The challenges of involving patients with dementia in research on the acute hospital ward.

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Why bother?

• Dementia affects 850,000 people in the UK.

• 1 in 4 hospital beds occupied by a person with dementia

• Prime Minister’s challenge on dementia 2020

• Nothing about me without me

“The issue is not should we include the person with dementia but how can we best do it” Hellstrom et al (2007)
Method

- PhD Research Study
- Observations and Interviews
- 3x Medicine for Older persons ward
- Purposive Sampling
- Inclusion Criteria
Ethics

Written Consent

Staff Attitude

Consultee

Challenges

Diagnosis

Environment
Recommendations

• Find the right ethics board

• Cognitive Impairment NOT Diagnosis

• Reduced stimuli

• Ensure only verbal consent needed

• Reduce consultee input

• Less is best
Future Work

- Consent Process
- Education
- Documentation
- Ethics Committee
The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) in partnership with Alzheimer Scotland, Alzheimer's Research UK and Alzheimer's Society have developed Join Dementia Research, a service which allows people to register their interest in participating in dementia research and be matched to suitable studies.

https://www.joindementiaresearch.nihr.ac.uk/
Any Questions?

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