

Growing older, planning ahead:

Improving support for older people with learning disabilities and behaviours that challenge others, family and professional carers, and end of life care planning for carers

Briefing paper

Work Package 1 – Reviewing the literature on older people with learning disabilities and behaviours that challenge and their family carers

Introduction

This is part of a wider programme of work, 'Improving the support for older people with learning disabilities and behaviours that challenge, family and professional carers, and end of life care planning for carers.' It is funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR 129491).

Please see Briefing sheet 'Overview' <https://wels.open.ac.uk/research/growing-older-planning-ahead> for an overview of the whole project.

Objective of Work Package 1

To find out what is already known about older people with learning disabilities with behaviours that challenge others who are in transition to greater supported care, and their family carers. In particular, we want to know what the literature tells us about:

- the health and social care needs of these groups;
- service interventions to support these groups;
- resources that are available to support these groups.

Methods

To do this, we will initially undertake two rapid scoping reviews. The findings of our reviews will be used to support other work that is being done as part of the overall project. Rapid scoping reviews allow researchers to work quickly to identify the extent, range and nature of evidence that is already 'out there'.

One review will focus on older people with learning disabilities and behaviours that challenge others; the other review will focus on their family carers. A further review will examine support for older people with learning disabilities, including those who behaviour challenges others to live in the community towards the end of their lives.

The reviews will not only include research that has been published in peer-reviewed journals but also the 'grey literature', such as: reports, policy documents, national and local guidelines, and any relevant but unpublished research.

We will work with our project Advisory Group to develop the reviews and analyse the findings.

Timing

We plan to undertake the two reviews between September 2020 and the end of January 2021, and the third review will complete in the Summer of 2022.

Anticipated outputs

We will produce a report of our key findings, as well as two peer reviewed journal articles (one for each review). We will also provide Easy Read summaries of our findings.

The team (see Briefing sheet “Overview of the project” for full research team)

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This briefing describes independent research funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) under its Health Services and Delivery Research Programme (NIHR129491). The views expressed are those of the authors, and not necessarily those of the NHS, the NIHR or the Department of Health and Social Care.