Effective communication with people who have dementia

Dev Jootun
Gerry McGhee Lecturers, University of the West of Scotland, Hamilton

This article explores the skills needed for effective communication with people who have dementia. It describes the factors that influence the communication process and the effect this may have on the nurse-patient therapeutic relationship. Cognitive impairment in people with dementia may limit their ability to communicate effectively. This may, in turn, affect the nurse’s ability to identify patients’ needs. Communication is central to providing good dementia care. The article examines some of the challenges nurses may face when caring for this patient group and suggests some strategies to overcome any barriers, enhance quality of care and improve patient outcomes.

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3. Explain the importance of effective communication with individuals with dementia (1.3). We all communicate to express needs and share information. In order for these needs to be met there must be someone open to receive information and a receptive environment in order for information to be shared effectively. Although I do have experience of interacting with people who have dementia, this was at a time when I was not a support or care worker. As I used to be a cook in a large care home, I interacted frequently with persons with dementia; I will use those experiences along with the information I have learnt as a result of this unit to answer questions 5 and 6. This article explores the skills needed for effective communication with people who have dementia. It describes the factors that influence the communication process and the effect this may