-like, reciprocal, and discriminatory interlinking themes; and the role of the individual structural and temporal factors in shaping these relationships. (RH)
ISSN: 0144686X
From: journals.cambridge.org/aso

Coping strategies and social support-seeking behaviour among Chinese caring for older people with dementia; by Alma Au, Steven M Shardlow, Yue Teng (et al).: Cambridge University Press, November 2013, pp 1422-1441.
Ageing and Society, vol 33, no 8, November 2013, pp 1422-1441.
The study reviewed coping and help-seeking behaviour among Hong Kong Chinese family care-givers of older people diagnosed with dementia. A convenience sample of those caring for family members with dementia (N=11) was recruited in Hong Kong. Semi-structured interviews were conducted, transcribed and analysed using NVivo. The study found evidence of distinct Chinese coping strategies that focused on internal self-regulation, forbearance and family obligations. In terms of help-seeking behaviour, these care-givers expressed great concern about bothering their family members. When there is a desperate need for help, they turn to community services. Results are discussed in the context of both traditional Chinese cultural values as well as the modern transformations of Chinese society. In particular, Eastern philosophical teachings tend to focus on changing personal inner perception and thoughts rather than attempting to change the environment. Although family obligations have been traditionally upheld, many parts of modern Chinese society are undergoing social and demographic changes, resulting in marked decline in multi-generational households. These findings can have applications not only for Chinese cities, but also may have implications to the West as strong well-established Chinese communities are widespread. (RH)
ISSN: 0144686X
From: journals.cambridge.org/aso
International Psychogeriatrics, vol 25, no 4, April 2013, pp 517-530.
Many minority ethnic (ME) older adults face several culturally associated and systemic barriers to timely dementia diagnoses that may result in delays to dementia care-seeking. The present study aimed to develop and propose a model illustrating variables that influence dementia care-seeking among ME older adults. The authors conducted a literature review on the effects of these barriers on diagnostic delays and impairment levels at initial evaluation. They also aimed to provide a basis for the Sociocultural Health Belief Model (SHBM) to guide future research and service planning pertaining to culture and dementia care-seeking. Study findings revealed consistent evidence that ME older adults with dementia tended to have greater diagnostic delays and higher levels of cognitive impairment and behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia at initial evaluation than their non-Hispanic White counterparts. Also several barriers to dementia care-seeking were found among ME groups. These barriers included lower levels of acculturation and accurate knowledge about dementia, more culturally associated beliefs about dementia, such as the perception of memory loss as normal ageing and stigma associated with dementia, and health system barriers. The SHBM provides an empirically based conceptual framework for examining cross-cultural differences in dementia care-seeking among diverse groups. The authors outline recommendations for future research, such as the need for research with more diverse ethnic subgroups and the examination of group-specific cultural values. The study concludes with a discussion of the clinical and service implications of this review, including potential interventions aimed at facilitating timely dementia diagnoses among ME older adults. (JL)
ISSN: 10416102
From: journals.cambridge.org/ipg

Dementia does not discriminate; the experiences of black, Asian and minority ethnic communities; by Sally Greengross (chair), All-Party Parliamentary Group on Dementia. London: All-Party Parliamentary Group on Dementia, July 2013, 44 pp.
This inquiry brings together evidence and understanding about the experience of people with dementia from black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) communities. It finds that high quality services are few and far between, and many people receive too little support from the National Health Service (NHS) or local authorities. Service providers need to be sensitive to the cultural needs of communities who are assumed to "look after their own". An appendix provides case studies illustrating good practice examples of services that have been tailored to the needs of people with dementia from BAME communities. (RH)
From: All-Party Parliamentary Group on Dementia, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA. E-mail: appg@alzheimers.org.uk

In this review, the author identifies research which could offer insights into the challenges and experiences of people living with dementia and their family carers for black and minority ethnic (BME) communities. The article highlights evidence to support good practice for staff working these individuals and their families. (RH)
ISSN: 13518372
From: www.hawkerpublications.com

Mental health services for black and minority ethnic elders in the United Kingdom: a systematic review of innovative practice with service provision and policy implications; by Sarmishtha Bhattacharyya, Susan Mary Benbow.: Cambridge University Press, March 2013, pp 359-373.
The proportion of older people from black and minority ethnic (BME) groups in the United Kingdom is increasing steadily as the population ages. The numbers with dementia, depression and other mental health problems are predicted to increase. Government policy documents have highlighted gaps in services for BME elders and/or the need to develop culturally appropriate services in order to prevent people from BME communities from becoming socially excluded and finding services hard to access. This paper reviews published examples of innovative services and key learning points from them. Sixteen relevant papers and reports were identified and were analysed to identify learning points and implications for clinical practice and policy. Commissioning issues included were forward planning for continuing funding and mainstreaming versus specialist services. Provider management issues included were employing staff from the communities of interest, partnership and removing language barriers. Provider service issues included were education for service provider staff on the needs of BME elders, making available information in relevant languages, building on carers' and users' experiences and addressing the needs of both groups. A model for structuring understanding
of the underutilisation of services by BME elders is suggested. The main emphasis in future should be to ensure that learning is shared, disseminated and applied to the benefit of all communities across the whole of the UK and elsewhere. Person-centred care is beneficial to all service users. (JL)

ISSN: 10416102
From: www.journals.cambridge.org/jpg

The objective of the present study was to describe the nutritional status of older Indigenous Australians, barriers to achieving optimal nutrition and the effectiveness of programmes aimed at improving nutrition in older Indigenous people in remote communities. A comprehensive literature review was undertaken including grey literature. Findings indicated that there is a scarcity of representative data on nutritional status and risk in older Indigenous people, and nutrition support programmes have not been evaluated. The study concludes that older Indigenous Australians suffer from poorer overall health and higher levels of overweight and obesity, and are at increased risk of poor nutritional status and malnutrition than the general population. This risk may be higher in remote areas. More representative data are needed to determine the nutritional status of older Indigenous people, including levels of malnutrition. Support programmes also need to be evaluated. (JL)
ISSN: 14406381
From: wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/ajag

Palliative and end of life care for Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups in the UK: demographic profile and the current state of palliative and end of life care provision; by Natalia Calanzani, Jonathan Koffman, Irene J Higginson, Cicely Saunders Institute, King's College London. London: Marie Curie Cancer Care; Public Health England; King's College London, June 2013, 77 pp.
The End of Life Care Strategy highlights that inequalities still exist in the care that different groups of people receive at the end of life. This report uses data from the 2001 and 2011 Censuses to look at the current and projected profile of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) populations living in the UK by ethnicity, religion, language and characteristics of the foreign born population. Figures are provided separately for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The report examines the extent to which the BAME populations are expected to increase and grow older in the next few decades according to the most recent population projections. The report then draws on a review of the current literature on the state of palliative and end of life care provision for BAME groups. The focus is on access to, and receipt of care; also a recognition of the importance of social inequalities when analysing unmet needs. The report was commissioned by Marie Curie Cancer Care and Public Health England to provide evidence for key stakeholders and policy makers planning future care for BAME groups, and it makes recommendations accordingly. (RH)

This study aimed to evaluate ethnic group differences in concerns, knowledge and beliefs about Alzheimer's disease (AD) in three ethnic groups of older adults - i.e. white, latino and black. The study was part of the Health and Retirement Study, a US national representative study of older adults over the age of 50 years and their spouse of any age. The study was based on the 2010 wave. Analysis was based on data from 939 white, 120 latino and 171 black respondents who completed a special module about AD concerns, knowledge and beliefs. There were significant ethnic differences on seven of 13 items. However after adjustment for education, gender, age, having a family member with AD, depressive symptoms and medical comorbidity, only four items showed significant ethnic group differences. Relative to white respondents, black respondents were less likely to report that having a parent or a sibling with AD increased the chance of developing AD and that genetics was an important risk for AD. In addition, relative to white respondents, both black and latino respondents were more likely to perceive stress as a potential risk for AD. Latino respondents were less likely to perceive mental activity as a protective factor. The study found limited ethnic group differences, with most items showing a similar pattern across groups. Nevertheless the nature of the ethnic group differences found might be associated with a differential pattern of health service use. (JL)
ISSN: 08856230
From: www.orangejournal.org

Ageing and Society, vol 33, no 3, April 2013, pp 437-464.

The authors use an intersectionality theoretical lens to interrogate selected findings of a scoping review of published and grey literature on the health and healthcare access of ethnic minority older adults. Their focus was on Canada and countries with similar immigrant populations and healthcare systems. Some 3,300 source documents were reviewed covering the period 1980-2010, of which 816 met the eligibility criteria; 183 were Canadian. Summarised findings were presented to groups of older adults and care providers for critical review and discussion. In this article, the authors discuss the extent to which the literature accounts for the complexity of categories such as culture and ethnicity. They recognise the compounding effects of multiple intersections of inequity that include social determinants of health, as well as the specificities of immigration; and they place the experience of these inequities within the context of systematic oppression. They found that Canada's two largest immigrant groups - Chinese and South Asians - had the highest representation in Canadian literature; but, even for these groups, many topic remain unexplored and the heterogeneity within them is inadequately captured. Some qualitative literature - particularly in the health promotion and cultural competency domains - essentialises culture at the expense of other determinants and barriers, whereas the quantitative literature suffers from oversimplification of variables and their effects, often due to the absence of proportionally representative data that captures the complexity of experience in minority groups. (RH)

ISSN: 0144686X
From : journals.cambridge.org/aso


Ageing and Society, vol 33, no 3, April 2013, pp 511-538.

Spirituality is positively linked to health and well-being in later life, particularly among older adults of black ethnic groups. However, definitions of spirituality in the literature have largely been theoretically informed, rather than based on the views of older people themselves. The authors examined the spiritual perspectives of Black Caribbean and White British older adults based on in-depth interviews with 34 individuals aged between 60 and 95 years. Their aim was to develop a spiritual typology to add to an understanding of the process of spirituality in later life. Findings showed that Black Caribbean older individuals mostly defined spirituality in relation to their belief in a transcendent God, whereas White British older individuals tended to draw upon a wider range of spiritual, religious or secular notions. A spirituality typology in later life captured four categories of relationship, between ‘God to self’, ‘self to God’, ‘self to universe’, and ‘self to life’. The typology highlights the central role of ethnicity in shaping spiritual perspectives in later life, and identifies the multidimensional nature of spirituality among older adults, reflecting in part a developmental process, albeit a process which is socially and culturally constructed. (RH)

ISSN: 0144686X
From : journals.cambridge.org/aso

2012

Cultural diversity and the mistreatment of older people in black and minority ethnic communities: some implications for service provision; by Alison Bowes, Ghizala Avan, Sherry Bien Macintosh.: Taylor and Francis, July/September 2012, pp 251-274.


Previous research on mistreatment of older people in black and minority ethnic communities has identified limited service responses and the need to consider mistreatment as an issue not only for individuals but also for families, communities and institutions. This study included qualitative interviews conducted with 28 service providers and with 58 people from a wide range of BME communities in Scotland. Following analysis of these interviews, a series of 7 focus groups involving community members and one involving service providers were conducted to explore the fit and gaps between the service providers' views and the community experiences. The findings show that clear gaps exist between service provision and people experiencing mistreatment due to structural and contextual factors; cultural factors had a relatively minor impact. (RH)

ISSN: 08946566
From : http://www.tandfonline.com
The author reports on the challenges and small breakthroughs of working with the south Asian community in Surrey, to increase awareness and understanding of dementia. The Friends with Dementia began at the Bradbury Resource Centre in Woking in 2009. (RH)
ISSN: 13518372
From : http://www.careinfo.org/

The authors review evidence indicative of the lack of awareness about dementia in black and minority ethnic (BME) communities. This lack of awareness appears to prevent help-seeking and for BME communities to be under-represented in dementia services. The Time to Change campaign (www.time-to-change.org.uk) is a national campaign launched in 2007 that aims to reduce stigma against mental health problems. The Older People’s Mental Health service in Hampshire has been working with the campaign to target older adults, and has been developing ideas on how to tackle stigma and attitudes towards dementia and memory problems in the county's largest BME group, South Asians. (RH)
ISSN: 13603671
From : http://www.psige.org.uk

Diversity in older people and access to services: an evidence review; by Jo Moriarty, Jill Manthorpe, Age UK.: Age UK, 2012, 97 pp.
Age UK commissioned the Social Care Workforce at King's College London to complete a literature review on equality and diversity issues relevant to older people and access to services in the UK. The review was structured around the experiences of older people in terms of their protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010. The report covers the following service areas: falls prevention, home from hospital services, handyperson schemes, befriending and day opportunities. Each service area looks at equalities legislation and discrimination in relation to age and ageism, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion, gender and sexual orientation. The key conclusion of this scoping review is that despite the longstanding nature of equalities legislation in terms of sex, race and disability, the number of studies specifically designed to measure inequality in terms of these characteristics remains small. (JL)

This project explored the usability of the World Health Organisation, International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) for describing older Maori and non-Maori people's self-nominated important activities. Within a feasibility-for-cohort study, 112 participants, 33 Maori, aged 75-79 years, and 79 non-Maori, aged 85 years, nominated their three most important activities. Verbatim responses were coded using the ICF classifications and described using non-parametric statistics. Men and women mostly named domestic life, interpersonal relationships and recreation and leisure activities. While Maori frequently named extended family relationship activities as being most important, non-Maori named more recreation and leisure activities. The ICF is useful for classifying older New Zealanders' important activities, although some activities of older Maori were not specified in the original version used. While important activity patterns were similar for men and women, those related to ancestral connectivity and community collectivity were most important for Maori. (JL)
ISSN: 14406381
From : wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/ajag

Perspectives on ageing in Gypsy families; by Pauline Lane, Siobhan Spencer, Muzelley McCready, Joseph Rowntree Foundation - JRF. York: Joseph Rowntree Foundation - JRF, January 2012, 12 pp (Perspectives).
This paper explores the views and experiences of older Gypsies, offering a glimpse into the past and reflecting on how the non-Gypsy community has influenced the Gypsy way of life. It forms part of a series of Perspectives commissioned to support the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) five-year research programme, A Better Life.
The programme investigates what will improve quality of life for some of the most marginalised and least heard people in the UK - people with high support needs. (RH)

Perspectives on ageing in South Asian families; by Manjit Kaur Nijjar, Joseph Rowntree Foundation - JRF. York: Joseph Rowntree Foundation - JRF, January 2012, 12 pp (Perspectives). This paper explores the experiences and views of South Asian elders and their families living in Wolverhampton. It highlights cultural expectations and the challenges this community faces in terms of ageing and support needs. The paper forms part of a series of Perspectives commissioned to support the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) five-year research programme, A Better Life. The programme investigates what will improve quality of life for some of the most marginalised and least heard people in the UK - people with high support needs. (RH)

Productive activities and perceived well-being in an African American older adult urban sample; by Heehyul Moon.: Taylor and Francis, April-June 2012, pp 107-130.
Activities, Adaptation and Aging, vol 36, no 2, April-June 2012, pp 107-130.

Few studies have examined the relationship between productive activities and well-being among urban lower-income African American older adults. The purpose of this study was to examine (1) the pattern and prevalence of types and specific kinds of productive activities and (2) the association among sociodemographic data, individual capacity, kinds and levels of productive activity and well-being at the individual level. Approximately 12% of 531 respondents participated in employment, whereas 20% participated in volunteer activities. The majority of the respondents (99.4%) joined in leisure activities. More than 75% engaged in religious activities. The respondents also reported that they participated in various kinds of productive activities. Age, physical health status, perceived social support and perceived neighbourhood satisfaction were the most important regression predictors of perceived well-being. Higher levels of involvement in religious activities and leisure activities were related to a greater perceived well-being. (JL)
ISSN: 0192-4788
From : http://www.tandfonline.com

Racial/ethnic differences and correlates of binge drinking among older adults; by Ami N Bryant, Giyeon Kim.

This study looked at how the prevalence and correlates of binge drinking among older adults vary by race/ethnicity. A sample of adults aged 60 and above were selected from the 2007 California Health Interview Survey. Binge drinking was measured dichotomously based on whether individuals reported consuming five or more drinks in a single day (four or more for females) in the previous year. Prevalence rates for binge drinking in the past year were calculated by race/ethnicity. A hierarchical logistic regression analysis was conducted using binge drinking in the past year as the dependent variable. Significant racial/ethnic differences were found in prevalence rates: the presence of binge drinking was most common among non-Hispanic Whites (11.9%), followed by Latinos (10.8%), American Indian/Alaska Natives (9.8%), Blacks (8.0%), and Asians (4.2%). Being a current smoker was found to be the strongest predictor of binge drinking and significant main effects were also found for being Black, being Asian, younger age, being male, being unemployed, having a higher poverty threshold, having better self-rated health, and having more psychological distress. Significant interactions between race/ethnicity and age, sex, employment status, educational attainment, smoking status, and self-rated health were found. These findings indicate that certain correlates of binge drinking vary significantly by race/ethnicity among older adults. Apparent racial/ethnic differences existed in the prevalence and correlates of binge drinking among older adults. Identification of more racial/ethnic specific predictors may be important for the development of ethnically appropriate intervention programmes. (JL)
ISSN: 13607863
From : http://www.tandfonline.com

2011

Assessment of dementia in ethnic minority patients in Europe: a European Alzheimer's Disease Consortium survey; by T Rune Nielsen, Asmus Vogel, Matthias W Riepe ... (et al).
A survey was conducted in clinical dementia centres in 15 European countries. Questionnaires focusing on different points in the clinical assessment of dementia in ethnic minority patients were mailed to leading
dementia experts of the European Alzheimer's Disease Consortium. 36 centres from 15 countries responded to the survey. Ethnic minority patients were seen on a regular basis in 69% of these centres. The diagnostic evaluation was in accordance with evidence-based clinical guidelines in 84-100% of the centres, but most centres performed cognitive assessment with instruments that are only validated in Western cultures and frequently relied on family members for interpretation. Diagnostic evaluation of the patients was considered to be challenging in 64% of the centres, mainly because of communication problems and lack of adequate assessment tools. In general, there were few indicators of culturally sensitive dementia services in the centres. Results from this study show that the most challenging issues are communication problems and assessment of cognitive function where there is a need to develop specific tests for ethnic minority patients. (JL)

ISSN: 10416102
From: http://www.journals.cambridge.org/ipg

Care concerns for elders in Korean and Korean American communities; by Melen McBride, Gwen Yeo (guest editors).
Special issue featuring an editorial followed by five articles. Topics covered include community service use among Korean Americans with dementia; elder abuse and help seeking among Korean Americans; Korean American adult children's views on end of life care; Korean versions of the Lubben Social Network Scale; and the involvement of Korean American family caregivers in dementia research. (JL)
ISSN: 07317115
From: http://www.tandfonline.com

The challenges of conducting focus-group research among Asian older adults; by Kalyani K Mehta.
Ageing and Society, vol 31, part 3, April 2011, pp 408-421.
Last of four articles that together make up a special issue on research methodology and ageing. This paper investigates the value of focus groups as a data collection method in studies of older people with particular reference to those living in large cities in Asia. Some of the method's strengths derive from the interaction among older people with a shared history and lived experiences. Focus-group exchanges have the potential for inter-personal learning and reminiscence benefits. One difficulty with the method, however, is that many Asian people are inhibited about sharing personal problems in a group context. The paper draws from a number of studies in Singapore, and highlights the challenges of conducting focus groups with older participants. Ethical issues such as confidentiality, cultural sensitivities such as language and respect for religion and tradition are discussed. Also, lessons learnt from conducting research using the group setting are discussed. Culturally relevant responses to these challenges are offered which could be useful for future researchers in Asia. (JL)
ISSN: 0144686X
From: http://www.journals.cambridge.org/aso

The effect of kin, social network and neighbourhood support on individual well-being; by Bertha M N Ochieng.
Health and Social Care in the Community, vol 19, no 4, July 2011, pp 429-437.
The research explored the effects of kin, social networks and the neighbourhood on an individual's well-being. The material was drawn from a broader study of Afro-Caribbean families on healthy lifestyles. Participants were a convenience sample 24 adolescents and 18 adults. Data was collected using in-depth ethnographic interviews conducted in the participants' homes. Findings indicated that the participants believed that being a member of a kin network provided protective support for their health and well-being. In addition, they preferred to live in neighbourhoods with a high concentration of people of the same ethnicity, despite the effects of neighbourhood deprivation such as poor housing and lack of services. However, participants believed that ethnic segregation led to marginalisation and further deprivation. The study concludes that health and social care practitioners need to incorporate ways to promote social support and community well-being models that emphasise family and community strengths. (JL)
ISSN: 09660410
From: http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/bsc/hscc

Enhancing computer self-efficacy and attitudes in multi-ethnic older adults: a randomised controlled study; by Luciana Lagana, Taylor Oliver, Andrew Ainsworth, Marc Edwards.
Ageing and Society, vol 31, part 6, August 2011, pp 911-933.
The chief aim of this longitudinal study was to test and refine a new 22-item measure of computer technology attitudes designed specifically for older adults. Another aim was to replicate, on a much larger scale, the successful findings of a preliminary study that tested a computer technology training programme for older adults. 96 older men and women, mainly from ethnic minority backgrounds, were randomly assigned to the waitlist/control or the experimental group. The same six-week, one-on-one training was administered to the
control subjects at the completion of their post-test. The revised (17-item) version of the Older Adults' Computer Technology Attitudes Scale (OACTAS) showed strong reliability: the results of a factor analysis were robust, and two analyses of covariance demonstrated that the training programme induced significant changes in attitudes and self-efficacy. Such results encourage the recruitment of older persons into training programmes aimed at increasing computer technology attitudes and self-efficacy. (JL)

ISSN: 0144686X
From: http://www.journals.cambridge.org/aso

Formerly: Ethnic Britain. The objective of this Directory is for people from all sections of the community to find employers, education and service providers that are committed to promoting equality and diversity. Equality Britain covers all aspect of equality: age, gender, disability, transgender status, race, religion and belief, sexual orientation. (KJ)
From: Pearson Press Limited, 2nd Floor, 42 Whitechapel, Liverpool L1 6DZ. Website: www.equalitybritain.co.uk/2010editorial.asp

Ethnicity and access to an inner city home treatment service: a case-control study; by Matthew Bookie, Martin Webber.
Evidence suggests that people from black and minority ethnic groups are more likely to be diagnosed with a mental health problem and are disproportionately represented in mental health inpatient services. The aim of this study, undertaken in a large inner London borough, was to establish whether people of black ethnic origin had equal access to home treatment in a mental health crisis. The researchers selected a random sample of 240 inpatient episodes and compared them with a sample of 77 home treatment episodes over a 12 month period, comparing the circumstances and characteristics of people using the home treatment team and inpatient services. The study found no association between ethnicity and the likelihood of receiving home treatment as opposed to a hospital admission whilst in a mental health crisis, although the findings showed that when admitted to hospital people from black ethnic groups experienced significantly longer admissions than people of white British origin. The authors suggest that further research is required for the early discharge function of home treatment teams to evaluate whether this aspect of care is experienced differently by different ethnic groups. (JL)
ISSN: 09660410
From: http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/bsc/hscfc

Over- and under-diagnosis of dementia in ethnic minorities: a nationwide register-based study; by T R Neilsen, A Vogel, T K T Phung (et al).
The belief is held among dementia professionals in many European countries that dementia is under-diagnosed and under-treated to a greater extent among ethnic minorities than in the native population. This study compared the prevalence of register-based dementia in the largest ethnic minority groups in Denmark with the prevalence of register-based dementia diagnoses in the general Danish population. The study population consisted of 68,219 people aged 20+. A total of 1,734 dementia cases were identified. The mean age at diagnosis was 57.7 years (SD=16.2). Compared to the general population, there was a higher prevalence of dementia among those younger than 60 years, and a markedly lower prevalence of dementia among those aged 60+. Dementia is under-diagnosed to a greater extent among ethnic minorities in the age group 60+, but is over diagnosed in those younger than 60. Several factors may contribute to this pattern, including cultural differences in help-seeking behaviour and problems in navigating the healthcare system. Furthermore, cross-cultural assessment of dementia can be difficult because language barriers and cultural differences. (RH)
ISSN: 00856230
From: http://www.interscience.wiley.com/journal/gps

Partner or perish?: exploring inter-organisational partnerships in the multicultural community aged care sector; by Harriet Radermacher, Yoshitha Karunarathna, Nicci Grace, Susan Feldman.
Health and Social Care in the Community, vol 19, no 5, September 2011, pp 550-560.
This study examined the experiences of partnership between organisations and small community groups from Melbourne, Australia, who delivered community based support services to older people from culturally diverse backgrounds. It identified key factors that facilitated or hindered the formation, maintenance and effectiveness of partnerships within the ethnic and multicultural community aged care (EMCAC) sector. Participants included 14 individuals representing nine community and health service organisations who took part in semi-structured interviews. Interviewees reported that partnerships between organisations were necessary and beneficial within
the EMCAC sector. Organisational capacity, access to information and guidelines, and the inequality experienced by smaller organisations were key issues identified by participants. The authors conclude that increasing organisational capacity and a reduction of the inequalities experienced through partnerships could be addressed through training and education about the nature of partnerships. (JL)

ISSN: 09660410
From: http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/bsc/hstc

A systematic review of ethnicity and pathways to care in dementia; by Naaheed Mukadam, Claudia Cooper, Gill Livingston.
The purpose of the study was to review literature that explored the help seeking behaviours of people from minority ethnic (ME) groups with dementia and their families. Three quantitative and 10 qualitative papers were found to meet the inclusion criteria. Barriers to accessing specialist help for dementia included: not conceptualising dementia as an illness; believing dementia was a normal consequence of ageing; thinking dementia had spiritual, psychological, physical health or social causes; feeling that caring for the person with dementia was a personal or family responsibility; experiences of shame and stigma within the community; believing there was nothing that could be done to help; and negative experiences of healthcare services. The authors conclude that there are significant barriers to help seeking for dementia in ME groups. (JL)
ISSN: 08856230
From: http://www.interscience.wiley.com/journal/gps

Theorising about ageing, family and immigration; by Lynn McDonald.
This paper explores the ways in which social gerontological theories have explained the effect of ethnicity and immigration on older people. It explores how these theories can be used for further theory advancement without modifications to existing theories. The paper suggests that current theories do not have the capacity to capture the effects of immigration at the structural level and its link to the social, psychological and family levels, let alone ageing. The overriding complexity of ageing and immigration requires a long-term view and an integrating framework with multiple levels that can accommodate a variety of theoretical interests. The conclusions are that a life-course perspective can be used in different ways to further this theoretical agenda. These approaches allow everyone with the possibility for interdisciplinary theory building to advance the understanding of the lives of immigrant families. (JL)
ISSN: 0144686X
From: http://www.journals.cambridge.org/aso

Why do ethnic elders present later to UK dementia services?: a qualitative study; by Naaheed Mukadam, Claudia Cooper, Behzad Basit, Gill Livingston.
The study explored the link between attitudes to help-seeking for dementia and the help-seeking pathways among the minority ethnic (ME) versus indigenous populations in the UK. ME carers, in contrast to the indigenous population, tended to delay help-seeking until they could no longer cope or until others commented on the problems. They often thought that families should look after their own older relatives and a diagnosis alone was purposeless. This appeared to relate to beliefs about the etiology of cognitive impairment, negative beliefs about psychiatry and their sense of familial responsibility. ME carer beliefs were found to be an important barrier to early diagnosis. Further work should explore whether an intervention can modify these attitudes, so that families understand that a diagnosis may allow planning and avoidance of crises. (JL)
ISSN: 10416102
From: http://www.journals.cambridge.org/ipg

2010

Age, ethnicity and equalities: synthesising policy and practice messages from two recent studies of elder abuse in the UK; by Jill Manthorpe, Alison Bowes.
Social Policy & Society, vol 9, pt 1, April 2010, pp 255-266.
Two recent studies of elder abuse in the UK are located in current policy contexts of adult safeguarding. After describing the studies, the discussion draws out their central messages and identifies the challenges that the studies present to recent policy debates and innovations. These relate to the need to properly integrate both wider older people's issues and issues of racism and ethnicity within developments in adult safeguarding policy, as well as social care services as the personalisation agenda advances. (KJ/RH)
Black and minority ethnic older people and mental well-being: possibilities for practice; by Jill Manthorpe, Jo Moriarty, Martin Stevens (et al).


There is a shortage of examples of arrangements and practice approaches that focus on mental well-being in black and minority ethnic (BME) older people. This article draws on a practice enquiry bringing together accounts of social care practice across different social care settings from four parts of the UK, away from highly populated areas that have been the focus of most previous research. Over 80 practitioners, managers, older people and carers were interviewed over 2009-10. They described and reflected on the support for older people from BME backgrounds, particularly focusing on how they might promote mental well-being. (JL)

ISSN: 13663666
From: http://www.pierprofessional.com/wwopflyer/index.html

Bringing dementia out of the shadows for BME elders; by Jan Kendall, Irene Kohler.: Hawker Publications, July/August 2010, pp 16-17.

Journal of Dementia Care, vol 18, no 4, July/August 2010, pp 16-17.

‘Bringing dementia out of the shadows for BME elders’ is the title of a report on the Ethnic Minority Dementia Advocacy Project (EMDAP) which was published in 2009. The Project was a national project based in a small local advocacy organisation Advocacy Plus (also known as Westminster Advocacy Service for Senior Residents - WASSR). This article outlines the project's key findings and outcomes, for example the positive feedback from working with advocacy providers and BME organisations. (RH)

ISSN: 13518372

Care implications of an ageing ethnic population; by Jill Manthorpe.

Community Care, issue 1842, 4 November 2010, pp 32-33.

The aim of this study was to describe the likely changes in the age structure of black and other minority groups in England and Wales. This report uses data on fertility, mortality and migration to make some projections of the number and profile of older people from ethnic minorities. Findings reveal that The ethnic minority population of England and Wales will continue to be younger than the majority white population but by 2051 this difference will be less pronounced. There are already important differences between minority groups, with the Irish and Indian populations having "mature population structures", for example, and these differences may increase. In contrast, the Bangladeshi population looks set to keep its comparatively young population profile.

Despite the problems of making predictions, on the basis of this evidence there will be 2.4 million black and ethnic minority people aged 50 and over in 2016 in England and Wales; rising to 3.8 million by 2026 and 7.4 million by 2051. These are not all older people of course; indeed among them are likely to be many carers. But over the same time spans, there will be just over half a million black and minority ethnic people aged 70 and over by 2016, more than 800,000 by 2026 and that figure escalates to 2.8 million by 2051. In conclusion then, although it is difficult to make population predictions, we can use projections to think about the types and amount of support that may be needed by the growing numbers and proportions of BME older people and the contributions that they may make. (KJ)

ISSN: 03075508
From: www.communitycare.co.uk

A cross-sectional population-based study of elder self-neglect and psychological, health, and social factors in a biracial community; by XinQi Dong, Melissa Simon, Todd Beck (et al.).: Taylor & Francis, January 2010, pp 74-84.

Aging & Mental Health, vol 14, no 1, January 2010, pp 74-84.

Elder self-neglect is an important public health issue; however, its association with psychological, health, and social factors remains unclear. This study aimed to (1) examine the associations between self-neglect severity and psychological, health, and social factors; and (2) examine the racial/ethnic differences in these associations. The authors conducted a biracial population-based study in a geographically defined community in Chicago as part of the Chicago Health Aging Project (CHAP). The authors identified 1094 people who had been identified by the social services agency as suspected elder self-neglect from 1993 to 2005. Self-neglect severity was assessed on a 0-45 scale. The psychological, health, and social factors were assessed using Center for Epidemiological Studies of Depression (CESD), poor mental health, health status, unhealthy days, poor physical health, days away from usual activities, social network, and social engagement. Linear regression was used to assess associations between self-neglect and psychological, health, and social factors. Interaction terms (Self-neglect times Race) were used to assess the black (non-Hispanic black) and white (non-Hispanic white)
differences in these associations. There were significant associations between self-neglect severity with health and social factors. After adjusting for confounders, greater self-neglect severity was associated with lower health status (PE = 0.001, p = 0.002), higher unhealthy days (PE = 0.139, p < 0.001), poor physical health (PE = 0.141, p < 0.001), and more days away from usual activities (PE = 0.120, p = 0.030). Interaction term (Self-Neglect times Race) indicates black compared with white older adults, had more days away from usual activities (PE = 0.321, p = 0.045) and lower social engagement (PE = -0.04, p = 0.003). Greater self-neglect severity is associated with lower levels of health and social wellbeing. These associations may be stronger for black than white older adults. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 13607863
From: http://www.tandfonline.com

Daily spiritual experiences in a biracial, community-based population of older adults; by Kimberly A Skarupski, George Fitchett, Denis A Evans (et al.). Taylor & Francis, September 2010, pp 779-789.


The objectives of this study were to describe the levels of daily spiritual experiences (DSEs) in community-dwelling older adults, to compare the levels of spiritual experiences with the levels of prayer and religious service attendance, and to examine the demographic and psychosocial correlates of spiritual experiences. The data came from 6534 participants in the Chicago Health and Aging Project, an ongoing population-based, biracial (65% African American) study of the risk factors for incident Alzheimer's disease among older adults. A 5-item version of the Daily Spiritual Experiences Scale (DSES) was used in the study. Multivariable linear regression models were used to examine the relationship between sociodemographic and psychosocial factors and DSES scores. The majority of the participants reported having spiritual experiences at least daily. In the bivariate analyses, African Americans and women had higher DSES scores than Whites and men, respectively. Prayer and worship were moderately associated with DSES scores. In the multivariable analyses, African American race, older age, female gender, better self-rated health, and greater social networks were associated with higher DSES scores, while higher levels of education and depressive symptoms were associated with lower DSES scores. The authors observed high levels of spiritual experiences and found that the DSES is related to, but distinct from the traditional measures of religiosity. We found associations between DSES, demographic, and psychosocial factors that are consistent with the findings for other religiosity and spirituality (R/S) measures. Future research should test whether DSES contributes to our understanding of the relationship between R/S and health in older adults. (KJ)

ISSN: 13607863
From: http://www.tandfonline.com


Previous research in 2007 found that an in-home behavioural management programme, derived conceptually from cognitive behavioural theories (CBT), was effective in reducing caregiver related stress and depressive symptoms in Chinese American dementia caregivers (CGs). Results were promising, but a more cost-effective intervention is needed to serve this growing population. Past work also found that a psycho-educational videotaped training programme based on CBT was effective in reducing stress due to caregiving in Caucasian and African American dementia family CGs. To date, no research has been conducted using a technological medium to deliver a similar kind of intervention to Chinese American caregivers. The present study evaluated the effectiveness of a similar but culturally "tailored" programme in which 70 CGs were randomly assigned to a 12-week CBT skill training programme delivered on a DVD, or to a general educational DVD programme on dementia. Both were available in Mandarin Chinese or English as preferred. Pre- and post-change analyses indicated that CGs did not differ on change in level of negative depressive symptoms, but positive affect was higher, and patient behaviours were appraised as less stressful and bothersome, for CGs in the CBT skill training program. They were also more satisfied with the program overall and reported that they believed they were able to give care more effectively. Results encourage further development of theoretically based interventions, delivered using modern technology, for this ever-increasing group of CGs. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 13607863
From: http://www.tandfonline.com
Ethnic differences in self-harm, rates, characteristics and service provision: three-city cohort study; by J Cooper, E Murphy, R Webb (et al).
Studies of self-harm in Black and minority ethnic (BME) groups have been restricted to single geographical areas, with few studies of Black people. The aim of this study was to calculate age- and gender-specific rates of self-harm by ethnic group in three cities and compare characteristics and outcomes. A population-based self-harm cohort presenting to five emergency departments in three English cities during 2001 to 2006. A total of 20574 individuals (16-64 years) presented with self-harm; ethnicity data were available for 75%. Rates of self-harm were highest in young Black females (16-34 years) in all three cities. Risk of self-harm in young South Asian people varied between cities. Black and minority ethnic groups were less likely to receive a psychiatric assessment and to re-present with self-harm. In conclusion, despite the increased risk of self-harm in young Black females fewer receive psychiatric care. These findings have implications for assessment and appropriate management for some BME groups following self-harm. (KJ)
ISSN: 00071250
From: http://bjp.rcpsych.org; doi: 10.1192/bjp.bp.109.072637

Ethnic population projections for the UK and local areas, 2001-2051; by Pia Wohland, Phil Rees, Paul Norman (et al), School of Geography, Leeds University. version 1.03: Electronic publication, 12 July 2010, 185 pp (Working paper 10/02).
This is a revised version of a report presented on Monday 22 March 2010, at City Hall, Greater London Council to the Stakeholder Group for the ESRC Research Award, RES-165-25-0032 "What happens when international migrants settle? Ethnic group population trends and projections for UK local areas, 1 October 2007 to 31 March 2010." This Working Paper is an online publication and may be revised. The results described in this report are both provisional and experimental and should be cited as such. A BBC webpage (as at 13 July 2010) reports on the findings of the report (http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/10607480.stm). (KJ/RH)
From: School of Geography, University of Leeds, Leeds, LS2 9JT.
This report, estimating the future older Black and minority ethnic population (BME), is part of a three-year Runnymede research programme on financial inclusion among older BME people funded by the Nationwide Foundation. Following an introduction on alternative projection methods, the report looks at the ethnic minority population of England and Wales 2007-10 and its age structure in 2007-12. Next, mid-year population estimates for 2001-2007 from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) are used to extrapolate and derive ethnic population projections to 2026. The elements of ethnic minority cohort component population projection are examined, namely fertility, mortality, migration and transgenerational transfer. Next, starting from a base of the 2001 Census, ethnic minority cohort component population projections for 2016, 2026 and 2051 are made; these rely on assumptions previously made about fertility, mortality and migration. Population pyramids, tables and charts illustrate the likely composition of each ethnic group for these dates. Projections are made for the older ethnic minority population by age group (from age 50+) for every five years from 2001 to 2051. While the projections of ethnic minority numbers in this report are projections and not predictions, according to the author, by 2051, there will be 7.3 million ethnic minority residents of England and Wales aged 50+, with 3.8 million aged 65+, 2.8 million aged 70+ and more than a quarter of a million (259,000) aged 85+. However, given the large variation in the distribution of this population, this raises important issues for policy-makers and planners in those localities with greater concentrations. (RH)
From: Download available at: http://www.cpa.org.uk/information/reviews/reviews.html

Is there 'a' mixed race group in Britain?: The diversity of multiracial identification and experience; by Miri Song.
In contemporary British society, references to 'mixed race' people and to various forms of mixing abound. But to what extent can we say that there is 'a' mixed race group in Britain today? If such a group exists, what commonalities underlie the experience of being mixed? In addressing this question, the author draws on a study of the racial identifications of different types of mixed young people in Britain. Song finds that the meanings and significance of race and mixedness in these young people's lives can vary considerably, both across and within specific mixed groups. In conclusion, Song argues that while there is evidence of a growing consciousness and interest in being mixed, we cannot (yet) speak of a coherent mixed group or experience in Britain. (KJ/RH)

Many Black and minority ethnic (BME) people in the UK are in low income self-employment. They face challenges to saving and contributing to a decent pension and enjoying a retirement free from poverty. This report looks at the relationship between BME self-employment and pensions. It examines the level and type of pension provision people have and the barriers they face in light of reforms in the Pensions Acts 2007 and 2008. These reforms have been in response to an ageing population, lower annuities offered by company pension schemes, and the fact that people are less likely to prioritise personal savings than in the past. Automatic enrolment of employees into workplace pension schemes and changes to the state pension age (SPA) are central features of these reforms. Key issues are illustrated with examples from Runnymede's research among Bangladeshi and other BME communities, as well as from official sources published by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and the Office for National Statistics (ONS). This publication is part of the Runnymede Financial Inclusion Programme and funded by the Nationwide Foundation. (RH)

From: The Runnymede Trust, 7 Plough Yard, Shoreditch, London EC2A 3LP. E-Mail: info@runnymedetrust.org Website: www.runnymedetrust.org

The sensitivity of United Kingdom health-care services to the diverse needs of Chinese; by Ruby C M Chau, Sam Wai-Kam Yu.


This paper is a contribution to the debate on how to make health-care services in the United Kingdom more responsive to the needs of older people who are members of recent immigrant groups. The focus is on the Chinese-origin elders, and the objective is to demonstrate their diverse migrant histories, cultural backgrounds and attitudes to both ‘traditional’ and Western health-care practices. The underlying argument is that if National Health Service staff had a better understanding of the diversity of Chinese older people, this would make an important contribution to making the service more sensitive to their needs. To develop this argument, this paper carries out three main analytical tasks. The first is to discuss the range of strategies adopted by Chinese people in general and Chinese older people in particular to improve their health. The second is to study Chinese people's heritage of exploring different methods to organise health in response to foreign culture. The third considers the ways in which the sensitivity of British health-care services to the needs of ethnic-minority groups can be improved, with a focus on the culturagram health screening instrument and procedure. Three contrasting examples are presented. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 0144686X

From: http://www.journals.cambridge.org/asodoi:10.1017/S0144686X09990468

Social intervention for British Pakistani women with depression: randomised controlled trial; by R Gater, W Waheed, N Husain (et al).


British Pakistani women have a high prevalence of depression. There are no reported psychosocial interventions for depression in ethnic minorities in the UK. The aim of this research was to determine the efficacy of a social group intervention compared with antidepressants, and whether the combination of the two is more efficacious than either alone. A total of 123 women with depression participated in the primary care-based cluster randomised controlled trial (ISRCTN19172148). Outcome measures were severity of depression (Hamilton Rating Scale for Depression), social functioning and satisfaction at 3 and 9 months. Greater improvement in depression in the social intervention group and the combined treatment group compared with those receiving antidepressants alone fell short of significance. There was significantly greater improvement in social functioning in the social intervention group and combined treatment groups than in the antidepressant group at both 3 and 9 months. Pakistani women with depression found the social groups acceptable and their social function and satisfaction improved if they received social treatment compared with the receipt of antidepressants alone. (KJ)

ISSN: 00071250


Towards an understanding of the cultural health needs of older gypsies; by Pauline Lane, Rachel Tribe.


This paper offers an introduction to understanding some of the issues that health and care practitioners might like to consider when supporting the health and well-being of gypsy elders. The significance of nomadic life and the implications of planning laws on the reported quality of life experienced by gypsy elders is essential to understanding their health needs. The paper also offers an introduction to understanding some of the aspects of
health and social care provision that currently impact on the take up of health and care services by gypsy elders. It then makes suggestions about ways of offering services and working with gypsy elders in ways that are culturally appropriate and respectful of their traditions. The authors had the privilege of working with the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group as part of a larger national project on working with black and minority ethnic elders to help improve their mental health. The authors do not claim to be experts on gypsy health, but are offering to share their learning as an introduction to understanding and meeting some of the cultural needs of gypsy elders when providing health and social care. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 13663666

2009

African American caregivers: an exploration of pathways and barriers to a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease for a family member with dementia; by Travonia Hughes, Kenneth Tyler, Deborah Danner (et al).
Despite the significance of an early diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease (AD), African Americans are diagnosed in later stages of the disease and present with greater cognitive impairment at the time of diagnosis when compared to Euro-Americans. To this end, there exists a paucity of research on diagnostic pathways among African Americans with dementia. The present study examined the retrospective experiences of 17 African American caregivers who were given a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease for a family member with dementia. Participants completed face-to-face semi-structured interviews. Study findings revealed a complex interplay between the patient with dementia, entities that comprise their social support network, and clinicians. (RH)
ISSN: 14713012
From: http://www.dem.sagepub.com

Ageing, ethnicity and psychiatric services; by Geetha Oommen, Jon Bashford, Ajit Shah.
In 2001, the Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCP) produced Council Report DR 103 which concluded that services for Black and minority ethnic (BME) elders had received little attention. The report also called for an urgent need to establish a reliable and informative database of good practice and increased research. It is currently under review by the College. This article attempts to set out some of the issues that remain, as well as newly identified ones. In particular, the article hopes to heighten awareness and raise debate about these issues and to link these with the College's Race Equality Action Plan. (RH)
ISSN: 09556036
From: http://www.dem.sagepub.com

Black-white disparities in disability among older Americans: further untangling the role of race and socioeconomic status; by Esme Fuller-Thomson, A Nuru-Jeter, Jack M Guralnik.
Data from the 2003 American Community Survey were used to examine the associations of education and income, stratified by race and gender, with functional limitations and activities of daily living (ADLs), in a sample of 16,870 non-Hispanic Blacks and 186,086 non-Hispanic Whites aged 55 to 74. Sequential logistic regressions were used to examine the relative contribution of income and education to racial disparities. 90% of the Black_White difference in disability rates for men and 75% of the difference for women aged 55 to 64 were explained by income and education. The greatly elevated risk of disability among Blacks aged 55 to 74 is largely explained by differences in socioeconomic status. Reductions in Black_White health disparities require a better understanding of the mechanisms, whereby lower income and education are associated with functional outcomes in older people. (RH)
ISSN: 08982643
From: http://pb.rcpsych.org

Chinese health beliefs of older Chinese in Canada; by Daniel W L Lai, Shireen Surood.
The cultural health beliefs held by older Chinese in Canada were examined. Chinese surnames were randomly selected from local telephone directories in seven Canadian cities. Telephone screening was then conducted to identify eligible Chinese people aged 55+ to take part in a face-to-face interview to complete a structured survey questionnaire. The results of exploratory factor analysis indicate that the health beliefs of older Chinese in Canada are loaded onto three factors related to beliefs about traditional Chinese medicine, and beliefs about preventive diet. Education, religion, country of origin, length of residency in Canada, and city of residency are the major correlates of the various Chinese health beliefs scales. The findings support previous knowledge about
Chinese health beliefs and illustrate the intra-group sociocultural diversity that health practitioners should acknowledge in their practice. (RH)
ISSN: 08982643
From: http://www.sagepublications.com

Comparison of elderly suicide rates among migrants in England and Wales with their country of origin; by Ajit Shah, James Lindsay, Mick Dennis.
Only two studies, both more than 10 years old, have compared suicide rates in black and minority ethnic (BME) groups in England and Wales with those of their country of origin. This study was conducted using the latest available suicide data from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and the World Health Organization (WHO). There were wide variations in standardised mortality rates (SMRs) for suicides of older people among migrants from different countries compared with those born in England and Wales and their country of origin. There was convergence towards older suicide rates for England and Wales for some migrant groups in males in the age bands 65-74 and 75+ years and for females in the age band 75+ years. However, males aged 75_ from most migrant groups had higher rates than those born in England and Wales. A more detailed analysis of suicides of older people from migrant groups is required to determine vulnerability and protective influences. (RH)
ISSN: 08856230
From: http://www.interscience.wiley.com/journal/gps

Differences in psychological morbidity among Australian and Chinese caregivers of persons with dementia in residential care; by Helen Zong Ying Wu, Lee-Fay Low, Shifu Xiao (et al).
The aim of the present study was to determine the effects of culture on caregiver psychological morbidity among informal caregivers of institutionalised persons with dementia in three different populations: Shanghai, Australian-Chinese, and Australian mainstream (non-Chinese). Caregivers and residents with dementia were recruited from a dementia hospital in Shanghai, three ethno-specific Chinese nursing homes in Sydney, and four mainstream nursing homes in Sydney. Psychological morbidity was assessed using the Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS), mental health component (MHC) of the RAND-36 Health Status Inventory and a guilt scale. There were no significant differences between the three groups as measured by the guilt scale and MHC. Shanghai caregivers had higher mean depression scores than Australian-Chinese caregivers (p < 0.001), who in turn had higher mean depression scores than Australian mainstream caregivers (p = 0.015). Higher depression scores were found to be inversely associated with the caregiver's education level and physical health status, and associated with increased frequency of nursing home visits, but not with levels of behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia (BPSD). Levels of depression in caregivers of institutionalised persons with dementia differ by culture and country of residence. (KJ/RH)
ISSN: 08856230
From: http://www.interscience.wiley.com/journal/gps

The different faces of care work: understanding the experiences of the multi-cultural care workforce; by Martha Doyle, Virpi Timonen.
An increased demand for long-term care services coupled with the decreased availability of informal (family) carers in many industrialised countries has led to the employment of growing numbers of ‘migrant care workers’. Little is known about this heterogeneous group or of their experience of employment in long-term care. Providing an important insight into a hitherto little researched and poorly understood topic, this article presents the findings of a qualitative study in Ireland that sought greater understanding of migrant carers’ experience of care work and of the intra-group differences among them. The findings suggest that some members of the workforce are more likely to confront obstacles and discrimination than others. The data indicate that the experiences of European, South Asian and African carers are significantly different, and that relationships may exist between carers’ region of origin and their experience of care work, employment mobility and long-term plans for remaining in the sector. The findings underscore the significance of acknowledging the unique barriers and obstacles faced by particular populations of care workers. A better understanding of the changing demographic profile and needs of both care recipients and their paid (migrant) care-givers is required to ensure that appropriate policy and practical interventions are developed to support both groups. (KJ/RH)
ISSN: 0144686X
From: http://www.journals.cambridge.org/aso
Early intervention in dementia care in an Asian community: lessons from a dementia collaborative project; by Viniti Seabrooke, Alisoun Milne.


The number of older Asians in the UK is increasing, placing greater numbers at risk of developing dementia. The emerging need to address early diagnosis is especially prominent in areas where Asian communities are long established. This was the specific focus of a Dementia Collaborative Project in North West Kent. The project, working through a primary care practice, aimed to raise awareness of dementia and to facilitate early intervention and access to specialist dementia services. Using an evaluation methodology adopted by the Collaborative and working through a multi-agency steering group, the pilot project successfully identified an appropriate primary care practice, established a link with a specially trained Asian nurse and devised a set of project materials. By inviting older Asian patients with memory problems to make an appointment with the nurse, and enclosing a culturally relevant information leaflet, older people were encouraged to come forward. Although the number of individuals identified was small, the project outcomes include: significantly increased referral rates from black and minority ethnic communities to specialist services; and greater awareness of dementia-related issues in both primary care and Asian care services. Overall, the evaluation suggests that by engaging with a committed primary care practice it is possible to engage a hitherto marginal group of older people in early intervention in dementia and raise awareness about its benefits. That this approach underpins the development of a larger scale five year project in the same area additionally endorses its relevance for the mainstream population. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 14717794

From: Website: http://www.pierprofessional.com

Factors influencing the physical activity levels of older people from culturally-diverse communities: an Australian experience; by Stephen Bird, Harriet Radermacher, Susan Feldman (et al).

Ageing and Society, vol 29, part 8, November 2009, pp 1275-1294.

Inactivity has been identified as a major contributor to the burden of disease among older Australians, particularly those in culturally-diverse communities. This study assessed the facilitators and barriers to physical activity in older people from culturally-diverse communities, and investigated the predictors of physical activity participation by recruiting 333 older people from seven different communities in the western suburbs of Melbourne, Australia. A survey questionnaire that recorded physical activity and the barriers to and facilitators of activity was interviewer-administered in the participants' preferred language. The data were analysed using bivariate and multivariate inferential statistical methods. Personal barriers to physical activity, such as poor health, lacking the energy to exercise, being too tired and low motivation, were highly prevalent in all groups. Specific factors, such as 'being self-conscious about my looks', were more prevalent among the Vietnamese, as were concerns about the weather among Macedonians and Croatians. Across all groups, perceptions of health and safety strongly influenced physical activity behaviour, more so than the external environment. Some of the barriers can be addressed with a common approach, but others in some communities will require particular strategies. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 0144686X

From: http://www.journals.cambridge.org/aso


An overview of the Equality Bill notes how the Bill, when enacted, will strengthen equality law on matters that include: reducing socio-economic inequalities; putting a new Equality Duty on public bodies; banning age discrimination outside the workplace; protecting carers from discrimination; and strengthening protection from discrimination for disabled people. Part 2 of this document outlines what the Bill means for people including those from ethnic minorities, disabled people, older people, and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transsexual people. (RH)

From: Government Equalities Office, 9th Floor, Eland House, Bressenden Place, London SW1E 5DU.


Focus group study of ethnically diverse low-income uses of paid personal assistance services; by Joseph T Mullan, Brian R Grossman, Mauro Hernandez (et al).

Home Health Care Services Quarterly, vol 28, no 1, 2009, pp 24-44.

This study examined the experiences of ethnically diverse, low-income consumers of paid personal assistance services (PAS) to understand the successes and problems they faced setting up and maintaining their assistance. A thematic analysis was conducted with transcripts from eight focus groups of 67 ethnically homogeneous consumers: African American, Latino, Chinese, Native American, and non-Hispanic white. These experienced consumers were generally satisfied with their current PAS but noted significant difficulties: getting access to
appropriate care; obtaining enough paid care to avoid unmet need; and dealing with confusing bureaucracies and cultural differences between them and agency staff or attendants. They desired more control over their care, including the use of paid family attendants when possible. Respondents recommended improved screening and training of attendants, more attendant time, higher wages for attendants, improved cultural sensitivity of attendants and agency staff, and greater consumer control over PAS. Although these low-income PAS consumers are ethnically and geographically diverse, the similarity of findings points to their ongoing struggle to access adequate high quality assistance. The burden they have in obtaining and maintaining services is substantial. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 01621424
From: http://www.tandfonline.com


Inactivity has been identified as a major contributor to the burden of disease in older women. The aims of this study were: to assess the personal, social and environmental facilitators and impediments to physical activity in older women from different ethnic communities; and to determine the factors associated with physical activity participation. Older women (aged 60-84) were recruited from the local Italian (n=20), Vietnamese (n=26) and Anglo-Celtic (n=26) communities in the western suburbs of Melbourne, Australia. A survey questionnaire was administered in the participants' preferred language. The most common barriers were: "I am not in good health", "I am self-conscious about my looks", "I am too tired", "I don't have time", and "The weather is bad". When comparing the ethnic groups, the Vietnamese women reported fewer barriers than the Italian women (2.6 vs 5.9). While the Vietnamese women were much more likely to report being "self-conscious about my looks", the Italian women more commonly reported poor health, being too tired, and not liking exercise as barriers. Overall, those living alone were more likely to be active and those who reported fear of injury, less active. Recognising ethnospecific differences in the prevalence of barriers may be important when devising strategies to increase older women's activity levels. (RH)

ISSN: 08952841
From: http://www.tandfonline.com


Journal of Dementia Care, vol 17, no 4, July/August 2009, pp 16-18.

Religious beliefs and cultural norms can determine what medicines are acceptable to individuals and the circumstances in which they should or should not be taken. The authors offer some considerations for prescribing and administering medicines. They highlight the acceptability of medicines to the individual in terms of ingredients, and timing, method or manner of administration. (RH)

ISSN: 13518372


The Barriers to Access to Care for Ethnic Minority Seniors (BACEMS) study in Vancouver, British Columbia found that immigrant families torn between changing values and the economic realities that accompany immigration cannot always provide optimal care for their elders. Ethnic minority seniors further identified language barriers, immigration status, and financial awareness of the roles of the health authority and of specific service providers as barriers to health care. The configuration and delivery of health services and healthcare providers' limited knowledge of the seniors' needs and conflated these problems. To explore the barriers to access, the BACEMS study relied primarily on focus group data collected from ethnic minority seniors and their families, and from health and multicultural service providers. The applicability of the recently developed model of "candidacy", which emphasises the dynamic, multi-dimensional and contingent character of health care access to ethnic minority seniors, was assessed. The candidacy framework increased sensitivity to ethnic minority seniors' issue and enabled organisation of the data into manageable conceptual units, which facilitated translation into recommendations for action, and revealed gaps that pose questions for future research. It has the potential to make Canadian research on the topic more co-ordinated. (RH)

ISSN: 0144686X
From: http://www.journals.cambridge.org/aso

Older Latina women are one of the least studied American demographic groups with regard to social, health or sexual behaviour. This could leave social workers and other professionals unprepared for dealing with HIV/AIDS in this population. Currently older Latina women are one of the fastest growing groups of new AIDS cases. 22% of all women ever diagnosed are Latina, and 5.5% of Latinas infected with the virus are older. The number of diagnosed infections is increasing in older women, including Latinas, in spite of recent declines in infection rates with younger population groups. There is also a potentially large number of cases that go undiagnosed or misdiagnosed. This article also addresses risk and protective factors related to gender roles, traditional Latino family values, religion, socioeconomic factors, health and health care, with special attention to the triple jeopardy faced by this population by virtue of being female, seniors and minorities. The article concludes with recommendations for the development of culturally competent practices with older Latinas and the development of a research agenda to better understand their risk-related and health-seeking behaviour. (KJ/RH)
ISSN: 01634372
From: http://www.tandfonline.com

Older women's perceptions of elder maltreatment and ethical dilemmas in adult protective services: a cross-cultural, exploratory study; by Emily Dakin, Sue Pearlmutter. The Haworth Press, Inc., 2009, pp 15-57.

IN this study, older African American, Latina and Caucasian women from varying socioeconomic backgrounds participated in eight focus groups that examined their perceptions of elder maltreatment and three ethical dilemmas within adult protective services work: mandatory reporting, involuntary protective services, and criminalisation of elder maltreatment. Participants espoused a broad and inclusive view of elder maltreatment. In responding to illustrative case scenarios, participants strongly favoured protection over freedom, by supporting mandatory reporting and involuntary protective services. Also supported was criminalisation of elder maltreatment. This article presents results of each scenario and broad themes across the study, with attention paid to areas of consistency and difference across ethnicity and socioeconomic categories. (RH)
ISSN: 08946566
From: http://www.tandfonline.com

The authors used data from the older African American subsample of the National Survey of American Life (n = 837) to examine the sociodemographic and denominational correlates of organizational religious involvement among older African Americans. Six measures of organizational religious participation were used, including two measures of time allocation for organized religious pursuits. Significant gender, regional, marital status, and denominational differences in organizational religiosity were found. Of particular note, although older Black women generally displayed higher levels of religious participation, older Black men spent more hours per week in other activities at their places of worship. The findings are discussed in relation to prior work in the area of religious involvement among older adults. New directions for research on religious time allocation are outlined. (KJ/RH)
ISSN: 01640275
From: http://www.sagepub.com

Perceptions of active ageing in Britain: divergences between minority ethnic and whole population samples; by Ann Bowling.
Age and Ageing, vol 38, no 6, November 2009, pp 703-710.
Perceptions of, and associations with, active ageing among ethnically diverse and homogeneous samples of older people in Britain were identified, using cross-sectional and longitudinal surveys of older people living at home in Britain. Measures used were active ageing, health, psychosocial, socio-economic circumstances, and indicators of quality of life. Respondents defined active ageing as having health, fitness, and exercise; psychological factors; social roles and activities; independence, neighbourhood and enablers. The ethnically diverse sample respondents were less likely to define active ageing as having physical health and fitness, and were less likely to rate themselves as ageing actively, than more homogeneous sample respondents. The lay-based measure of quality of life used was independently and consistently associated with self-rated active ageing in each sample. Policy models of active ageing were reflected in lay views, although the latter had a more
multidimensional focus. Lay definitions of active ageing were also more dynamic, compared with definitions of quality of life and successful ageing. Differences in self-rated active ageing and perceptions of this concept by ethnic group need further exploration. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 00020729
From: http://www.ageing.oxfordjournals.org

This study compares black and white caregivers of people with Alzheimer's disease (AD) on two general measures of negative and positive emotion (depressive symptoms, positive mood) and two caregiving specific measures of negative and positive emotion (caregiver burden, caregiver satisfaction). The authors hypothesised that black caregivers would exhibit lower levels of negative emotion and higher levels of positive emotion over time than whites. 396 caregivers were recruited from the Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center in Chicago, Illinois, as part of a longitudinal study of people with AD. The analyses for this report are based on data from 307 caregivers who were interviewed quarterly over approximately 4 years from 1999 to 2002, an average of nine observations per person. The results showed that black caregivers reported fewer depressive symptoms over time than whites, but this finding was only for those caregivers living with the care recipient with AD. No race differences were found for measures of positive emotion. The data adds to the growing body of evidence that black people have better emotional outcomes when exposed to the stress of providing informal care to a disabled family member. (KJ/RH)
ISSN: 13607863
From: http://www.tandfonline.com

Previous research finds a race anomaly in subjective life expectancy, such that Blacks expect to live longer than Whites, even though their actual life expectancy is lower, but it does not include other racial-ethnic groups. Using data from the 1998 (US) Health and Retirement Study (n = 8,077), the authors find that the race anomaly in subjective survival expectations can be extended to Mexican Americans, Mexican Americans, regardless of their nativity, expect a lower chance of living to ages 75 and 85 than do Whites net of age and gender, even though their actual life expectancy is higher. In addition, foreign-born Mexican Americans expect a lower chance of survival to older ages than native-born Mexican Americans, which is also the opposite of actual mortality patterns. The authors also find that education and wealth interact with race and ethnicity to influence subjective survival expectations. (KJ/RH)
ISSN: 01640275
From: http://roa.sagepub.com

This study examined the relationship between religiousness, perceived social support, and reasons for living among 37 European American (mean age 67.7 years) and 35 African American (mean age 71.1 years) older adults, where ethnicity was predicted to behave as a moderator. Community-dwelling participants completed the Brief Multidimensional Measure of Religiousness/Spirituality, the Multidimensional Measure of Perceived Social Support, and the Reasons for Living Inventory. As expected, high religiousness was associated with more reasons for living. Ethnicity alone did not meaningfully account for variance differences in reasons for living, but significant interactions indicated that the relationship between religiousness and reasons for living was stronger for African Americans, whereas the relationship between social support and reasons for living was stronger for European Americans. The present findings may be valuable for understanding potentially modifiable pathways to suicide resilience in diverse populations of older adults. (KJ/RH)
ISSN: 13607863
From: http://www.tandfonline.com
The role of advocacy and interpretation services in the delivery of quality healthcare to diverse minority communities in London, United Kingdom; by Walid E Ansari, Karen Newbigging, Carolyn Roth (et al).

Health and Social Care in the Community, vol 17, no 6, November 2009, pp 636-646.

Inequalities in access to appropriate and acceptable healthcare contributes to a pattern of poorer health status, reduced life expectancy and greater dissatisfaction with health care amongst people from black and minority ethnic (BME) communities. Language acts as a further barrier to access. The development of bilingual advocacy fuses two key functions - interpretation and advocacy - to ensure that people from BME communities are able to have their healthcare needs met appropriately. This paper explores the development of bilingual advocacy in East London, which has a highly diverse population speaking over 100 languages. It considers the development of the bilingual advocacy services by an NHS University Hospital Trust, the local experience of these services and the factors that have influenced their development. The authors employed the Delphi method to examine the advocate-, service-, or client-related challenges that face advocacy services, and the threats of these changes to Trust-based advocacy and their implications to the service, client and advocate. Advocate-related challenges included status, esteem and remuneration of bilingual advocates in relation to other health professionals, as well as skills development, career progression, gender, capacity building and potential research contributions. Service-related challenges included work load, case mix, administration, commissioning, processes or arrangements, entrepreneurial aspects of advocacy services, and mechanisms or potentials for cost recovery. Client-related challenges included continuity of advocacy, language requirements and advocacy needs of clients, and ways in which mobile populations influence planning and delivery of advocacy services in inner city hospitals. The paper concludes by identifying the implications for future development of bilingual advocacy services and the implications for their workforce. (RH)

ISSN: 09660410
From: http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/hsc

A systematic review of the prevalence and covariates of dementia or relative cognitive impairment in the older African-Caribbean population in Britain; by Simon Adelman, Martin Blanchard, Gill Livingston.


The objective of this study was to collate evidence regarding the prevalence and predictors of dementia or relative cognitive impairment in older, African-Caribbean people in Britain, as compared to their white, British peers. A systematic literature review was undertaken by searching electronic databases, contacting experts in the field and searching the references of identified papers for studies fulfilling the predefined inclusion criteria. They were divided into those measuring the prevalence or incidence of dementia or cognitive impairment, and those investigating risk factors. Each study selected for inclusion was evaluated by two of the three authors using a standardised checklist and assigned a numerical score for quality. Eleven papers fulfilled the selection criteria. Two cross-sectional surveys had calculated prevalence of dementia in a sample of British African-Caribbean people. A further prevalence study had estimated dementia prevalence in a mixed sample of African and African-Caribbean participants. All the comparative studies found an excess of dementia in African-Caribbean people when compared to the indigenous white population, but in one study, this was not statistically significant. Seven studies investigated potential predictive factors for cognitive impairment or cognitive decline. One study investigated the association between hypertension, dementia and country of birth. The published research in this area is limited. The available studies consistently indicate an excess of dementia in older African-Caribbean people when compared to the indigenous white population. However, the magnitude of this difference and the associated risk factors are not clear, and warrant further investigation. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 08856230
From: http://www.interscience.wiley.com/journal/gps

Theory-based policy development for HIV prevention in racial/ethnic minority midlife and older women; by Robin J Jacobs, Michael N Kane.


In 2008, there were more than a million people with HIV/AIDS in the United States. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) 2007 estimates that 15% of people with HIV/AIDS are aged over 50. At greater risk are women of colour. Most intervention efforts have focused on intrapersonal aspects of an individual and his or her sexual-risk behaviours, with little or no attention directed towards interpersonal and socio-environmental considerations of risk and prevention. This paper considers the limitations of current US national policies relating to HIV prevention in minority populations, especially among midlife and older women of colour. In particular, it examines the risk and prevention policies in light of ecological perspectives, social capital and dialogical theories. (RH)

ISSN: 08952841
From: http://www.tandfonline.com
Understanding older men and their male friendships: a comparison of African American and white men; by Geoffrey L Greif.
Friendships can lead to longer and healthier lives. Yet little is known about how older men, particularly African American men, define and carry out their friendships with other men. This article presents the findings from qualitative interviews with 23 African American and 23 White older men who were part of a larger study. The subjects were asked whether friendships are important; whether they have enough male friends; how they define, carry out, and maintain their friendships; and the nature of their fathers’ friendships. Comparisons are drawn between the African American and White men. Implications for social work practice are included. (KJ/RH)
ISSN: 01634372
From : http://www.tandfonline.com

Using the Barnes Language Assessment with older ethnic minority groups; by Victoria Ramsey, Susan Stevens, Karen Bryan (et al).
There are many issues concerning the assessment of older people from ethnic minority groups, the most significant being the language barrier experienced by those whose English is an additional language (EAL). This study aimed to test the hypothesis that EAL participants would score less well than those with English as a first language (EFL) on the sub-texts of the Barnes Language Assessment (BLA), elucidate the reasons for any such differences, and discuss the implications. The BLA was administered to 144 participants divided into subgroups with respect to age, gender and educational background, most of whom had a working diagnosis of dementia. Subjects with English as a first language (EFL) and English as an additional language (EAL) perform differently on the Barnes Language Assessment. The differences are mainly related to levels of education. Difficulties were found in recruiting subjects from ethnic minority groups. The consequences of this and other factors are discussed. (RH)
ISSN: 08856230
From : http://www.interscience.wiley.com/journal/gps

'We are not blaming anyone, but if we don't know about amenities, we cannot seek them out': black and minority older people's views on the quality of local health and personal social services in England; by Jill Mantorpe, Steve Iliffe, Jo Moriarty (et al), Older People Researching Social Issues (OPRSI).
Improving access to culturally-appropriate services and enhancing responses to the needs of older people from black and minority ethnic backgrounds were among the aims of the National Service Framework for Older People (NSFOP) that was introduced in England in 2001. Progress in meeting the aims of the NSFOP was evaluated by a mid-term independent review led by the Healthcare Commission, the body responsible for regulating health-care services in England. This paper reports the consultation with older people that underpinned the evaluation. It focuses on the views and experiences of older people from black and minority ethnic (BME) groups and of the staff that work in BME voluntary organisations. A rapid appraisal approach was used in 10 purposively selected local councils, and plural methods were used, including public listening events, nominal groups and individual interviews. In total 1839 older people participated in the consultations and 1280 (70%) completed a monitoring form. Some 30% defined themselves as of a minority ethnic background. The concerns were more about the low recognition of culturally-specific and language needs than for the development of services exclusively for BME older people. (KJ/RH)
ISSN: 0144686X
From : http://www.journals.cambridge.org/aso

What do community-dwelling Caucasian and South Asian 60-70 year olds think about exercise for fall prevention?; by Maria Horne, Shaun Speed, Dawn Skelton (et al).
To identify salient beliefs that influence uptake and adherence to exercise for fall prevention among community-dwelling Caucasian and South Asian 60-70 year olds in the UK, the authors undertook an ethnographic study using participant observation, 15 focus groups (n=87; mean age 65.7), and 40 Individual semi-structured interviews (mean age 64.8). This qualitative study showed that both Caucasian and South Asian young older adults are generally not motivated to initiate or maintain exercise purely to help prevent falls. Both Caucasian and South Asian young older adults tend not to acknowledge their risk of falls. More similarities than dissimilarities seem to exist between Caucasian and South Asian older adults in their beliefs about falls and exercise for fall prevention. Fall prevention should not necessarily be the focus of health promotion strategies, but the peripheral benefits of exercise and leading active, healthy lifestyles should be promoted. (RH)
ISSN: 00020729
From: http://www.ageing.oxfordjournals.org

In this volume, eight essays by academics point to the paradoxical and hypocritical ways in which the ruling classes speak for the white working class on the one hand, and how they speak about them on the other. Themes examined are: class in the 21st century; education and educational underachievement; the racialisation of "chav" and "hoodie" youths by the media; social class relations; social and council housing provision; and representations of the "indigenous white working class". The last essay considers to whom the white working class is losing out in housing, health and other service provision - and it is to the wealthier rather than to migrants or other minority ethnic groups. (RH)

Working towards promoting positive mental health and well-being for older people from BME communities; by Rachel Tribe, Pauline Lane, Sue Heasum.
Working with Older People, vol 13, issue 1, March 2009, pp 35-40.
This article identifies some of the key issues that need to be considered when trying to promote positive mental health and well-being in older people from black and minority ethnic (BME) communities. The authors say that while developing a cultural understanding is important for providing good care for BME elders, it is also important to recognise that a number of structural and organisational issues that go beyond language or culture can affect health and access to care. The article also promotes the significant role of voluntary sector organisations in developing culturally appropriate mental health promotion services for BME elders. Two such projects are described: the 'Meri Yaadan' Dementia Project which raises awareness and promotes access to mental health services for South Asian elders in Bradford; and the Bangladeshi Mental Health Promotion Project in Tower Hamlets. (RH)
ISSN: 13663666
From: http://www.pavpub.com

Working with older people from black and minority ethnic groups who have depression: from margin to mainstream; by Jill Manthorpe, Jo Moriarty.
Despite the growing evidence base about depression and anxiety and its application to service settings and practice, we are short of practice examples about what works and for whom. This applies to older people in general but particularly to groups, such as people from black and minority ethnic backgrounds. This article discusses policy and legislative encouragements to think about equality of access and diversity issues in mental health services and wider mental health promotion activities. It analyses recent research and policy documents in the context of demographic change and practice. It argues that the context of personalisation in England may provide new opportunities to consider what older people will find most acceptable and effective in meeting their needs, but notes the challenges that this will bring to community-based organisations and specialist services. (RH)
ISSN: 14717794
From: http://www.pavpub.com

Your home, your choice: your options, where to get help and what to do next; by Age Concern England - ACE. London: Age Concern England, [January 2009], 11 pp (ACIL31).
Age Concern publishes free information on a range of issues affecting older people. This leaflet explains some of the main issues around housing for older people in South Asian communities. It identifies what help or accommodation, and suggests questions to ask when considering moving house. The information in this leaflet is applicable to people aged 60+ who live in England and Wales. (RH)
Price: FOC
This paper reports the evaluation of the effectiveness of incentives (viz points and prizes) and of peer-group organisers (older people's champions) in the outcomes of a health promotion programme for people aged 50+ in Sandwell, a multi-ethnic metropolitan district of the West Midlands. Health promotion activities were provided, and adherence, outcome variables and barriers to adherence were asked over 6 months, using a “passport” format. Those aged in their fifties and of Asian origin were under-represented, but people of Afro-Caribbean origin were well-represented and proportionately most likely to stay in the project. Those of greater age and with more illness were most likely to drop out. There were significant improvements in exercise, diet and the uptake of influenza vaccines and eyesight tests, but slighter improvements in well-being. Positive outcomes related to the incentives and to liking the format. The number of reported barriers was associated with lower involvement and lack of change, as was finding activities too difficult, the level of understanding, and transport and mobility problems, but when these were controlled, age did not predict involvement. Enjoying the scheme was related to positive changes, and this was associated with support from the older people's champions. (RH) ISSN: 0144686X From: http://www.journals.cambridge.org/ASO

Ageing and ethnic diversity in the UK: a policy digest; by Ian Smith, PRIAE - Policy Research Institute on Ageing and Ethnicity.; PRIAE - Policy Research Institute on Ageing and Ethnicity, 2008, 56 pp. According to the 2001 Census, there are some 6.7 million minority ethnic people living in the UK (11.8% of the total population). The relatively young age structure of minority ethnic groups means that they are the fastest ageing groups within the population. The number of minority ethnic older people in the UK is also set to increase quite rapidly, as those who migrated to the UK in the 1960s and 1970s reach retirement age. This digest focuses on specific themes: health and social care; housing; and income security, employment, poverty and pensions. It also identifies four cross-cutting issues relevant to these themes: discrimination and racism; information, isolation and access; financial inequality; and consultation and engagement. (RH) Price: £9.99 From: PRIAe, 4th Floor, 31-32 Park Row, Leeds LS1 5JD. E-mail: info@priae.org Webstie: www.priae.org

Attitudes and support needs of Black Caribbean, south Asian and White British carers of people with dementia in the UK; by Vanessa Lawrence, Joanna Murray, Kritika Samsi (et al). British Journal of Psychiatry, vol 193, September 2008, pp 240-245. Family carers are the most important source of dementia care, especially among ethnic minority populations, who are less likely to access health or social services. The evidence base on the carer experience in these communities is profoundly limited. The aim of this study was to explore the caregiving attitudes, experiences and needs of family carers of people with dementia from the three largest ethnic groups in the UK. It was a qualitative study, using a grounded theory approach. In-depth individual interviews were conducted with 32 carers of people with dementia (10 Black Caribbean, 10 south Asian, 12 White British). Results showed that carers were identified as holding ‘traditional’ or ‘non-traditional’ caregiver ideology, according to whether they conceptualised caregiving as natural, expected and virtuous. This informed feelings of fulfilment, strain, carers' fears and attitudes towards formal services. The majority of the south Asian, half of the Black Caribbean and a minority of the White British participants were found to possess a traditional ideology. The findings suggest that specific cultural attitudes towards the caregiving role have important implications for how carers can best be supported. (KJ/RH) ISSN: 00071250 From: http://bjp.rcpsych.org

Back to work after incapacity benefit: differences between ethnic minority and native Dutch workers; by Erik Snel, Frank Linder. Social Policy & Administration, vol 42, no 7, December 2008, pp 768-788. Contemporary pleas for an activating welfare state and social security system emphasize that getting benefit claimants back to work is more important than providing income compensation for social risks connected with unemployment or illness. The Dutch system of incapacity benefits, however, is far removed from this normative ideal of a proactive social security system. Resumption of work after a spell of incapacity benefit is the exception rather than the rule. This article examines possible ethnic differences in resumption of work following incapacity benefit. A unique register data file is used from Statistics Netherlands that contains information about all incapacity benefit claimants in the Netherlands in 1999. In the analysis, these benefit claimants are followed
for three years and their labour market position examined as in 2002. It was found that resumption of work after incapacity benefit is even more the exception for migrant workers with a Turkish or Moroccan ethnic background. Contrary to the authors' assumption, this difference from native Dutch workers can be explained by unfavourable personal characteristics of Turkish or Moroccan benefit claimants - their personal characteristics (gender, age, low educational level) appear to be rather favourable for resumption of work. In the current literature, these differences in outcomes between ethnic groups are often attributed to certain 'ethnic-specific' or cultural factors. This article argues that we should be careful of explaining different outcomes between ethnic groups by (alleged) cultural phenomena. There are other explanations possible such as differences in work motivation, lack of 'transition facilities' in companies, and differential treatment by employers or social security officials. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 01445596

Belonging in Britain: black older people's experiences of a sheltered housing scheme in London; by Audrey Allwood.

The author's research entitled "The negotiation of belonging among long-term West Indian migrants residing in a sheltered housing scheme in Brixton, London", examined the intricacies of identity and placement. The Supporting People Framework governs this BME supported housing scheme within the Council's equalities ethos. Allwood's research sample of 26 women and men aged between 60 and 86 were working-class migrants who had moved to England in the 1950s and 1960s. Influenced by Gramsci's (1990) ideas about the involvement of ordinary people in social change, and Bhabha's (1994) idea of placement, Allwood investigated how the elders, assisted by others who acted on their behalf, negotiated their place in British society as recipients of support services, and engaged in consultation and user involvement processes. Both conflicting and supportive service provision arose. This created shifting boundaries in relation to belonging that emerged between the elders, their place of birth, their formative culture and their on-going engagement with new experiences, other groups and the state. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 14608790

Challenges of recruitment and retention of older people from culturally diverse communities in research; by Susan Feldman, Harriet Radermacher, Colette Browning (et al).

The substantial and increasing number of older Australian people from culturally diverse backgrounds justifies the investigation and inclusion of their experiences in ageing research. However, few empirical studies have examined culturally diverse issues in the older population, in part because of the particular challenges in recruiting and retaining people from different cultural backgrounds. This article reflects on a research team's experience of recruiting participants from seven cultural groups into a study that sought to explore the links between physical activity and the built environment. Three key issues from recruiting and retaining participants were identified: having access to key local informants; the central role of paid and trained bilingual interviewers; and supporting the research partners in recruitment activities. Furthermore, it appeared that a "one size fits all" approach was not appropriate and that a flexible recruitment strategy may be required to ensure successful recruitment from all cultural groups. The differences observed in this study relating to recruitment and retention rates may be more dependent on the skills and characteristics of those responsible for the recruitment and interviewing, rather than the specific cultural group itself. Older people from some cultural backgrounds may be less likely to respond to traditional recruitment methods. Researchers need to be more assiduous and strategic to improve participants' rates in research. (RH)

ISSN: 0144686X

Confirmatory factor analysis of the familism scale in a sample of dementia caregivers; by Andrés Losada, Bob G Knight, Maria Márquez-González (et al.).: Taylor & Francis, July 2008, pp 504-508.

Familism is considered to be a cultural value shared by different Hispanic groups. The familism scale (FS) was developed in 1987 as a self-report measure of this construct, and three dimensions were obtained through exploratory factor analysis: family obligations, perceived support from the family, and family as referents. This study assesses the underlying factor structure of the FS using confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) in a sample of 135 Spanish caregivers. The original model did not fit the data well. Five items with factor loadings below 0.40 were trimmed. The fit indexes for the remaining items suggest a good fit of this model and an acceptable internal consistency index. The results suggest that the modified factor model for the FS has acceptable psychometric properties for a sample of dementia caregivers. (RH)
Depressive symptoms in four racial and ethnic groups: the Survey of Older Floridians (SOF); by Yuri Jang, David A Chiriboga, Giyeon Kim (et al).
Responding to the need for research on the mental health of older people from ethnic and racial minority groups, the present study explored determinants of depressive symptoms using a statewide sample of African Americans, Cubans, non-Cuban Hispanics and Whites from the Survey of Older Floridians (SOF). The investigators focused on direct and interactive effects of demographic variables and stressful life conditions (chronic health conditions, functional disability, and negative life events) on depressive symptoms. A hierarchical regression model showed that lower income, more chronic health conditions, greater disability, and more life events were common risk factors for depressive symptoms across all groups. The impacts of age and education were found to be group specific. Significant interactions were also obtained among predictor variables for each group, identifying risk-reducing and risk-enhancing factors within each group. The findings of race-specific risk factors and within-group variability should be taken into consideration when developing and implementing services for diverse older populations. (RH)

Ethnic differences in patterns of social exchange among older adults: the role of resource context; by Katherine L Fiori, Nathan S Consedine, Carol Magai.
Using social capital and social exchange theories, this investigation examined ethnic variation in patterns of social exchange in two heterogeneous racial groups - Blacks and Whites in the US - and the effects of education and income on these patterns. The sample was 1043 people aged 65-86 from four ethnic groups (US-born European-Americans, immigrant Russians or Ukrainians, US-born African-Americans, and immigrant English-speaking Caribbeans) who had provided details of their instrumental and advice exchanges with kin and non-kin. Hierarchical multinomial logistic regressions were used to predict patterns of social exchange, variations by ethnicity, income and education, and the interactions. Ethnic differences to patterns of social exchange were found, but almost all were qualified by interactions. Those with income showed within-group heterogeneity: African-Americans and Russians/ Ukrainians with higher income were more likely to engage in reciprocal instrumental kin exchange, whereas among English-speaking Caribbeans and European-Americans such exchanges were not associated with income. Unlike among European-Americans and English-speaking Caribbeans, Russians/ Ukrainians with higher income and education were more likely to engage in reciprocal non-kin exchange. The findings suggest that ethnic variation in social exchange reflects both aspects of ethnic group membership and the radical context, as well as the enactment of reciprocity values in varying resource contexts. (RH)

Ethnic minority elders: are they neglected in published geriatric psychiatry literature?; by Ajit Shah, Prosper Doe, Ksenia Deverill.
The population size of older people from ethnic minority groups in many developing countries is rapidly increasing. A study examining the proportion of research publications pertaining to ethnic minority elders was undertaken in two leading geriatric psychiatry journals, International Psychogeriatrics and International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry. Overall, only 7.6% of the publications examined ethnic minority elders; only 5.1% of publications included ethnic minority elder groups; and only 2.5% of publications included ethnic minority elder groups in their overall sample. Findings from studies, such as epidemiological studies of risk factors for mental disorders in old age and randomised controlled studies of treatment interventions, which exclude ethnic minority elders, cannot be assumed to apply to these groups. Researchers, research institutions, funding organisations and policy-makers should acknowledge the rising numbers of ethnic minority elders and recognise the importance of using ethnic minority-specific research data in the planning of culturally sensitive services and mental health promotion programmes. (RH)
The Telephone Interview of Cognitive Status (TICS) and the Short Portable Mental Status Questionnaire (SPMSQ) are compared and contrasted. The empirical questions considered are whether the TICS over-represents African American (AA) cognitive impairment (CI) relative to the SPMSQ, if there are age differences in CI prevalence between younger subjects (ages 50-64) and older ones (age 65+), and on accuracy to detect CI in individuals with higher levels of education (13 or more years) versus those with lower education levels (less than 13 years). A secondary data analysis was performed on 396 AA participants from the Carolina African American Twin Study on Aging (CAATSA). The SPMSQ measured CI prevalence at 10.3% and the TICS at 45%. Within the younger group, TICS and CI prevalence was 49.3%, and 80% in the older group. Within the younger group, SPMSQ and CI prevalence was 14.5%, and 53.8% among the older group. Within the higher educated group, TICS and CI prevalence was 36.7%, and 51.4% among the lower educated. Within the higher educated group, SPMSQ and CI prevalence was 7.7%, and 14.5% among the lower educated. Findings are consistent with the authors' hypothesis that the TICS would be a less accurate assessor of CI in African Americans. (RH)
ISSN: 13607863
From : http://www.tandfonline.com

The extent and impact of depression on BME older people and the acceptability, accessibility and effectiveness of social care provision; by Nadira Sharif, Walt Brown, Deborah Rutter, Social Care Institute for Excellence - SCIE; Social Care Workforce Research Unit, King's College London.: Social Care Institute for Excellence - SCIE, December 2008, 94 pp (Adults' services systematic map report 03).
Systematic maps aim to describe the existing research literature on a broad topic area and also highlight any gaps. This report focuses on depression in older people from black and minority ethnic (BME) communities to consider three map questions. First, what is the extent and impact of depression in older people from BME communities in the UK? Second, are there barriers to recognition of depression for these groups? Lastly, what social care provision is available for BME older people with depression; and is this provision acceptable, accessible and effective, and does it promote well-being? From an initial 3,038 unique records identified in searches of databases covering health, the 60 studies included in the map were focused on depression, implied depression or maintaining mental health. More than half had been undertaken in urban locations such as London and Bradford; and 43 were about exploration of relationships or correlations between different factors. The authors find that, despite the coverage of broad issues on depression in BME older people, the map highlights considerable gaps. For example, there were no evaluations of the effectiveness of social care interventions. The appendices include: definitions of key map terms; the inclusion/exclusion criteria; the search strategies employed for each database used; keywording tools (i.e. other attributes); and a list of references used in the systematic map. The systematic map is available as a searchable database of citations (http://ep吡t.ioe.ac.uk/webdatabases) and has been developed in partnership between SCIE information managers and research staff, and a team from the Social Care Workforce Research Unit at King's College London. (RH)
From : SCIE, Fifth floor, 2–4 Cockspur Street, London SW1Y 5BH. www.scie.org.uk

Education, employment and housing are identified as the key areas relevant to black and minority ethnic (BME) communities’ experiences of disadvantage that may affect their financial inclusion. Discussion of five aspects of financial provision - banking, credit, insurance, savings and advice - serves to help in distinguishing between poverty-related exclusion and ethnicity-related exclusion. This review also considers whether some financial products and services are compatible with social justice. The author lists 24 points for further research and policy action involving the aforementioned issues, together with issues around pensions, risk and assets. International case studies are presented as appendices. (RH)
Price: £11.95
From : The Runnymede Trust, 7 Plough Yard, Shoreditch, London EC2A 3LP. E-Mail: info@runnymedetrust.org Electronic version available at: www.runnymedetrust.org

Depression is typically considered relative to individuals, and is thought to originate from both biological and environmental factors. However, the environmental constraints and insults that African Americans experience
likely influence the concordance by age and gender for depression scores among older African American twins. 102 monozygotic (MZ) and 110 dizygotic (DZ) twins aged 25–88 in the Carolina African American Twin Study of Aging (CAATSA) were examined using the 11-item version of the CES-D measure of depressive symptomatology. Those participants with scores above 9 were considered depressed. Overall, the MZ pairs had a higher concordance than the DZ pairs, implying genetic influence. Both DZ and MZ males had higher concordance than either female zygotic groups. The differences between the concordance rates for MZ and DZ twin pairs was greater in males than females. By age group, the difference between concordance rates for younger MZ and SZ twin pairs was much larger than for older pairs. The results suggest that even though African Americans may be at risk for depression due to contextual environmental factors, genetic influences remain important. (RH)

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From: http://www.tandfonline.com

"Get active today": a culturally sensitive physical activity programme for BME elders: end of project report; by PRIAE - Policy Research Institute on Ageing and Ethnicity. abridged version: PRIAE (Electronic format only), 2008, 6 pp.
The Policy Research Institute on Ageing and Ethnicity (PRIAE) has published the report of a three-year project to promote physical activity among black and minority ethnic (BME) elders. It recommends that: BME elders are offered support by professionals, carers and families; easily accessible information is provided; needs of different faiths and cultures are identified; and community champions are identified. A DVD demonstrating a range of culturally sensitive physical activities for older people can be ordered online. (KJ/RH)


The health and social care experiences of black and minority ethnic older people; by Jo Moriarty, Race Equality Foundation - REF. London: Race Equality Foundation - REF, July 2008, 8 pp (Better Health Briefing 9).
In their own ways, the National Service Framework for Older People (NSF) and the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 have required public bodies to improve services to black and minority ethnic (BME) communities. This briefing paper reviews literature and research conducted in the last ten years which comment on the barriers to using services and attitudes of professionals experienced by ethnic groups. It also points to a growing body of evidence about what BME groups want from services: good quality services and more engagement with users. Although good services exist, it has been difficult to bring them into the mainstream. The briefing suggests other online resources on research, policy and practice relevant to BME older people's needs. (RH)
Price: FOC

In this secondary data analysis of the US Primary Care Research in Substance Abuse and Mental Health for the Elderly (PRISMe) study, it was hypothesised that older minorities who received mental health services integrated in primary health care settings would have greater service use and better mental health outcomes than older minorities referred to community services. 2022 primary care patients aged 65+ were identified (48% minorities), who met study inclusion criteria and had either alcohol misuse, depression and/or anxiety. They were randomised to receive treatment for these disorders in the primary care clinic or to a brokerage case management model that linked patients to community-based services. Service use and clinical outcomes were collected at baseline, 3 months and 6 months post randomisation on all participants. Access to and participation in mental health substance abuse services was greater in the integrated model than in referral; there was no treatment by ethnicity effects. There were no treatment effects for any of the clinical outcomes. Whites and older minorities in both integrated and referral groups failed to show clinically significant improvement in symptoms and physical functioning at 6 months. While providing services in primary care results in better access to and use of these services, accessing these services is not enough for securing adequate clinical outcomes. (RH)
ISSN: 08856230
From: http://www.interscience.wiley.com
Meeting the sheltered and extra care housing needs of black and minority ethnic older people: a Race Equality Foundation briefing paper; by Adrian Jones, Race Equality Foundation.
The author notes the main reports on housing for black and minority ethnic older people that have been published since 1984. A recurrent theme has been the lack of awareness of BME older people's housing needs, and that the requirement for specialist sheltered housing fulfils only part of such need. One possible solution is the provision of extra care housing, and this article cites a few examples of good practice in meeting minority ethnic housing needs. Further information sources are suggested. (RH)
ISSN: 14608790
From : Website: http://www.pavpub.com

Outcome-focused services for older people from minorities; by Social Care Institute for Excellence - SCIE.
Community Care, issue 1729, 3 July 2008, pp 34-35.
Reviews of Asian and other minority ethnic people in care homes and of social care for blacks show that older people from minority ethnic groups value services that respect their cultural background. The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) analyses some research findings behind social work practice and their outcomes in respect of change, maintaining health, well-being and quality of life, and service process outcomes. Short abstracts are presented for four items that have a focus on older people from minorities, published variously by the Policy Research Institute on Ageing and Ethnicity (PRIAE), the Improvement and Development Agency (I&DEA), the Care Services Improvement Partnership (CSIP), and the journal, Health and Social Care in the Community. (RH)
ISSN: 03075508
From : http://www.communitycare.co.uk

Psychoses, ethnicity and socio-economic status; by J B Kirkbride, D Barker, F Cowden (et al).
Consistent observation of raised rates of psychoses among black and minority ethnic (BME) groups may possibly be explained by their lower socio-economic status. The East London First Episode Psychosis Study (ELEEP), a 2-year population-based study of DSM-IV psychotic disorder in individuals aged 18-64 in East London tested whether risk of psychoses remained elevated in BME populations compared with the White British. All BME groups had elevated rates of a psychotic disorder, after adjusting for age, gender and socio-economic status. For schizophrenia, risk was elevated for people of black Caribbean and black African origin, and for Pakistani and Bangladeshi women. Mixed White and Black Caribbean, and White other groups had elevated rates of affective psychoses and other non-affective psychoses. Elevated rates of psychoses in BME groups could not be explained by socio-economic status, even though current socio-economic status may have overestimated the effect of the confounder given potential misclassification as a result of downward social drift in the prodrome phase of psychosis. These findings extended to all BME groups and psychotic disorders, though heterogeneity remains. (RH)
ISSN: 00071250
From : http://bjp.rcpsych.org

Race, socioeconomic status, and health in life-course perspective: special issue; by Scott M Lynch (ed).
Research on racial inequalities in health has increasingly linked socioeconomic status (SES) and health. For a long time, it has also been assumed and now established that a large proportion of Black-White disparity in health is attributable to SES differences between races. The five articles in this special issue of Research on Aging apply statistical techniques to longitudinal data (cross-sectional or panel) in order to test the cumulative disadvantage hypothesis - the propensity for health inequalities to increase across the life course because of the double disadvantage of age and minority status. The first article, by Jason L Cummings and Pamela Braboy Jackson, describes results of a descriptive investigation of trends in self-rated health by sex, race and SES in the US General Social Survey (GSS). Next, Katrina L Walsemann et al used a longitudinal study investigating the relationship between educational advantage in youth and health in middle age. The third article (Kim M Shuey and Andrea E Willson) uses data from the US Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) to examine cumulative disadvantage and Black-White SES disparities in health. Fourthly, Miles G Taylor uses the Duke Established Populations for Epidemiological Studies of the Elderly (EPESE) to focus on disability differentials by race and to some extent SES in later adulthood. Lastly, Li Yao and Stephanie A Robert use the Americans’ Changing Lives Study (ACL) to examine the contributions of race, individual SES and neighbourhood socioeconomic context on older people's self-rated health trajectories and mortality. Overall, the articles demonstrate that the relationship between race, SES and health are complex, and that this complexity is increased because the interrelationships are dynamic across age and time. (RH)
The effects of arthritis-related stress and chronic life stress on depressive symptoms were examined among African Americans and Whites with arthritis. Participants included 155 African American and White women aged 45-90 who completed structured questionnaires assessing arthritis-related stress (i.e. pain, functional impairment, perceived stress), chronic life stress (i.e. discrimination, financial stress, life stressors) and well-being (i.e. depressive symptoms). African Americans reported more functional impairment and lower perceived arthritis stress, but more life stressors, financial stress, and discrimination, than Whites. Arthritis strain accounted for similar proportions of variance in depressive symptoms across African Americans and Whites. However, chronic stressors explained significantly more variance among African Americans. Findings demonstrate the importance of considering contextual factors influencing women's health and well-being, particularly for those women with a chronic illness, including arthritis. Although arthritis-related stressors may be the predominant factors affecting well-being for Whites with arthritis, well-being for African Americans with arthritis is also closely tied to broader life stressors. Results suggest the importance of looking beyond illness-specific stressors when studying ageing and health. (RH)

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From: http://www.geron.org

Epidemiological data for older African American and Caucasians living an urban community were used to compare those factors associated with active or passive suicidal ideation in each racial group. The authors used 1990 census data for Brooklyn, New York and they attempted to interview all cognitively intact adults aged 55+ in randomly selected block groups, a sample comprising 214 White and 860 Blacks. George's social antecedent model was adapted to examine 19 independent variables; the dependent variable was based on lifetime history of active or passive suicidal ideation (hereafter suicidality). The sample was weighted by race and gender; and to control for sampling design effects, SUDAAN was used for data analysis. White reported higher prevalence than Blacks for current suicidality (5.8% vs 2.3%) and lifetime suicidality (14.8% vs 10.2%). None of the differences were significant. In logistic regression analysis conducted for each race, four variables were associated with suicidality for both races: higher depressive symptom scores; higher anxiety symptom scores; copes by using medications; and lower religiosity. Two variables were associated with suicidality only among Whites: higher use of spiritualists; and copes by keeping calm. One variable, greater use of doctors for mental health problems, was significant only among Blacks. There were no racial differences in the prevalence of suicidality. Virtually all the factors associated with suicidality are potentially ameliorable - by tackling anxiety and depression, and when appropriate, by encouraging various coping strategies or religiosity. (RH)
ISSN: 00169013
From: http://www.geron.org

Analyses were conducted on 174 older independently living, community dwelling African Americans (mean age 72.74; range 65 to 90), to examine the relationship between their cognitive performance and self-reported trouble falling asleep. Cognitive performance was measured using the Mini Mental State Examination (MMSE), Forward Digit Span task, Backward Digit Span task, Alpha Span task, and California Verbal Learning Test. Results suggest that individuals who reported trouble falling asleep tended to perform significantly worse than those not reporting trouble with falling asleep on measures tapping short-term memory and working memory after controlling for age, education, gender, depression, and current health. These results demonstrate that a self-report of sleep difficulty may be a unique predictor of cognitive performance. (RH)
ISSN: 01640275
Suicidal thoughts among elderly Taiwanese Aboriginal women; by Cheng-Sheng Chen, Mei-Sang Yang, Ming-Jan Yang (et al).
1347 older Taiwanese aboriginal women were enrolled, and their suicidal thoughts within the previous month, demographic data, adverse life events, emotional social support and depressive state were assessed. The 1-month prevalence of suicide thoughts among these community-dwelling older aboriginal women was calculated as 17.8%. Also estimated were the risks of suicide thought based on individual, family and community aspects. Those subjects with poorer self-perceived health, difficulty in accessing medical resources or experiencing marital discord were at higher risk of having suicidal thoughts. After controlling for depression, the odds ratio of self-perceived health and marital discord remained statistically significant. The odds ratio of interaction of marital discord and emotional social support was 0.41. Suicidal thoughts are common among the community-dwelling older Aboriginal women in Taiwan. Risk factors for suicidal thoughts comprise individual (depression and physical condition), family (marital discord) and community (medical resources) aspects. Better emotional and social support and effectively buffer the effect of marital discord. (RH)
ISSN: 08856230
From: http://www.interscience.wiley.com

Depression and lower cognitive functioning are common conditions in older populations. While links between psychopathology and neuropsychological performance have been studied in the White majority population, little is known about such links in the American Indian population. 140 American Indians aged 60+ completed structured interviews that included a depression screener and two cognitive screening measures, the Mini Mental State Examination (MMSE) and the Morris Dementia Rating Scale (MDRS). Participants had mean values of 26.7/30 on the MMSE and 125.8/144 on the MDRS. The depression screen was not associated with with the MMSE or MDRS total scores. However, older American Indians who screened positive for depression scored lower than did those American Indians who screened negatively for depression (27.7 versus 29.8 respectively) on the MDRS conceptualisation sub-scale after adjusting for the sociodemographic and health variables. The combined effects of psychopathology and cognitive impairment are likely to adversely affect the health and welfare of American Indians and their families. More research is needed to provide a better understanding of the relationship between psychopathology and cognition that will help inform clinical treatment for psychopathology in older ethnic minorities. (RH)
ISSN: 13607863
From: http://www.tandfonline.com

A tale of two Englands: 'race' and violent crime in the press; by Kjartan Páll Sveinsson, Runnymede Trust.
The aim of the Runnymede Perspectives series is to engage with government and other initiatives through exploring the use and development of concepts in policymaking, and analysing their potential contribution to a successful multi-ethnic Britain. This report explores the reporting - and the semantic meaning transmitted
through reporting - of violent crime in relation to the ethnicity of both victim and perpetrator. It is divided into two sections, the first of which deals with the methodology and theoretical perspectives relevant to the data - particularly the concepts of culture, community and ethnic identity. Section II comprises analysis of "race" and violent crime in the media, 1 May - 30 June 2007. It inspects leaders, comments and opinion; examines press coverage of reports from the House of Commons Home Affairs Committee and the Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA); explores how notions of "culture" and "community inform violent crime reporting; and narrows the focus to gangs and teenage murders. The influence of the media on the criminal justice system (CJS) as a whole is discussed. (RH)


'They ought to do this for their parents': perceptions of filial obligations among immigrant and Dutch older people; by Helga A G de Valk, Djamila Schans.


Filial obligation refers to a societal attitude that prescribes a duty of (adult) children to meet the needs of their ageing parents. This paper first questions how and to what extent perceptions of filial obligation are determined by ethnic background, or are attributable to socio-demographic factors. Second, the authors study how filial obligations among immigrant older people differ by level of acculturation. Data from the main and migrant samples of the Netherlands Kinship Panel Study (1002-2003) for respondents aged 50-80 in five ethnic groups are used. The analysis sample included 470 Dutch, 70 Turks, 70 Moroccans, 125 Surinamese and 59 Antilleans. Immigrant background was found to be an important determinant of the perception of a child's obligations towards parents. Immigrant elders generally expected more weekly visits and care from their children, and more facilitation of co-residence to parent than was the case for the Dutch. Among older people in all ethnic groups, including the Dutch, the attained level of education was related to perceptions of filial obligation, but marital status and current health status were not. Finally, it was found that different aspects of acculturation were related to the perception of filial obligations among older people with Mediterranean and Caribbean background. (RH)

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From: http://www.journals.cambridge.org/ASO


This research has been commissioned by the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) to examine the likely future pension incomes of disabled people and people from ethnic minorities. Overall, it finds that disabled people and people from ethnic minorities have many of the characteristics that are associated with lower pension incomes. If current trends continue, they are likely to have lower pension incomes in future than the traditionally-employed median-earning male. The research uses data from the Family Resources Survey 2005/06 and the Quarterly Labour Force Survey, April to June 2007 (both supplied by the UK Data Archive, University of Essex). (KJ/RH)

From: Download from website:

The White-Black disability gap revisited: does an incident heart attack change this gap?; by Mihaela A Popa, Laurence G Branch, Ross Andel.


A myocardial infarction (MI) results typically in abrupt functional deterioration immediately post-event, followed by recovery. The post-MI health disparities experienced by black older people may be attributable to the social and health correlates of race. The authors explored patterns of change in functional status in a community-based sample of 342 older whites and blacks admitted to hospital for an incident MI, drawn from the Established Populations for Epidemiologic Studies of the Elderly (EPESE). All those who had been hospitalised between the first two wave of data collection were followed up yearly for two additional years. Although there were no non-linear differences in activities of daily living (ADL) trajectories, there was a faster non-linear rate of change in functional limitation (FL) in older blacks compared to white, independent of other social and health factors. The baseline white-black gap in FL widened after the MI by the first follow-up, continued to widen at a less accelerated pace until the second follow-up, and narrowed by the third follow-up. Disparities in relevant social and health factors did not account for the more abrupt deterioration in FL post-event or for the more substantial recovery in older blacks compared to whites. Disparities in therapeutic strategies and the "survival of the fittest" may underlie the pattern of this white-black gap in FL after an incident MI. (RH)