

Disinhibited Behaviours and Dementia

CHAIRS & EXPERT PANEL



Professor Elizabeth Beattie
DCRC Director, QLD
University of Technology



Dr Nadeeka Dissanayaka
University of Queensland



SPEAKERS & EXPERT PANEL



Theresa Flavin
Dementia
Advocate



Marie Alford
Head of Dementia Services
The Dementia Centre



Kate Hawkins
Project Manager
Anglicare



A/Prof Cindy Jones
Researcher
Bond University



**Dr Margaret MacAndrew &
Professor Elizabeth Beattie**
Queensland University of Technology

Event recording
will be available
here:

[https://tiny
url.com/4kkj
byu5](https://tinyurl.com/4kkjbyu5)

**Changed Behaviours Special Interest Group
ONLINE SYMPOSIUM 1 PROGRAM
DISINHIBITED BEHAVIOURS IN DEMENTIA
Friday 18th June 2021, 10am – 12.30pm AEST**

The symposia will be recorded for broad circulation.
Data or information that is not ready for wide circulation will be censored from the recording before distribution.

<https://dementiaresearch.org.au/projects/sig-changed-behaviours/>



Time	Action and speakers
10:00am – 10:05am (5 minutes)	Claire Burley <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General housekeeping - Introduce DCRC Changed Behaviours Special Interest Group (SiG) and Dementia Training Australia (DTA), Introduce Co-Chairs
10:05am – 10:10am (5 minutes)	Professor Elizabeth Beattie , Director DCRC and DTA (QLD), Queensland University of Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome
10:10am – 11:15am	Session 1: Expert presentations part 1 SESSION CHAIR: Professor Elizabeth Beattie, Director DCRC and DTA (QLD)
10:10am – 10:30am (20-min talk)	Presenter 1 – Theresa Flavin , Dementia Advocate (Speaking freely followed by interview style) Talk Title: <i>Personal experience of disinhibited behaviours and dementia</i>
10:30am – 10:50am (20-min talk)	Presenter 2 – Marie Alford , Head of Dementia Services Affiliation: The Dementia Centre and Dementia Support Australia Talk Title: <i>Behind the behaviour: What is really going on and what can we do?</i>
10:50am – 11:10am (20-min talk)	Presenter 3 – Priyanka Titus (on behalf of Kate Hawkins) , Project Manager, Specialist Dementia Care Program Affiliation: Anglicare Talk Title: <i>“Nana you can’t say that!”</i>
11:10am – 11:15am (5 minutes)	5-minute Q&A for presenters 1-3 Moderated by Professor Elizabeth Beattie



11:15am – 11:20am (5 minutes)	<i>Break for 5 minutes</i>
11:20am – 12:05pm	Session 2: Expert presentations part 2 SESSION CHAIR: Dr Nadeeka Dissanayaka, University of Queensland
11:20am - 11:40am (20-min talk)	Presenter 4: A/Prof Cindy Jones , Associate Professor of Behavioural Sciences Affiliation: Bond University Talk Title: <i>Disinhibited behaviours: Negative mind to positive response</i>
11:40am - 12:00pm (20-min talk)	Presenter 5: Dr Margaret MacAndrew Affiliation: Queensland University of Technology Talk Title: <i>Changed awareness of social behaviour</i>
12:00pm – 12:05pm (5 minutes)	5-minute Q&A for presenters 4 and 5 Moderated by Dr Nadeeka Dissanayaka
12:05pm – 12:20pm (15 minutes)	EXPERT PANEL DISCUSSION & AUDIENCE Q&A (all speakers & chairs) <i>‘Where do we need to go next with dementia care, research and policy focused on disinhibited behaviours in dementia?’</i> Moderated by Professor Elizabeth Beattie, DCRC Director (QUT) / Drs Claire Burley & Nadeeka Dissanayaka
12:20pm – 12:30pm (10 mins)	Dr Claire Burley – Summary and future directions – Close symposium



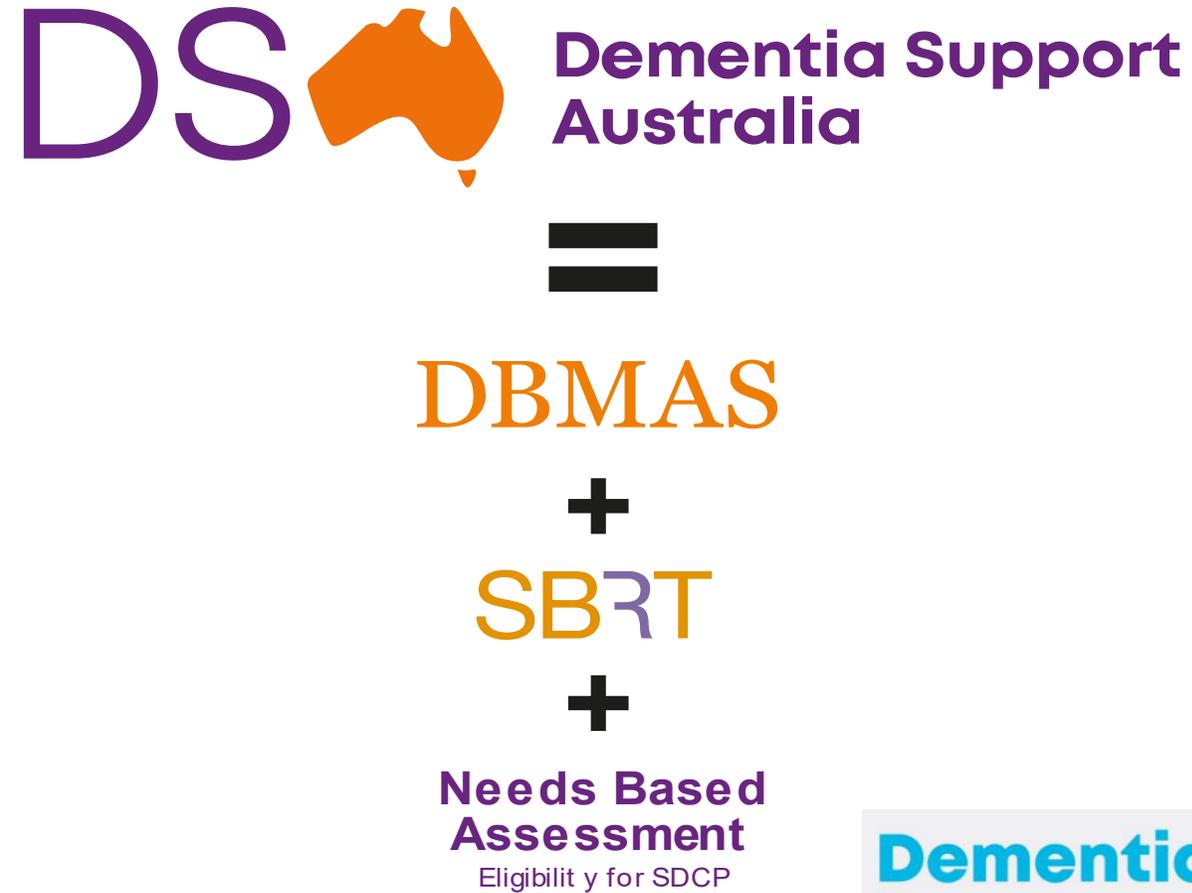
DCRC Changed Behaviours Symposia & Workshop 2021

**Behind the behaviour: What is really
going on and what can we do?**

Marie Alford, Head of Dementia Centre Services

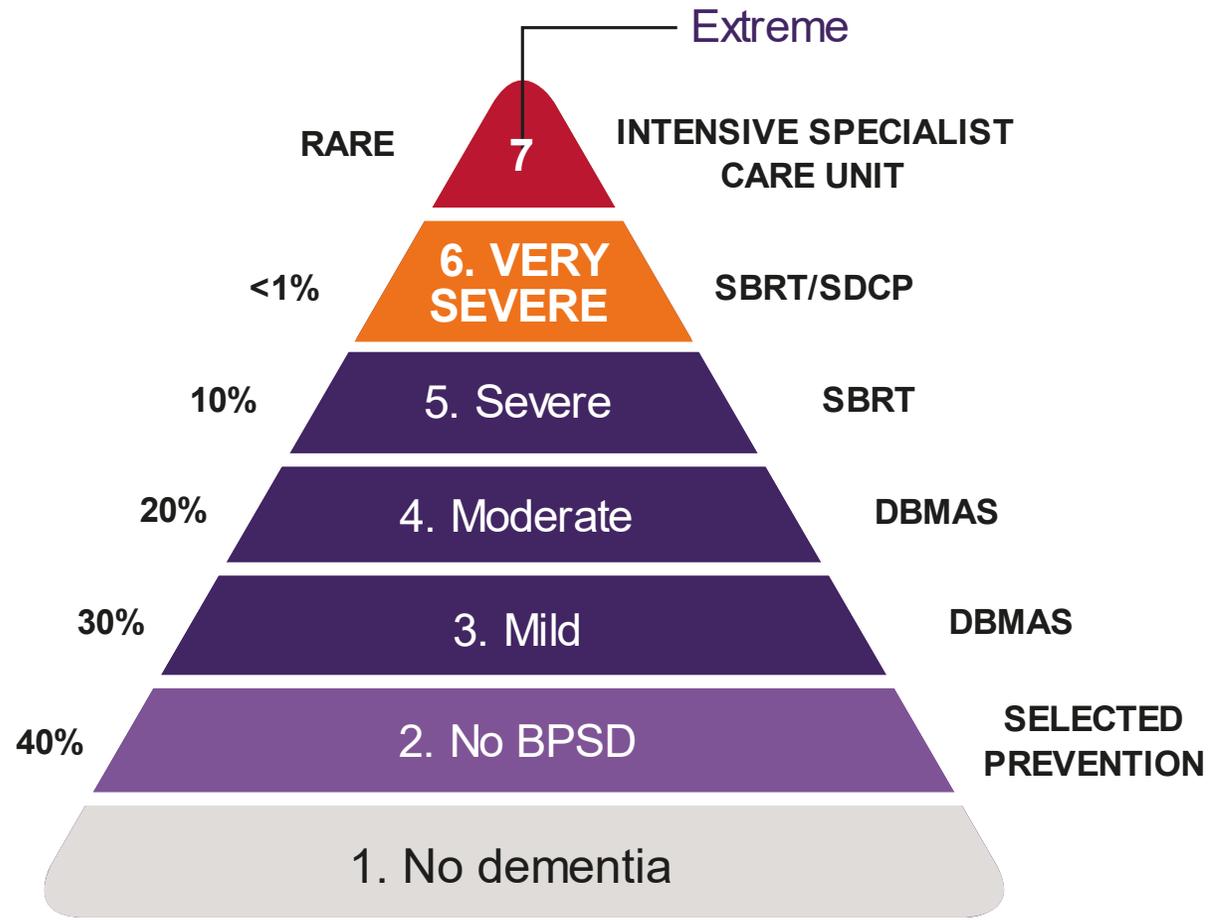


DSA: Who Are We?



Dementia Engagement Modelling Program

DSA: An integrated service



Adapted from: Brodaty, H., Draper, B.M., & Low, L.-F. (2003). Behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia: a seven-tiered model of service delivery. *The Medical Journal of Australia*, 178(5), 231–234.

A Biopsychosocial Model of Care – why this is important

We need to be identifying causes of behaviours, rather than focussing on symptoms.

But....we are reliant upon a detailed psychosocial history.

Importance of psychotropic medication is **de-emphasised**



Over/under stimulation



Carer approach



Loneliness



Pain



Delirium



Mood disorders

The model of care is based on identifying causes of behaviours that are contributing factors to referrals

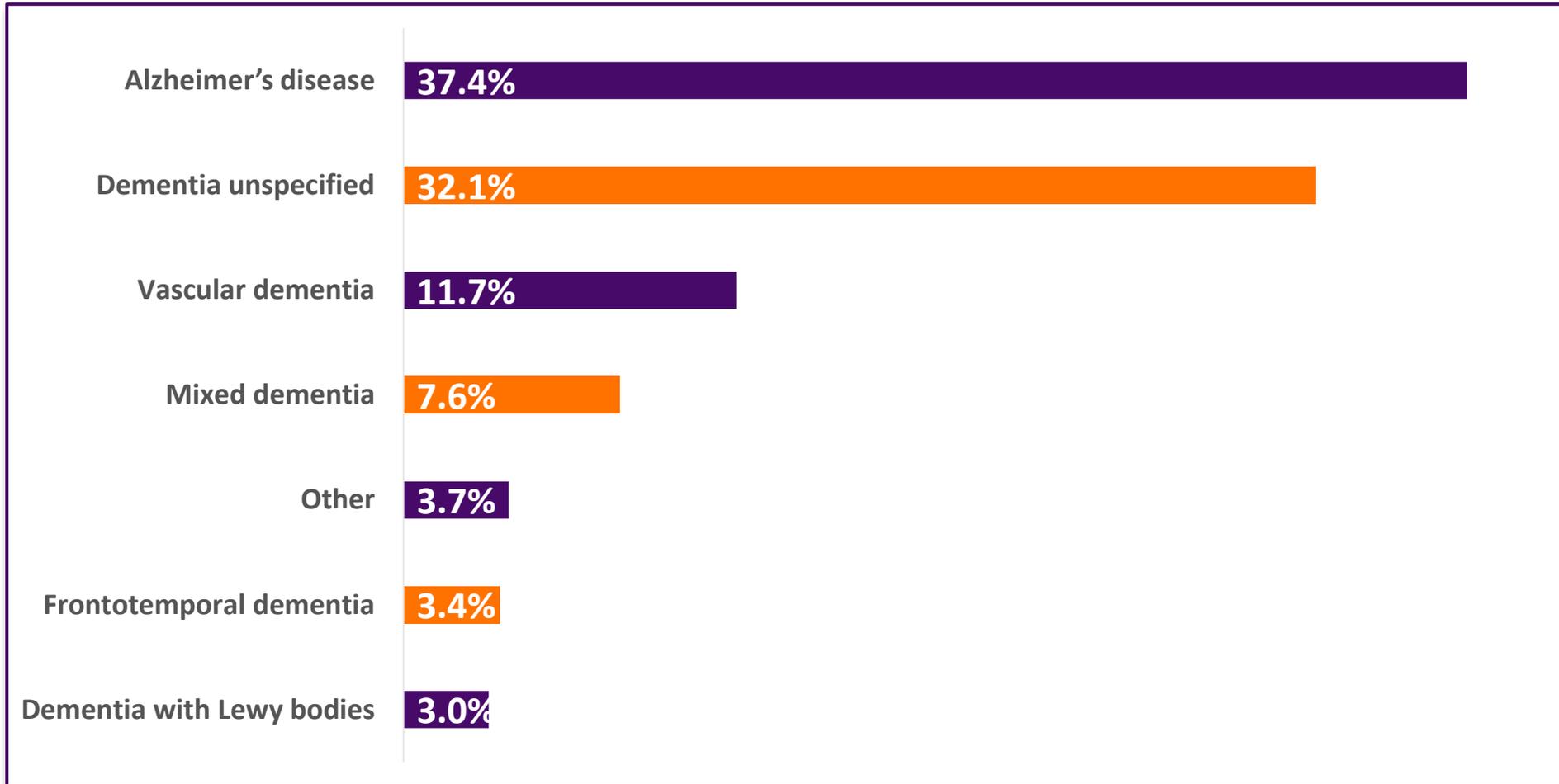
Right person, right time

Meaningful and purposeful informal and formal care staff are necessary for DSA to deliver its model of care.

Psychosocial interventions need to be delivered with empathy and understanding, by the right person and at the right time.



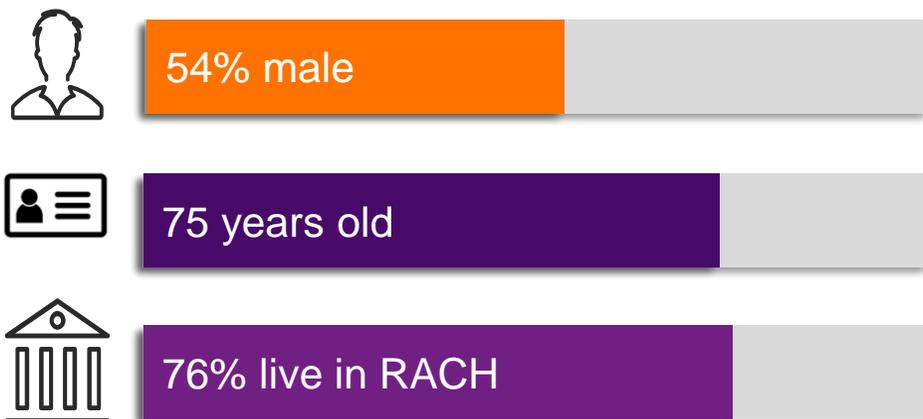
Prevalence of dementia in DSA



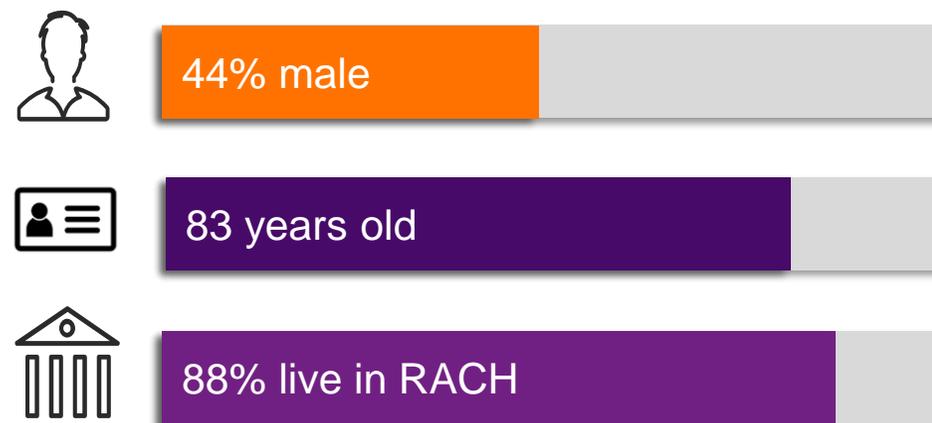
Macfarlane, S. (2021). Evaluating the Clinical Impact of National Dementia Behaviour Support Programs on Neuropsychiatric Outcomes in Australia. *Frontiers in Psychiatry / Frontiers Research Foundation*, 12, 367.

Profile of clients supported by DSA

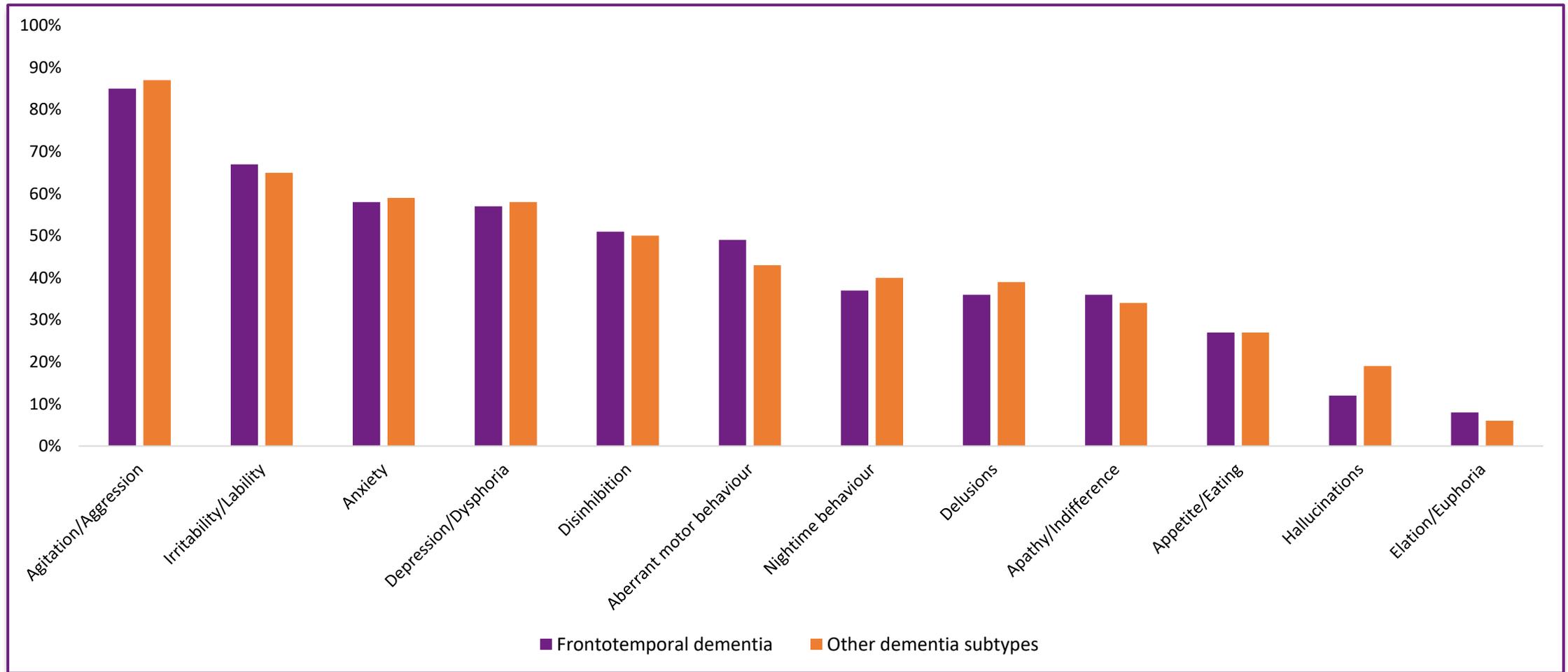
Frontotemporal dementia



Other dementia subtypes

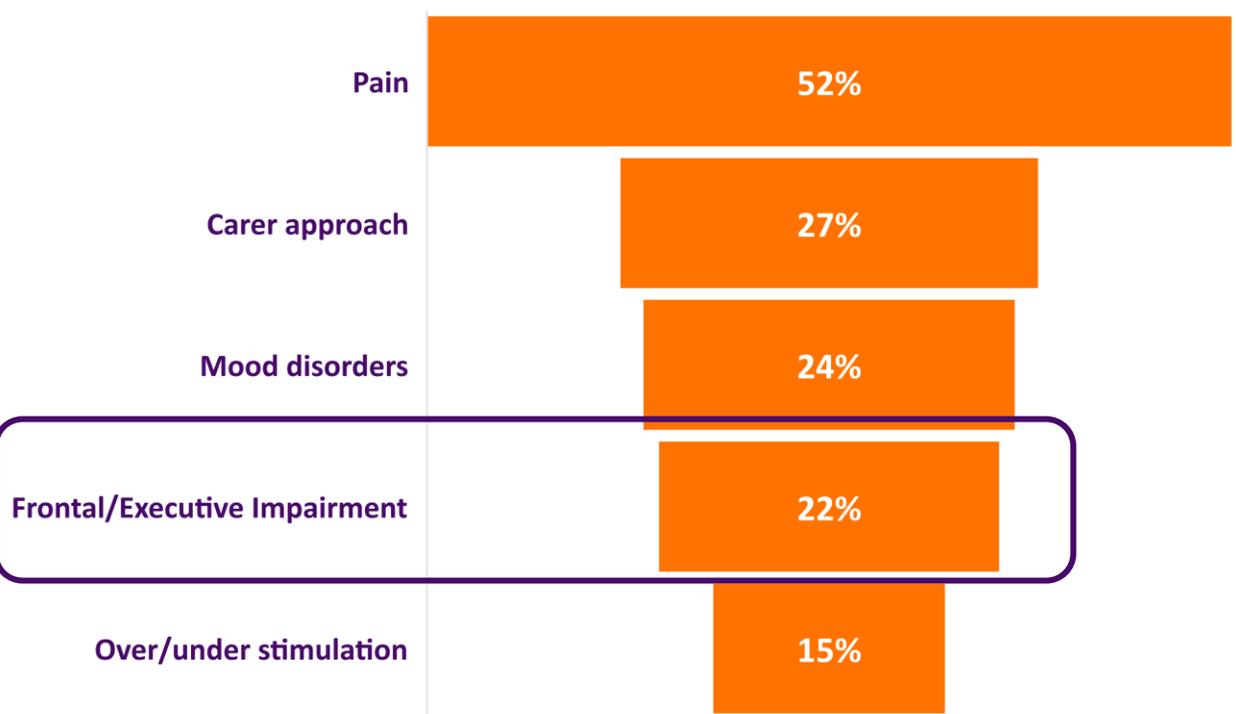


Prevalence of behaviour in DSA

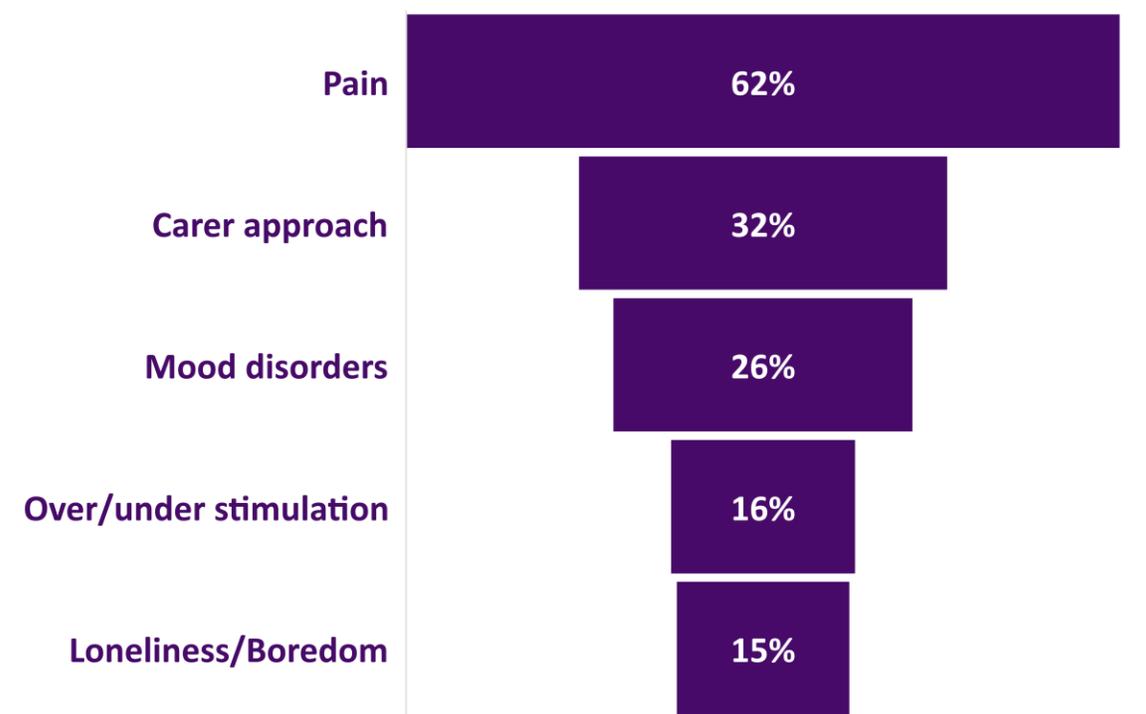


Top 5 causes of behaviour

Frontotemporal dementia



Other dementia subtypes



Impact of DSA on behaviour

Dementia subtype	Intake	Discharge	Change		
	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)	MCS ^a	MPC ^a	d ^a
NPI severity					
Alzheimer's disease	9.98 (5.89)	3.97 (3.65)	-5.96	-59.71	-1.15
Mixed dementia	9.94 (5.37)	3.44 (3.38)	-6.60	-66.40	-1.39
Frontal lobe dementia	9.99 (5.42)	4.13 (3.39)	-5.94	-59.43	-1.25
Dementia with Lewy bodies	11.85 (6.39)	4.89 (4.79)	-7.09	-59.83	-1.21
Vascular dementia	9.76 (5.71)	3.48 (3.14)	-5.97	-61.17	-1.21
NPI distress					
Alzheimer's disease	13.65 (8.47)	4.58 (4.78)	-8.86	-64.90	-1.21
Mixed dementia	13.76 (7.76)	4.41 (5.22)	-9.41	-68.41	-1.36
Frontal lobe dementia	14.02 (8.31)	5.07 (4.91)	-9.06	-64.65	-1.26
Dementia with Lewy bodies	16.13 (9.23)	6.11 (6.42)	-10.30	-63.85	-1.24
Vascular dementia	13.61 (8.47)	4.04 (4.24)	-9.12	-67.01	-1.26

^aMCS, MPC and Cohen's d values represent the change from intake to discharge, controlling for age, sex, baseline score and case length.
MCS, mean change score; MPC, mean percent change; d, Cohen's d; M (SD), mean (standard deviation).
Negative signs preceding values represent improvement in scores.

Evaluating the Clinical Impact of National Dementia Behaviour Support Programs on Neuropsychiatric Outcomes in Australia

 Stephen Macfarlane^{1,2†},  Mustafa Atee^{3,4*†},  Thomas Morris^{1†},  Daniel Whiting^{1†},  Madeleine Healy^{1,5},  Marie Alford¹ and  Colm Cunningham^{1,6†}

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³The Dementia Centre, HammondCare, Wembley, WA, Australia

⁴Curtin Medical School, Faculty of Health Sciences, Curtin University, Bentley, WA, Australia

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EDITORIAL |  Open Access |  

When responsive and reactive meet organic? Treatment implications of language use in the era of #BanBPSD

Stephen Macfarlane, Mustafa Atee , Thomas Morris, Colm Cunningham

First published: 28 March 2021 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/gps.5545>



Case study

Name: Edward (not real name)

Age: 77 years old

Diagnosis: Frontotemporal dementia

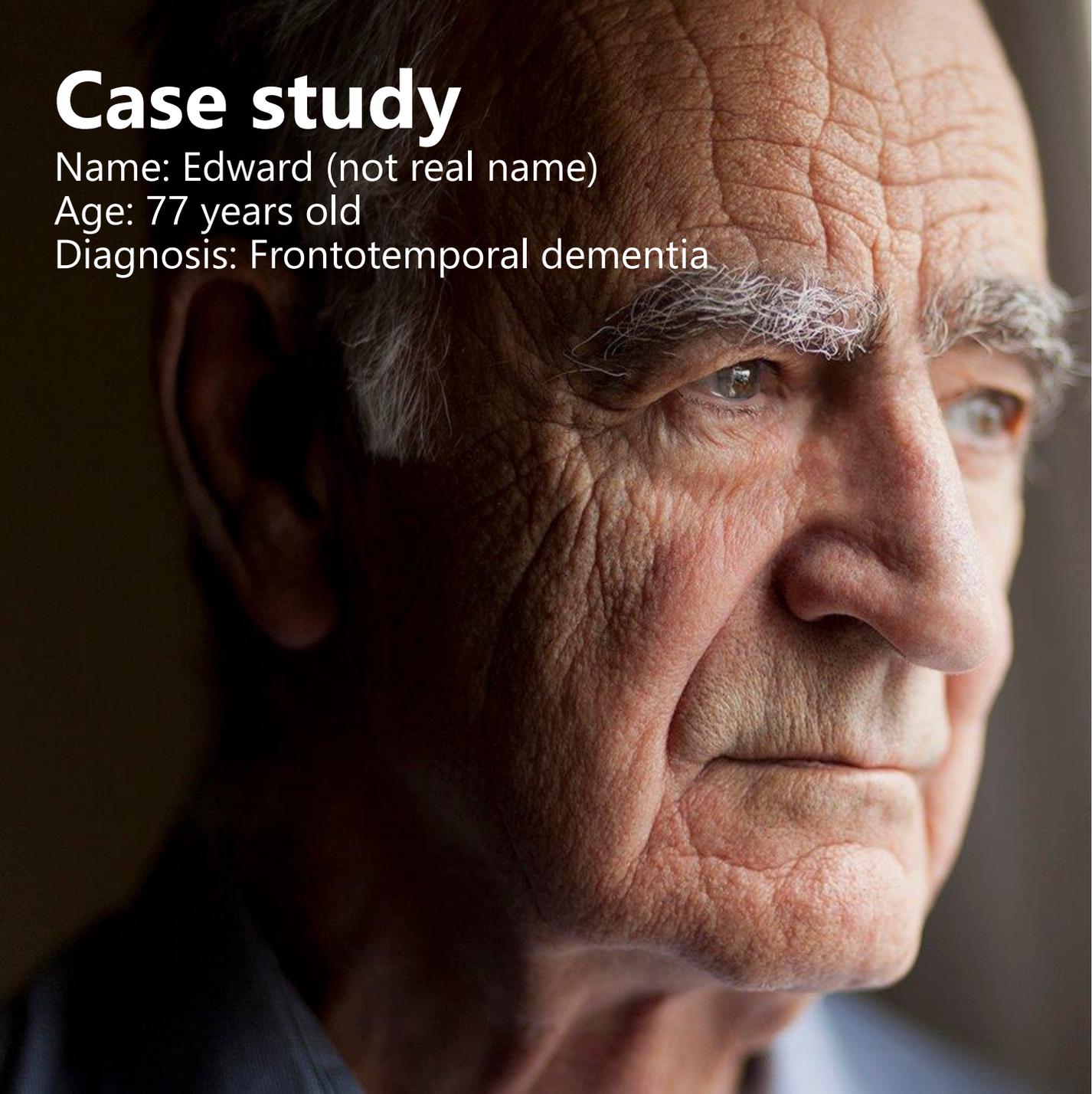
Social history & reason for referral

Edward entered residential care in 2017 when he was no longer able to live independently in his government owned home. He lived alone and had one daughter.

Edward had significant comorbidities including liver failure, osteoarthritis, chronic back pain associated with spinal fracture.

Edward was referred to DSA as he was increasingly:

- making derogatory comments to residents and care staff
- being physically and verbally aggressive to care staff
- making sexualised demands and statements.



Case study

Name: Edward (not real name)

Age: 77 years old

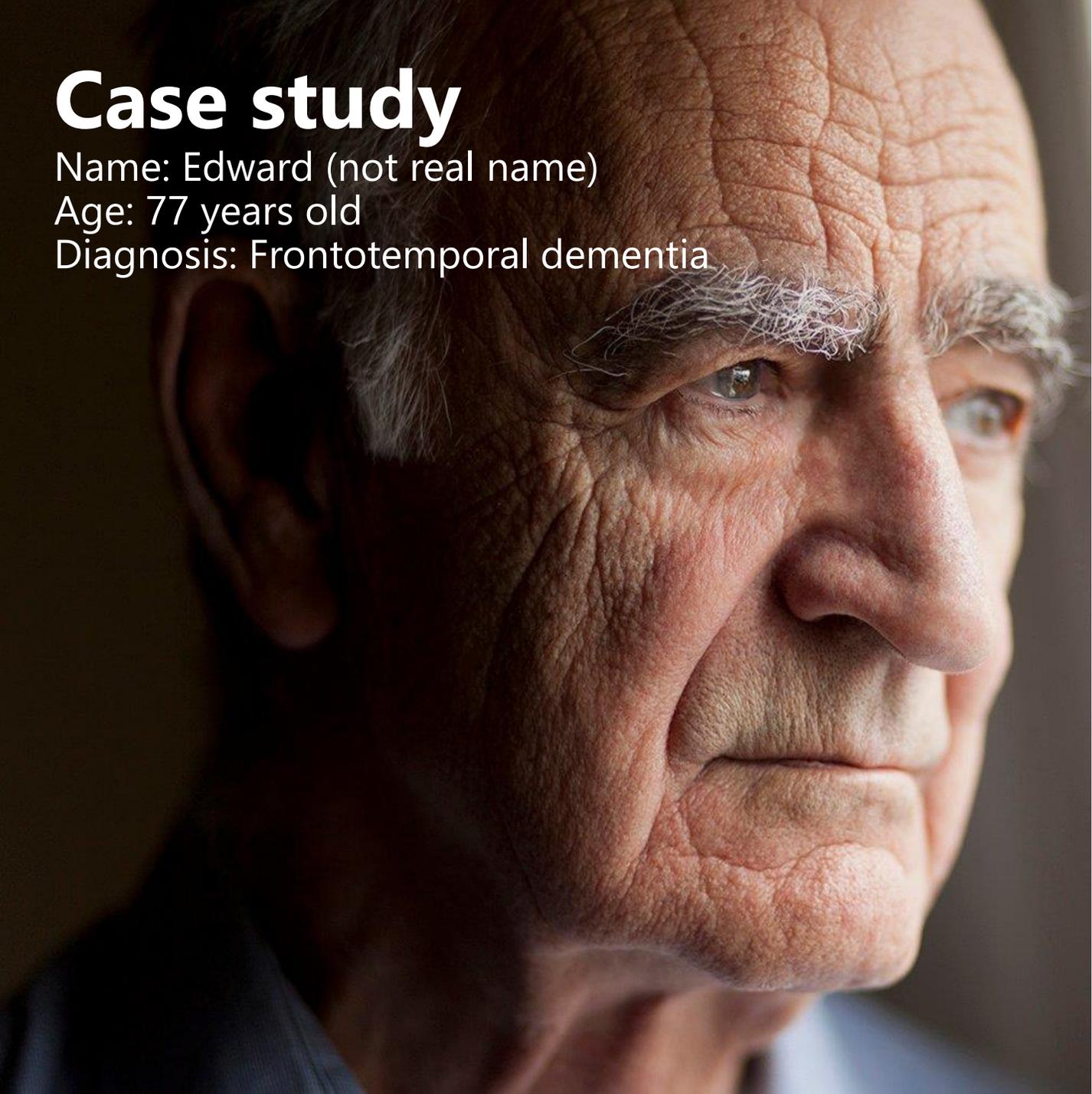
Diagnosis: Frontotemporal dementia

DSA assessment & recommendations

A DSA consultant visited Edward and his carers. Following their assessment and review of Edward's behaviour profile, and social and medical history, the consultant determined that two factors may be contributing to his behaviour:

1. An underlying delirium
2. Pain

Among a number of recommendations including a delirium screen, the DSA consultant completed a formal pain assessment that revealed Edward was in significant pain and that this should be appropriately monitored and managed.



Case study

Name: Edward (not real name)

Age: 77 years old

Diagnosis: Frontotemporal dementia

Client outcomes

Following the provision of the DSA recommendation report, Edward's GP increased his opiate analgesia and staff were monitoring his pain.

Following the implementation of this analgesia, all of Edward's referred behaviours were resolved and staff reported no further difficulties in providing Edward care.

DSA services were successfully then resolved and Edward has not since required the services of DSA.

What if someone doesn't benefit?

Approximately 7% of DSA clients may not benefit from psychosocial interventions?*

Such clients are often re-referred to DSA for further support, but a subset of these will still not benefit from either mainstream or DSA interventions.

These clients may be better supported by **Specialist Dementia Care Programs (SDCPs)**.

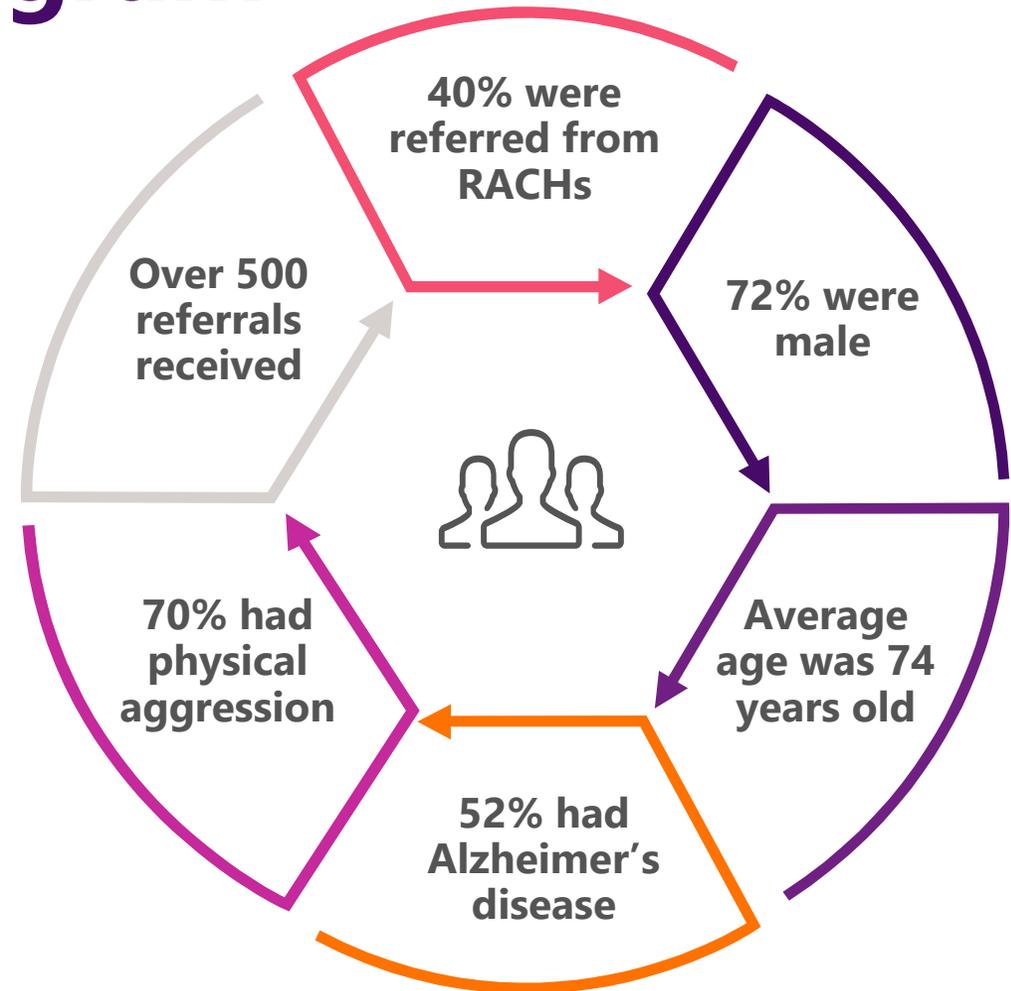


Needs Based Assessment program

The Needs Based Assessment (NBA) program provides independent assessments of eligibility into SDCPs.

Three key criteria are necessary for entry into SDCPs:

1. **Behaviour is severe**
2. **Behaviour is explained by a dementia diagnosis**
3. **Behaviour has demonstrated intractability to adequate trials of treatment**



Data period: Sep 2019 – 15/6/2021

What to remember?

- **This is complex – no simple answers**
- **Take the time to understand what is happening (behaviour care plans)**
- **Try to stay calm**
- **Talk about what's happening with others, learn more their strategies**
- **Seek help: Dementia Support Australia 24/7 www.dementia.com.au
Ph:1800 699 799**

Thank you





Disinhibited Behaviours: Negative Mindset to Positive Response

A/Prof Cindy Jones +

Faculty of Health Sciences & Medicine, Bond University

Menzies Health Institute Queensland

Negative Mindset?

**Disinhibited
Behaviours**



**Enormous
Stress** (*distress,
embarrassment, annoyance
& frustration*)



Thinking-Feeling Connection

- Does disinhibited behaviour directly lead to emotional response?
 - *“Despite all my care for him, my dad just lashes out and curse at me often and this made me so angry”*
- Is there a missing link?
 - *Thoughts & Beliefs*

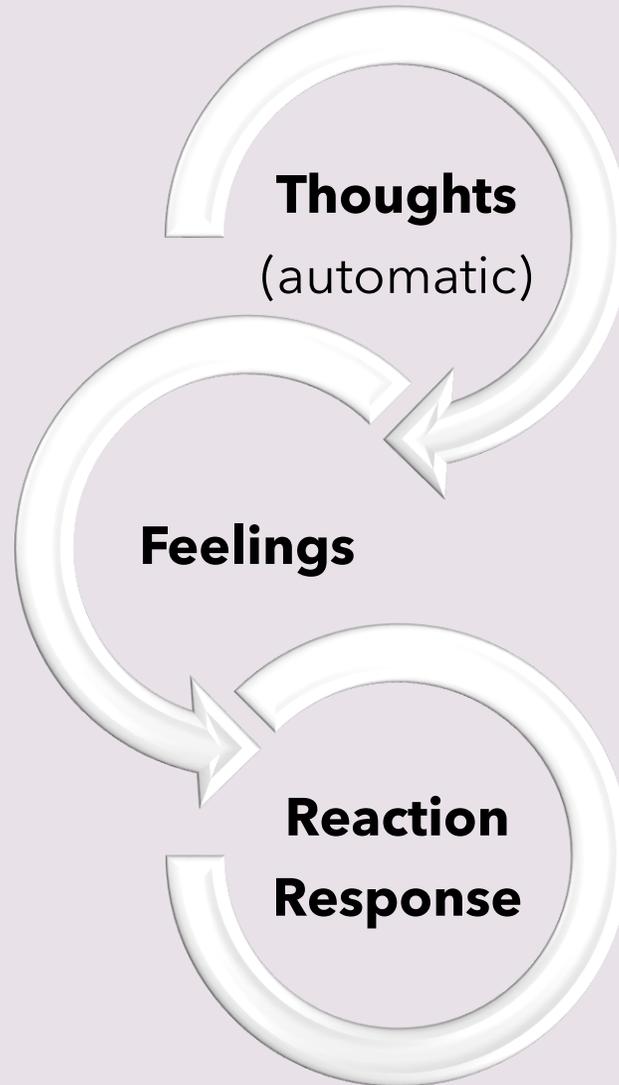
“The world as we have created it is a process of our thinking. It cannot be changed without changing our thinking.”

— Albert Einstein



YOUR DIGITAL
FORMULA

Our thoughts influence our feelings...





Scenario: You are a carer for your Dad who has dementia and is living with you. A female friend of yours came over for a visit and you just finished having a cuppa and a yarn with her at the veranda. As she is leaving and you are walking her to the front door, both of you saw your Dad talking all his clothes off in the lounge room.

Negative Thought



"Oh dear, I can't believe she just saw that. She must think my Dad is weird, an exhibitionist or a sexual deviant! For goodness' sake, I just wish Dad will stop doing that"

Feeling(s)

Embarrassed and annoyed.

Reaction/Response

Inappropriate sexual behaviour that needs to be stopped.



Scenario: You are a carer for your Dad who has dementia and is living with you. A female friend of yours came over for a visit and you just finished having a cuppa and a yarn with her at the veranda. As she is leaving and you are walking her to the front door, both of you saw your Dad talking all his clothes off in the lounge room.

Positive Thought 😊 *“Hmm, she looks taken back. Is Dad feeling hot or uncomfortable in those clothes? Are they too tight on him or is the material of the clothing irritating him!”*

Feeling(s) Calm but concerned albeit some embarrassment.

Reaction/Response Checking out if Dad is feeling hot or if there is an issue with the clothing.

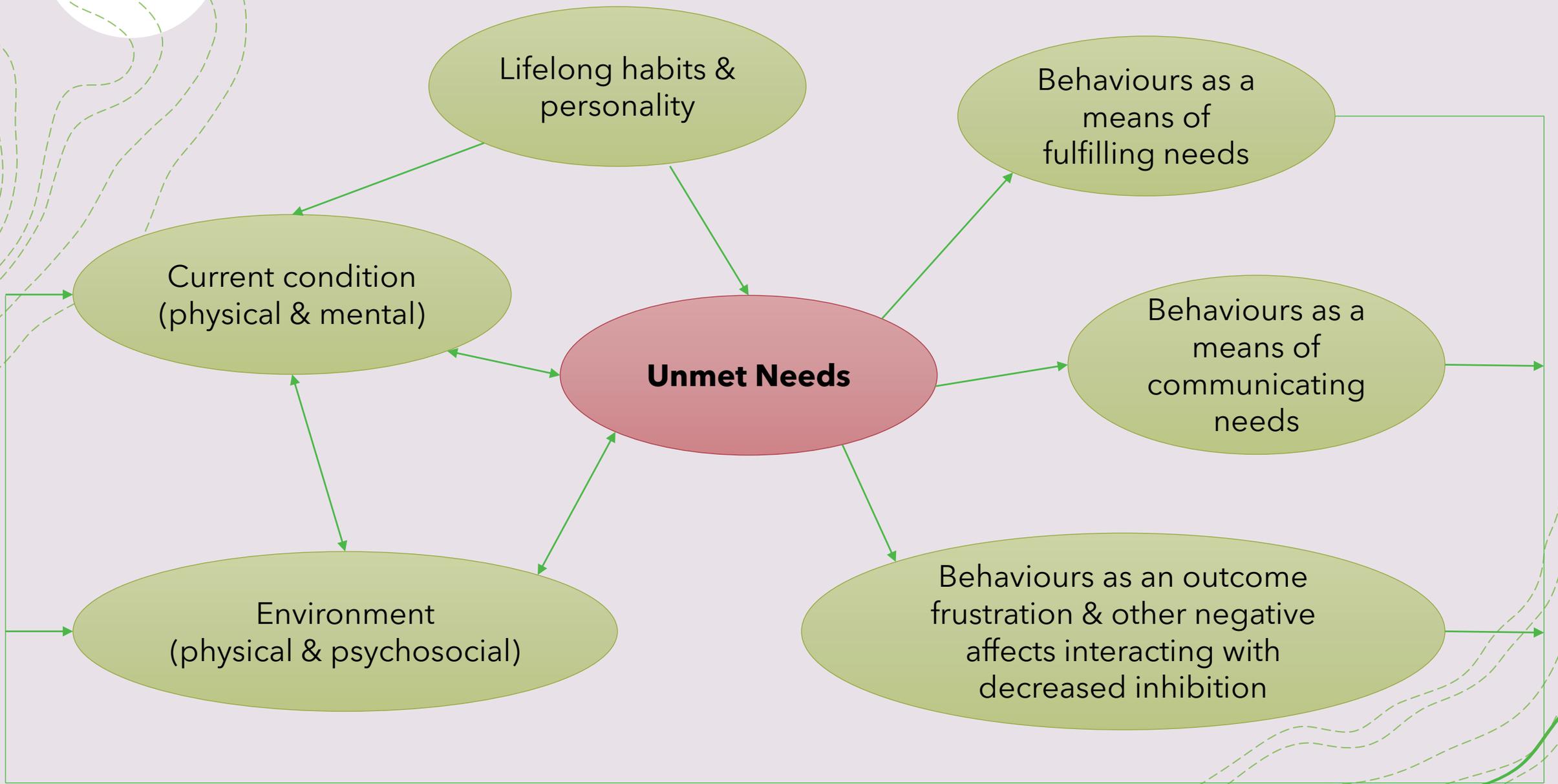


Changing mindset:
Could disinhibited behaviours
reflect an unmet need?

Unmet Needs Model

+ *Decreased ability to meet one's needs because of an increasing difficulty in communicating these needs, and a decreased ability to provide for oneself...*

- *May or may not be apparent to caregivers...*



Unmet Needs Model

Negative Mindset to Positive Response

**Changing thoughts and beliefs
(mindset)**

Reduce negative feelings



Leading to positive reaction/response



**Improved outcome for
people living with
dementia & caregivers**

THANK
YOU



DCRC

Dementia Centre for
Research Collaboration

Changed Awareness of Social Behaviour

Dr Margie MacAndrew &
Professor Elizabeth Beattie



Australian Government

National Health and Medical Research Council



Overview

- Explore the concept of private space and socially acceptable behaviour in residential aged care (RAC).
- Examine what occurs when established boundaries of private space are crossed in RAC.
- Discuss the outcomes of research focussed on boundary crossing



Identifying private space in RAC



Public vs Private spaces



Wandering related boundary transgression (BT)

“.....related behaviour of wandering characterised by locomotion into off-limit, prohibited, or hazardous areas” (p.209)

Moore, H., Algase, D., Powell-Cope, G., Applegarth, S., & Beattie, E. (2009). A framework for managing wandering and preventing elopement. *American Journal Of Alzheimer's Disease And Other Dementias*, 24(3), 208-219. doi: 10.1177/1533317509332625

Nursing care staff perceptions of BT

- Very common behaviour
- Occurs frequently across all hours of the day and night
- Staff spend their day redirecting to avoid altercations
- 'Private space' ceases to have meaning – no blame assigned
- When the person' behaviour does not upset others, this is tolerated
- BUT.....



Perceived adverse outcomes – staff and family

- Transgressing boundaries of private space causes distress for the room owner
- Families are upset by this also – loss of personal belongings
- Belief that BT was related resident-to-resident violence
- Not tolerated when safety is compromised



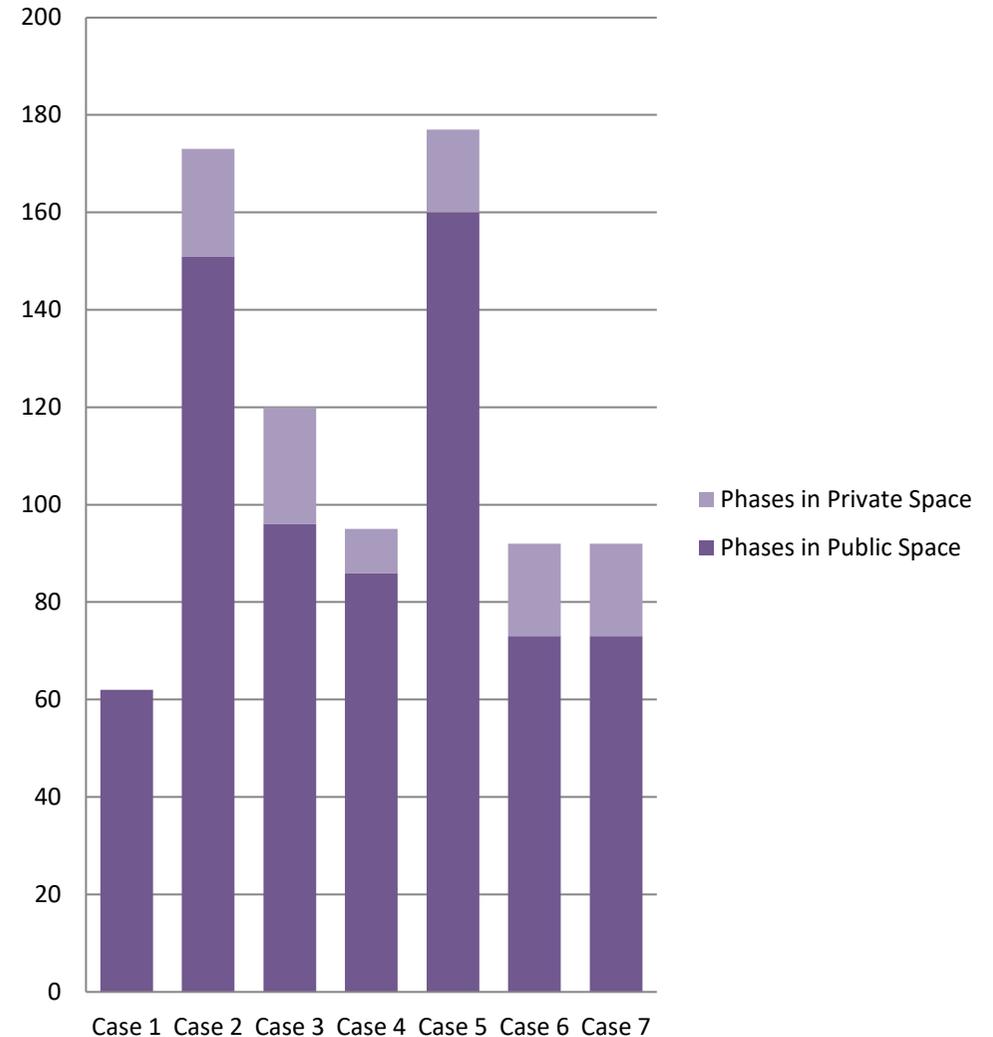
What does occur during BT?

- Observed 7 residents with severe dementia and history of BT
- Two secure dementia units
- Both units attempted to identify rooms with photos and name plates and memory panels
- 92 observation periods; over 46.5 hours of real time observation
- Duration/frequency of walking/not walking; pattern; location (private/public); duration/frequency BT; what occurred during BT

Characteristics of BT

- 14% of the observation time – participants were in private space
- 6 of the 7 participants exhibited BT – 58 BT events observed
- More BT occurred during random pattern (79%)
- Those who walked more and had more random pattern had more BT
- Participants walked alone most of the time
- Bedrooms were the most common private space entered
- Except for 2/58 BT events, the bedroom entered had an open door

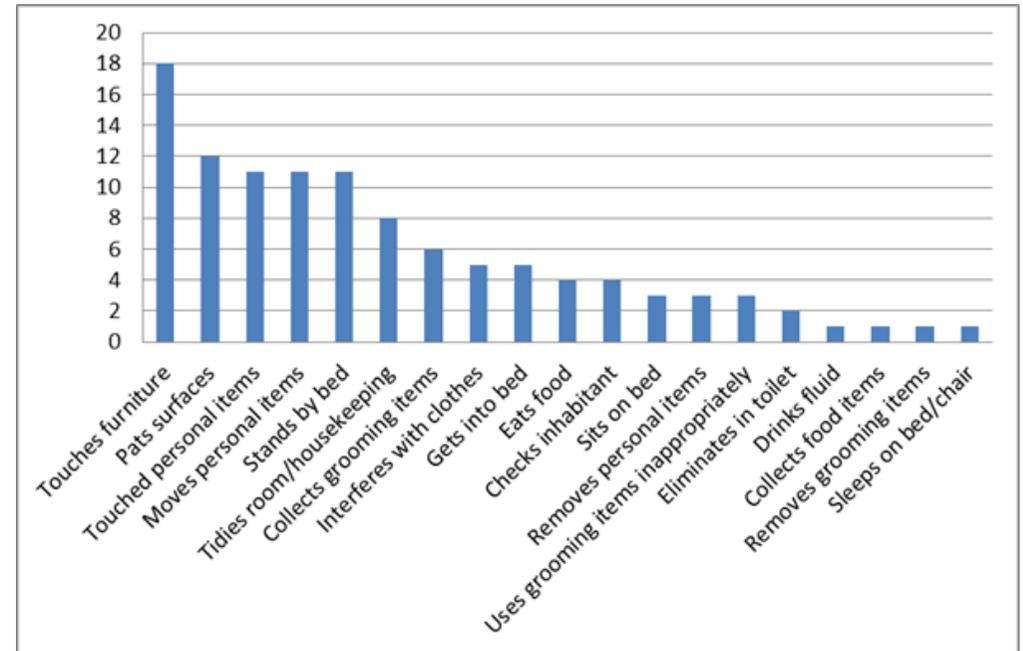
Phases spent in private and public space
n= 811 phases



Outcomes of BT

- Touching the furniture; patting surfaces; touching personal items; moving personal items; and standing by the bed
- 2/3 BT events – participant did not interact with the physical environment
- Room owner or another resident was present 21% of the time
- Staff were aware of only **4/58** BTs
- Impact on room owner: no response (seemed unaware); distress about possessions being touched; frustration; anxiety
- Impact on family: complaint about having to buy another pair of slippers
- Impact on person exhibiting BT: one participant slapped on hand and attempt to slap another participant; shunned by other residents; spent long periods alone; did not sit with community for meals or activities

'Can you help me? I think there is someone in my room'



'She is in my room again. Just get her out'.

What we learned

- Staff perceptions were not consistent with actual occurrences – less frequent and they were unaware of most BT
- The negative social impact and stigma toward the participants related to them entering bedrooms was surprising – residents have a strong sense of privacy and need for this to be maintained.
- Names on doors and memory boxes were not a deterrent – private space ceased to have meaning
- Closing doors – has other implications but could help some residents
- The family perspective was interesting – the behaviour was accepted to the point where safety was compromised
- Targeting periods of peak activity to engage person in supervised activity may reduce numbers of transgressions