Meaning of home for carers of people with dementia: A secure heaven or prison?

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Home, sweet home...

- Home holds meaning and memories

- Home is a frame of reference for our experiences
SAMPLE & METHODS

- 13 family carers
- Different accommodation
- Walking interviews
- Thematic analysis
Home is... everything

“Happiness”

“Security”

“Control”

“Identity”

“SAFETY”

“Familiarity”

“Stay, care & die”

“Retreat”

“Hub”
Home is... different

“Stuck!”

“Prison”

“Compromises”

“Hospital”

“different”

“less homely”

“unsafe”

“Inconvenient”
Compromises

physical space & sensory environment!
Is my home safe now?

NO! Lay-out: stairs

Unsafe  →  No control  →  ESCAPE

NEW HOME
Is my home safe now?

YES! Is it comfortable?

Safe  No comfort  ESCAPE
Enabling Environment

- Design (lay-out, size)
- Use of assistive devices
- Environmental strategies
“Home is a place you grow up wanting to leave and grow old wanting to get back to”

John Ed Pearce

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