Factors associated with implementation were the course material’s relevance to practice, management support and peer support. In addition, subgroup analyses revealed prior knowledge of course material, anticipation of support in the work environment, course material’s relevance to practice, management support and peer support were associated with implementation in some but not all work settings.

These results suggest this online learning program is a useful tool for dementia education and contributes to the limited literature on online training in dementia care. Further research will be required to determine the generalisability of these results and if additional support will improve knowledge translation into clinical practice.

**A36 - Can an online learning program improve clinical dementia skills and knowledge? Evaluation of a 12-week course on the acute care of older people with dementia**

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A Positive Approach to the Care of the Older Person is a 12-week internet-based education program on the acute care of older people with dementia, and is based on Kitwood’s (1997) person-centred care framework. This program provides a unique platform for care staff to interact and share ideas through the use of online forums and real-time chats with NSW Dementia Clinical Nurse Consultants. Ongoing support is also available via helpdesk, email and phone.

In 2011-2012, a small subsample of participants completed an evaluation survey immediately upon completion of the program as well as four or more weeks later to examine the program’s impact on clinical practice. Responses of 31 participants who completed both surveys in full were analysed in this evaluation. Participants worked in hospital, community or residential settings; most were from regional/rural areas, and the majority of them had a nursing background.

The main outcome measure of this study was the extent of knowledge implementation in clinical practice at follow-up. A large majority of participants (90.3%) reported that they were able to apply the information to clinical practice to some or great extent; implementation did not differ across different work roles or work settings.