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.

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.

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.

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.

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 9th National Dementia Care Awards 2018 ‘Best Dementia Training Initiative’

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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%)

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