

Caregivers' experiences with aggressive behaviour of nursing home residents

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Caregivers' experiences with aggressive behaviour of nursing home residents

Adelheid Zeller

1. Resident aggression, in particular verbal and physical aggression, is an important issue for caregivers in nursing homes, considering that 38% of participants did experience resident aggression in the week prior to data collection (this dissertation).
2. Nursing interventions with physical contact are the most mentioned trigger for resident aggression (this dissertation).
3. Caregivers who feel supported by superiors and their institution more often use recommended measures for dealing with resident aggression than caregivers who do not feel supported (this dissertation).
4. Training programmes in aggression management should be critically reviewed regarding their content and aims as trained caregivers are at higher risk for experiencing resident aggression and significantly use less of the recommended measures (this dissertation).
5. Caring for residents with aggressive behaviour is a balancing act between allowing aggression as a normal human response in a demanding nursing home environment and recognising when aggression become dangerous to residents themselves and to other people involved.
6. Well-known models and measures for preventing and managing resident aggression have to be tested regarding their effectiveness.
7. Nursing home residents' voice is a neglected aspect in the research field related to aggressive behaviour of those residents.
8. The World Health Organisation (WHO) expects the number of people with dementia to nearly double every 20 years, 65.7 million in 2030 and 115.4 million in 2050, which will be one of the great challenges for the health care system in the coming years.
9. Trainings programmes for health care staff should be adapted to the expected increase of people suffering from chronic diseases which will alter types of needed nursing competencies.
10. Limited resources in the health care system and the concurrent claim for high nursing quality and use of evidence based interventions create a tension between quality expectations and economic efficiency.