



Addressing Unwanted Sexual Behaviour in Residential Aged Care Services

Friday 9th August 2024

Australia's Residential Aged Care Services have come under increased scrutiny due to high profile reports of resident mistreatment, typically physical abuse or neglect.

The number of alleged or suspected unlawful sexual contact of residents in Australia, reported to the regulator the **Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission** continues to rise. Older people and especially those with dementia living in residential aged care are a particularly vulnerable population for sexual assault. This is due to multiple physical, psychological, cognitive and health related issues as well as co-housing of residents.

The workshop explores what can be done to better enable preventing and managing unwanted sexual behaviour in RACS. We examine the prevailing negative sexual stereotypes of older people, their greater dependency on others, the challenges facing staff members in reporting, detecting, and preventing incidents.

Presented by the Australian Centre for Evidence Based Aged Care (ACEBAC), La Trobe University, this interactive workshop is facilitated by Professor Joseph Ibrahim with other experts and experienced leaders in the field of aged care practice and research. It is designed for aged care managers and nursing staff. An electronic workshop information pack is included in the registration fee.

FACE-TO-FACE WORKSHOP

WHEN

Friday 9th August 2024
9:00am – 4:30pm

WHERE

La Trobe University
City Campus
360 Collins Street,
Melbourne Victoria 3000
Level 3, Room 3.03

COST

\$484 incl. GST

Catered function.

ENQUIRIES

Daisy Smith by email
daisy.smith@latrobe.edu.au

Online payment and registration

https://pay.latrobe.edu.au/EvProvost/booking?e=PRO_EV071

Content warning: discussion of sexual assault may be triggering for some people. If you require support, please contact the Sexual Assault Crisis Line on 1800 806 292, Lifeline on 13 11 14 or Wellways' Helpline on 1300 111 500.

Terms and Conditions: Refunds will not be given if cancellations are advised less than seven days prior to the event. Please note, a colleague is always welcome to attend in your place. Refund requests need to be received in writing daisy.smith@latrobe.edu.au. Registration is finalised once you receive a registration confirmation email from the administrator. Finance office use only WBS 4.0101.29.25, ACEBAC cost centre 1346. GL Account 401356 Conference Revenue.

Program Outline

Time	Duration	Item	Person
0845 h	15	Arrive and settle in	
0900 h	30	Overview of seminar and dilemmas in managing unwanted sexual behaviour in Residential Aged Care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Icebreaker task 	Prof Joseph Ibrahim & Ms Daisy Smith
0930 h	60	Sexual expression and intimacy in Residential Aged Care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Small group work 	Dr Linda McAuliffe
1030 h	30	Insights from the National Elder Abuse Prevalence Study	Dr Rachel Carson/ Mr John De Maio
1100 h	25	Morning Tea and Refreshment Break	
1125 h	60	Foundation knowledge of unwanted sexual behaviour in Residential Aged Care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Four core topics 10 minutes each and 5 minutes of questions between each topic 	Prof Ibrahim & Ms Daisy Smith
1225 h	20	Common scenarios with managing and preventing unwanted sexual behaviour in RACS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Small group work solving a scenario 	Prof Ibrahim, Ms Daisy Smith & Ms Amelia Grossi
1245 h	30	Lunch and networking opportunities	
1315 h	30	Challenges with cognitively impaired residents and issues of capacity and consent to sexual activity	Dr Supriya Rama Krishnan
1345 h	30	The role of police: how to report a criminal incident to the police and what to expect?	Speaker TBC
1415 h	30	The role of the Centre Against Sexual Assault (CASA)	Speaker TBC
1445 h	30	The role of Dementia Support Australia (DSA)	Mr Ashley Roberts
1515 h	30	Incidents reported through The Serious Incident Response Scheme	Group discussion
1545 h	15	Mini-Quiz: A refresher of the days learnings	Prof Ibrahim & Ms Daisy Smith
1600 h	30	Wrap-up and Evaluation	Ms Daisy Smith
1630 h	-	Close	-

Individual session details

Welcome, housekeeping & icebreaker

Professor Joseph Ibrahim & Ms Daisy Smith, ACEBAC La Trobe University

Meet and greet the seminar team and recap the aim of the seminar. Icebreaker task to understand who we all are and what we are trying to achieve in today's session.

Sexual expression & intimacy in Residential Aged Care

Dr Linda McAuliffe, ACEBAC La Trobe University

Understanding the sexual needs of older adults living in aged care and how RACS can equip themselves to join the sexual revolution. A small group activity will be part of this presentation.

National Elder Abuse Prevalence Study

Dr Rachel Carson / Mr John De Maio, The Australian Institute of Family Studies, Family Violence and Elder Abuse Team

The Australian Institute of Family Studies share their insights and findings from the National Elder Abuse Prevalence Study (NEAPS) commissioned by the Attorney-General's Department. NEAPS is the most extensive empirical examination of elder abuse in Australia to date and was conducted by a team of experts within the field of family law, family violence, and elder abuse.

Foundational knowledge of unwanted sexual behaviour in Residential Aged Care

Prof Joseph Ibrahim & Ms Daisy Smith, ACEBAC La Trobe University

Four core topics are addressed spending about 10 minutes didactic teaching and 5 minutes questions.

Common scenarios when managing & preventing unwanted sexual behaviour in RACS

Prof Joseph Ibrahim, Ms Daisy Smith & Ms Amelia Grossi, ACEBAC La Trobe University

This is an interactive component aimed to critically analyse and workshop two common scenarios in RACS. The aim of this is to equip the audience with issues they'll likely face and discuss strategies for resolution.

Challenges with cognitive impaired residents & issues of capacity & consent to sexual activity

Dr Supriya Rama Krishnan, Geriatrician Mercy Health (Werribee), Grampians Health & Age West

How do we assess the cognition? How do we assess capacity? How do we assess capacity in persons with cognitive impairment to engage or decline participation in sexual activity?

The role of police: how to report a criminal incident to the police and what to expect?

Speaker TBC, Sexual Offences & Child Abuse Investigation Team

What is reportable to the police, and what information should staff inform the police about when managing an incident of unlawful sexual behaviour?

The role of the Centre Against Sexual Assault (CASA)

Speaker TBC, CASA House

What services do CASA provide for survivors of sexual assault and how else can CASA help you manage an incident that occurs in your facility?

The role of Dementia Support Australia (DSA)

Mr Ashley Roberts, Dementia Consultant, Dementia Support Australia

What services do DSA provide for resident survivors and exhibitors of unwanted sexual behaviour and their experiences responding to referrals from RACS.

Incident reporting through the Serious Incident Response Scheme (SIRS) – Group discussion

A group discussion regarding the shared experiences reporting incidents of unwanted sexual behaviour to SIRS and a chance to ask questions.

Mini-Quiz: A refresher of the days learnings

A group wrap up of the days learning, random questions, and a reflection with a quiz.

Biographies

Professor Joseph Ibrahim

Joseph is the inaugural and current editor of the Residential Aged Care Communiqué. Joseph's research is aimed at protecting residents from abuse and poor practices and ensuring proper clinical and medical care standards are maintained and practiced. This work has informed the Australian Law Reform Commission into Elder Abuse, the Commonwealth Senate, House of Representatives Inquiries, the Royal Commission into Aged Care and the United Nations.

Daisy Smith

Daisy is a Research Officer at ACEBAC, La Trobe University. Daisy has worked in the field of sexual violence against residential aged care residents since 2015. Daisy contributed to the first Australian e-training specifically designed to prevent unwanted sexual behaviour in RACS and was also involved in the development of the sexual violence training for health practitioners. Daisy has contributed to multiple national inquiries regarding the rights of older persons and to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of the Older Person (2021) and the United Nations calls for contributions of older persons deprived of liberty (2022). Daisy attended as an expert witness at the House of Representatives inquiry into family, domestic, and sexual violence in October 2020.

Dr Linda McAuliffe

Linda is a Senior Research Fellow with the Australian Centre for Evidence Based Aged Care (ACEBAC), La Trobe University. She is also a registered psychologist. Over the past two decades, Linda has led and contributed to research projects focused on improving the wellbeing of older adults (including older adults living with dementia) and their family caregivers. She has published and presented extensively in the area of sexuality and intimacy in residential aged care, with research covering assessment of resident sexual needs and health, staff education, and facility policies.

Dr Rachel Carson

Rachel is a socio-legal researcher with expertise in family law and mixed-method research. Rachel is a Senior Research Fellow and Executive Manager of the Family Law, Family Violence and Elder Abuse Research Program at the Australian Institute of Family Studies. She has over twenty years' experience researching the Australian family law system, including examining the intersections between the family law system and family violence, and particularly legislative, policy and practice reforms designed to improve the system. Rachel currently manages the Institute's elder abuse research program and led the Evaluation of the National Plan to respond to the Abuse of Older Australians (Elder Abuse) 2019–2023, as well as working on the Elder Abuse National Research Program and the National Elder Abuse Prevalence Study, commissioned by the Australian Attorney-General's Department.

John De Maio

John De Maio research has focused on family law, family transitions and elder abuse. He has also been involved in evaluating family law programs aiming to improve collaboration between family law service organisations and assist parents resolve their post-separation parenting arrangements where there has been an alleged experience of family violence. John has also undertaken work investigating the prevalence and dynamics of elder abuse in Australia through his involvement in the National Elder Abuse Prevalence Study.

Dr Supriya Rama Krishnan

Supriya is a consultant geriatrician at the Mercy Health (Werribee), Grampians Health & Age West. Supriya is also member of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians. Supriya completed twelve months of training in Clinical Forensic Medicine and is completing her Masters in Forensic Medicine. Supriya has also completed research exploring the

nature of older alleged offenders of violent crimes. Regular attendance at professional development courses and conferences related to geriatric medicine, behavioural sciences, and cognition and capacity assessments.

Ashley Roberts

Ashley Roberts has over 15 years' experience of working in Aged Care. Upon earning his Graduate Diploma in Dementia 2013, Ashley ran his own Dementia Training company, namely 'Dementia Inspired', and chaired several committees to help develop Dementia Friendly Communities across the South East of England. Ashley came to work for as a dementia consultant for Dementia Support Australia in August 2017 and has recently graduated from The University of Tasmania's Wicking Centre with a Master's Degree in Dementia.

One of his key focuses in the last few years has been exploring ways that people living in residential aged care facilities with dementia can be supported to maintain sexual and intimate relationships in a time when facilities increasingly struggle to balance meeting the needs of people whilst protecting them from harm. This was the topic of his Masters dissertation.

Amelia Grossi

Amelia graduated from Monash University with a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) and Biomedical Science in 2022. Amelia has worked as a Research Assistant investigating issues affecting the quality of life of older people in aged care. She is currently studying the Doctor of Medicine at the University of Melbourne.