



Care Partnerships
Australia pty Ltd

NEWS UPDATE from Michelle & Sheila

Welcome

It is National Dementia Awareness month in September 2018. Our mission is to raise awareness for the human rights for people who live with a cognitive disability and support their families and carers. Our staff enable the person to have a choice about care environments and enjoy a quality of life. We support people as **individuals** to stay at home with a care companion or source suitable care provider in accommodation, here are some of the areas we cover

- Advanced Care Planning for clients living with cognitive and physical disabilities
- Supporting people seeking help with residential care, community care in WA, Singapore and Malaysia
- Providing Education and Training
- Memory Support, enablement
- Carer Support

Its my pleasure to offer support to people living with a cognitive disability, I never underestimate the trauma and multiple loss people experience when they get a diagnosis of dementia.

“People living with dementia are still able to have perception and can react negatively if they are being ignored or excluded.

Involve them in your conversation just because they may not participate does not mean they are not listening they should be included.”

Michelle Harris Allsop RN and Co- Director.

Communication Tips

How to manage communication problems and inappropriate comments from friends or neighbours.

It can be difficult to share a diagnosis of dementia with other people, particularly when the dementia is rare and difficult to understand. However, family members and friends often do understand once a condition is explained. Understanding dementia helps people to respond and be tolerant of communication difficulties or unusual behaviours.

Changes in emotional response are common and can be put into context once the dementia has been explained. For day-to-day situations with strangers, showing a carer’s card can be a quick and easy way of explaining and excusing odd or inappropriate behaviours. Try to think about things from their point of view who's understanding of the world may be narrower than your own and situations may be misinterpreted.

Manage inappropriate behaviour in a matter of fact manner and encourage others to do the same. Explain clearly to others that this arises from their dementia. It is important to recognise your own needs; if taking a person out has become too difficult because of adverse behaviour, it is okay to ask for help rather than avoid taking a person out.

Inflexibility - If a person is very fixed in their routines and time conscious, it can be helpful to explain this to others, for example, visitors or members of a care team. If someone is due to arrive at 1pm, arriving at 1:30pm will only lead to agitation. Try to make sure that people are aware of the importance of the routines. In a different place, they may not be able to do the same things they can do at home at first, but the more familiar items that they have around them and the more they follow their usual routine.