Dementia Care in Barbados

REGIONAL CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE
ALZHEIMER’S AND DEMENTIA

LLOYD ERSKINE SANDIFORD CENTRE

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Objectives

- Barbados demographic data
- Dementia data
- Formal and Informal care
- Strengths
- Weaknesses
- Opportunities.
Barbados Demographics

- A small island 430sq.Km / 166sq mi
- Ageing Population
- Population in 2010 was 278,000K
- 13% > age 65 years
- Average life expectancy in 2013. (78yr. 81F. 75M)
Dementia Data

- Most common in, but is not exclusive to the Elderly.
- Affects approximately 5% of persons 65-84.
- Affects 50% of those 85 years and older.
- Study Columbia Univ. USA suggests higher prev. in AA of WI origin than the general population.
- UK review also shows a higher prevalence in African Caribbean people than indigenous people.
There are no national statistics for Barbados
  • Estimate > 4070 with AD
  • Based on the 2010 census data and prevalence data for AD in North America.

The number of referrals for admission to the Geriatric and District Hospitals is growing.

The number presenting to primary care physicians and specialists is growing.

Thanks to the awareness campaign of the Barbados Alzheimer’s Association more persons are coming forward.
Dementia in Barbados
A single center experience

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Retrospective Review of Computerized Database

- Dementia
  
  Diagnosis of dementia in patients seen between 1\textsuperscript{st} Jan 1995 to 25\textsuperscript{th} February 2016.

  - 407 patients.
  
  - 2.4\% of 16,981 patients at Diagnostic Clinic Neurology Center.
Types of Dementia

- Alzheimer’s Disease
  - 72.73% of all patients with dementia
- Amnestic Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI)
  - 13%
- Vascular Dementia
  - 4.67%
Types of Dementia

- Frontotemporal Dementia
  - 3.19%
- Dementia with Lewy Bodies
  - 2.21%
- Amyloid Angiopathy
  - 0.74
Dementia in The Geriatric Hospital

- For the years 2004 and 2005 dementia was the referral diagnosis for 16% of admissions to the GH.

- This increased to 32% of admissions for the 4 year period (2008 - 2011).

- A survey of the medical conditions of the 340 patients at the Geriatric Hospital in 2008 revealed that 54% had dementia.
Dementia Data

- At the Psychiatric Hospital the elderly make up a significant part of the population.

- Admissions for dementia however was steady at 12 for each of the years 2008 – 2011.
The Barbados Health System an overview.

- Health care is delivered through the public and private sectors.

- Public health care, is delivered through nine (9) polyclinics (PC) that provide primary health care.

- Private health care is delivered through an extensive network of private medical facilities.
The Barbados Health System an overview

- The Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) provides secondary and tertiary care.

- The Psychiatric Hospital (PH) provides mental health care, and runs Mental Health clinics in the Polyclinics.
The Barbados Health System
an overview

The Geriatric Hospital (GH) and District Hospitals (DH) provide:

- Long-term care (LTC)
- Rehabilitation services.
- Day care

There are four facilities: capacity (500)

- The St. Michael District Hospital / Geriatric Hospital (GH)
- St. Philip District Hospital (SPDH)
- The Gordon Cummins District Hospital (GCDH)
- St. Lucy District hospital (SLDH)
The Barbados Health System
an overview

- The GH serves as the central referral and admitting facility for all DHs. Including day care, and ACEP.

- Referrals are assessed by the admissions committee to prioritize admissions.

- Average annual referrals for the past three years was 256.

- Average annual GH admissions last four years 115
The Barbados Health System an overview.

- Additional services at the GH
  - Respite Care
  - Day Care services (35 clients)

- A Geriatric Community Clinic at the Brandford Taitt Polyclinic (BTPC) once a month.
The Barbados Health System an overview

- The Alternative Care of the Elderly Programme (ACEP)
  - Public sector / private sector partnership
  - (>30) senior citizens homes (SCH) and nursing homes (NH).
  - Capacity (254)
  - Government funded. $65 to $75/day
  - Medical cover from CMOs of nearest polyclinic.
  - Patients referred to GH when function deteriorates or care becomes complicated.
Minimum requirements for good dementia care

- Safety
- Security
- Nutrition
- Personal care
- Activities
Strengths

- Access
- Essential elements are in place
Weaknesses

- Under resourced
- Understaffed
- Need for ongoing training
Way Forward

- The acquisition and use of data on Dementia in Barbados needs to be improved.
- Dementia care is demanding and can be expensive.
- The time is ripe for the acquisition of this data as it will assist in the allocation of our scarce resources and planning for the future.
Thank you for your attention