

# Implementation and evaluation of Dementia Education And Learning Through Simulation 2 (DEALTS 2) programme

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## Introduction

- The quality of care provided to people with dementia is a global concern. UK Government policy recommends a need for training to improve the delivery of care for people with dementia.
- The Dementia Education And Learning through Simulation 2 (DEALTS 2) programme is a national simulation-based dementia education toolkit for hospital staff, mapped to the Dementia Training Standards Framework learning outcomes for tier 2 (risk reduction and prevention, person-centred care and communication) (Heward *et al.*, 2018).
- DEALTS 2 is underpinned by the Bournemouth University (BU) Humanising Values Framework to help staff identify humanising and dehumanising aspects of care and support and improve morale.
- This programme was commissioned by Health Education England (HEE), building on the DEALTS programme developed by HEE in 2013/14 and has been quality assured using the hallmarks of good dementia training identified by the 'What Works' research study led by Leeds Beckett University.

## Aim

- The aim of the DEALTS 2 toolkit is to put staff into the shoes of a person with dementia to facilitate positive impacts on practice - see the person, not the diagnosis!
- We hypothesize that staff will make positive changes to how they care and support people with dementia after attending the DEALTS 2 programme.

## Methods

- DEALTS 2 was delivered as a train-the-trainer model across England in 2017 to 196 trainers from 13 HEE Local Offices over a one full training day. Simulation is a form of experiential learning that supports the development of interpersonal skills relevant in dementia care.

## Impact Evaluation

- A mixed methods approach underpinned by Kirkpatrick Model for evaluating effectiveness in training were made and data were collected through:

1. Train the Trainer course pre and post evaluation forms (n=183, 93%)
2. Follow up telephone interviews after 6 months with at least one trainer from each 13 HEE (n=17, 10%)
3. Follow up online survey after 12 months (n=51, 27%)

**Dementia Education and Learning Through Simulation 2**

A simulation-based dementia education programme suitable for all staff who have regular contact with people with dementia.

**FREE download of DEALTS 2 resources for trainers from NHS HEE website:**  
<https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/dementia-awareness/dementia-education-learning-through-simulation-2>

## Results – The impact of DEALTS 2

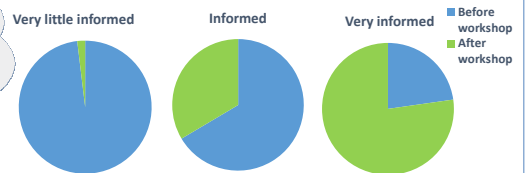
### 1. Feedback from Train the Trainer workshops (n=183)

- Participants found the workshops informative and useful for enabling confidence and new ideas for deliver materials.
- 95.1% of participants rated the training as 'very good' or 'good'.
- Potential barriers to roll out:
  - approval from line managers;
  - course content heavy;
  - limited time given for training.

**Simulations were:**

- 'Thought-provoking' and 'insightful.'
- Provided a more holistic outlook on dementia care.'
- 'Enhanced training and reflection on the underpinning theory.'

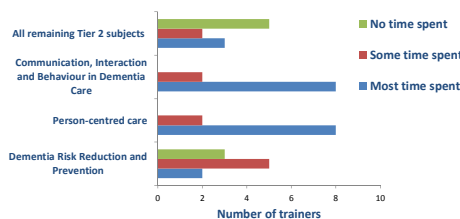
### Trainers self-reported level of knowledge about humanised care approaches, pre and post Train-The-Trainer workshops



### 2. Feedback from the telephone interviews (n=17)

- 10 out of 17 reported that they are using parts of the toolkit in their training, and another 6 are planning to use parts of the toolkit within 12 months

### Which area have you focused most on in training sessions?



### Quotes from the trainers:

- 'The training has made [staff] more aware and they think twice about it, they have a deeper understanding'.
- 'I have been looking for some new ideas, and the training came just at the right time with a good range of activities'.
- 'The training has resulted in better communication with the patients'.

### 3. Feedback from the online survey (n=51)

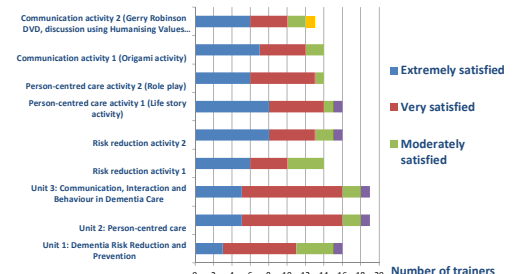
- 23 out of 51 (45%) who participated in the survey have used parts of the toolkit when training their staff.
- Another 16 (36%) who have not used the toolkit yet are planning to use parts of it within 12 months

**Comments:**

'The parts that we use, particularly the activities, are excellent'.

'Really valuable training, impressive depth within broken down topics'.

### Satisfaction rate of the DEALTS 2 toolkit by trainers who are delivering DEALTS 2



## Conclusions

Preliminary findings demonstrate the value of using simulated learning to develop interpersonal skills relevant in dementia care. This evaluation data will provide evidence of the effectiveness of simulation based education to determine suitability across the healthcare sector.

**The DEALTS 2 Programme was Shortlisted as a finalist in 9<sup>th</sup> National Dementia Care Awards 2018 'Best Dementia Training Initiative'**

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## Next steps

- Further training sessions and evaluation to be delivered to HEE South to include data gathering from staff that have been trained by the trainers.
- Social media based peer support network to ensure sustainability across Trusts and wider health and social care arena.
- Further opportunities exist to incorporate other develop innovative evidence- based approaches eg Alzheimer's Research UK 'A Walk Through Dementia' (AWTD) virtual reality app <https://www.awalkthroughdementia.org/>

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This poster reflects on the findings of the research conducted by Bournemouth University. The views expressed are those of the research team and not necessarily those of the other organisations listed.

Reference: Heward M, Board M, Spriggs A, Murphy J Design and evaluation protocol for 'DEALTS 2': a simulation-based dementia education intervention for acute care settings. *International Psychogeriatrics*, 2018 <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1041610218002193>