A5 - Evaluation of an in-service tool to assist clinicians in the management of BPSD

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In 2012 DCRC-ABC was funded by the Australian Government as represented by the Department of Social Services to produce the document Behaviour Management, A Guide to Good Practice, Managing Behavioural and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia (BPSD). The target group for the guide is clinicians working in the Dementia Behaviour Management and Advisory Services (DBMAS) throughout Australia in their role of assisting residential aged care facility staff, community care staff and family members caring for persons with dementia, who present with BPSD.

DCRC-ABC has developed an in-service tool to support implementation of the BPSD Guide management principles in the field. The in-service tool contains BPSD-specific workshop packages to guide clinicians in the assessment and management of BPSD. Each package includes a PowerPoint presentation which can be adapted for specific audiences, facilitator’s lesson plan with notes to assist in delivery of the session, two versions of participants’ pre- and post-knowledge questionnaires (eg RN or AIN) as well as facilitator and participant evaluation forms.

This study aims to evaluate the implementation and effectiveness of the BPSD Guide to support clinicians in their role. In-service modules will be trialled in a series of sessions with clinicians in selected States and Territories of Australia. Completed questionnaires will be evaluated to assess knowledge gained during the workshops as well as feedback regarding the acceptability and effectiveness of the workshop packages to support knowledge translation. Preliminary results from the trial will be presented.