Dementia Palliare
Literature Review –
Experiences of Advanced Dementia

Åsa Sandvide, Elizabeth Hanson, Wilson de Abreu,
Graham Jackson, Anna Waugh, Rhoda MacRae,
Debbie Tolson
Aim

To create a shared understanding of dementia care and family care associated with the extended palliative care stage of the illness

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Three variables of interest

- Definitions, descriptions and recognitions of the extended palliative phase of dementia

- Symptomatology in relation to needs of the recipient of care and for family caring

- Management in relation to needs of the recipient of care and for family caring

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Method

• Integrative literature review
  (Whittemore and Knafl, 2005)

• dementia and palliative

• CINAHL, PubMed, Social Science Citation Index, Cochrane, Zetoc and EThOS

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Flowchart of sampling process

1525 hits in databases
Initial screening of title, and if necessary abstract

725 references
Second screening of title, and if necessary abstract

326 references
Review of full-text, appraisal and quality grading

Exclusions:
- not English language
- not dementia
- not late stage
- not relevant for topic
- not research report

final sample
101 references

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Descriptions, definitions and recognition

- Lack of common overall description of advanced dementia
- Under recognition of the extended palliative phase
- Progressive, ‘a trajectory of decline’
- Involves family
- Decision-making

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Symptomatology – needs person with dementia and family

• Complexity
• Pain
• Depression
• Sleep disturbance
• Anxiety

• Suffering
• Emotional stress
• Co-morbidities
• Social life

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Management – needs
person with dementia and family

• A palliative approach
• Person Centred Care
• Advanced care planning
• Advanced directives
• Support

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Implementations
Recommendations

• Practice
• Education and Professional development
• Policy
• Research

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Thank you!

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