Co- Facilitating Dementia Care Education and Learning with a Person with Dementia in an Acute Hospital Setting

ADI 2016 Conference

Jules Knight
Dementia Clinical Nurse Specialist

Dianne Campbell
Living with Dementia Specialist
Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust provides acute and specialist healthcare for a population of nearly two million people in north west London, and more beyond.

We have five hospitals – Charing Cross, Hammersmith, Queen Charlotte’s & Chelsea, St Mary’s and The Western Eye – as well as a growing number of community services.

The Trust employs over 10,000 staff and the Dementia Care Team have directly trained over 5,000 staff in the last four years and influenced the training programmes for other professionals to ensure that all staff have specialist training in dementia!
Our Education Programmes

- Corporate Induction for all New Staff
- Fundamentals of Care for Healthcare Assistants
- Qualified Staff Dementia Study Day
- Student Nurse Induction
- Foundations of Care for Medical Students
- Bespoke Training for Wards, Departments etc
A New Model of Learning

At the beginning of 2015 we wanted to challenge staff perceptions of dementia so we reviewed all of our training and changed the focus to ‘Living Well with Dementia’.

We essentially taught the same things, but we changed our focus by making the training real and meaningful, and we consulted with people with dementia from our local community.

Some of the changes were simple...
We wrote a book with the support of people living with dementia and this has been published, and this has been given to all the wards and staff attending our education sessions.
‘I’m 77 years of age and I was diagnosed with dementia 4 years ago. I have Alzheimer’s and vascular dementia. I was devastated. I said ‘Who is going to look after me?’ Because that’s what worried me, straight away, I imagined myself being gaga. Like people that don’t know where the kettle is, don’t know where the light switch is, don’t know where anything is’. Patricia Witherdene

The Mental Health Foundation Video – Raising Awareness of Living with a Diagnosis of Dementia

To Whom it May Concern

My name is June Jones. I am 90 years old. I suffer from Alzheimer's disease. If I have to stay in hospital for something like a broken bone, how could I manage? What would help me? With my lack of mobility and my lack of understanding, how could I know how to call my nurse? My trouble? For my first time in hospital, I would be very frightened. Please please my daughter stay with me.
Dianne’s Experience

Jules & Dianne met at a local Memory Service

Dianne worked as a Peer Support Worker, in this role she was able to draw on her own experiences of emotional and psychological distress to support other people who were recently diagnosed.

Dianne particularly wanted to engage with staff to break down barriers and stigma about dementia and what it means to live with dementia.
Quotes from Staff

“I feel confident I can take care of patients with dementia much better than before”.

“She is a brave woman, and a good model (to have on the Study Day) for people with dementia”.

“...made me understand that you can live a good life with dementia”.

“I think all Imperial staff should attend the (Study) Day”.

“She (Dianne) is a fantastic woman”.

“The day has changed my perception of people with dementia”.
Exciting News!

Last week we received news that we now have funding from the Imperial College Healthcare Charity to employ Dianne on a part time basis 😊
Further Information & Contacts

The Imperial College Dementia Care Team

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