There's an App for That

Dementia Carers and Health Professionals Become Tech Savvy

A new dementia care app was launched at the ninth annual Dementia Research and Knowledge Translation Forum in September in Sydney.

Kim Burns, the Project Coordinator, said carers and family members want to have information and advice at their fingertips in language that is clear and easy to understand.

"The app was developed after extensive consultation with experienced carers and expert clinicians," Kim says. "It covers an array of potential behavioural scenarios that might arise in dementia and strategies to manage these."

More than 90 per cent of people with dementia display some form of behavioural or psychological symptoms during the course of their condition. The app’s content is based on information produced by the Dementia Collaborative Research Centre for Assessment and Better Care (DCRC ABC).

Professor Henry Brodaty, Project Leader and Director of the DCRC ABC, UNSW, cautioned that carers should always seek guidance from a professional for concerning behaviour.

At the forum, Kim also presented results from an evaluation study that looked at clinicians’ use of an app to support health professionals managing behavioural and psychological dementia symptoms.