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"Health care changes in Europe - opportunities for breakthrough with nursing leadership"

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## Abstract

Abstract Title: Care and Services for Persons with Memory Disorders in Finland

Abstract: The aim of this study was to analyze how Finnish municipalities take into account the care and services for persons with memory disorders in their old age -strategies. The purpose is to develop care and service practices for persons with memory disorders in Finland. This study is part of an EU -project RightTimePlaceCare which will develop the scientific evidence how to support the Member States to organize their dementia health care

The target group in this study was Finnish municipalities and their old age -strategies (N = 40). The data was collected using stratified sampling from the randomly selected municipalities' Internet sites. The current state of care and services for persons with memory disorders was sorted out from the old age -strategies (n = 36). The data was analyzed with deductive content analysis.

According to the results prevention of memory disorders was taken into account poorly, as only 9 % of the municipalities included it in their strategies. 59 % promoted living at home with support services as well as by day care activities. 21 % of the municipalities took into consideration developing the memory disorder oriented education of nurses working with persons with memory disorders. 38 % have memory nurses with a pivotal role in monitoring and supporting persons with memory disorders. 24 % have memory clinics for diagnostics. The private sector and the third sector supplemented nearly all the services.

Finnish municipalities should notice better the care practices and services for memory disordered persons in their old-age strategies. Attention should be paid especially to the education of professionals confronting memory disorders and the prevention of memory disorders as well as guidance for relatives and patients. By considering the care and services as a whole, persons with memory disorders can be offered the best possible comprehensive care and services.

Keywords: dementia health care, memory disorder, care, services, old age -strategy

Comments:

Requested / Required Equipments: If oral presentation, possibility for PowerPoint presentation