

## **P114: Experiences of nursing home residents with dementia and chronic pain using an interactive social robot: A qualitative study of multiple stakeholders**

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**Objective:** To explore the benefits and barriers of using an interactive robotic seal (PARO, Figure 1) based on the experiences of nursing home residents living with dementia and chronic pain, their family members, and formal caregivers.

**Methods:** Semi-structured interviews were conducted alongside a feasibility randomized controlled trial at one nursing home in Brisbane, Australia between July 2021 and January 2022 (Trial registration: ACTRN 12621000837820). Residents with dementia and chronic pain interacted with PARO individually for 15 min once or twice daily, five days per week for three consecutive weeks. After which, individual interviews were conducted with residents who were capable of communicating (n=13), family members (n=3), registered nurses (n=4), care assistants (n=11), a physical therapist (n=1), a diversional therapist (n=1) and the facility manager (n=1) who experienced or observed the residents' interactions with PARO. The interviews were audio-recorded, transcribed, and analyzed using thematic analysis.

**Results:** Almost all participants reported that interacting with PARO benefited residents with dementia and their caregivers. These benefits included (1) reducing pain by providing distraction and stimulation; (2) reducing behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia; (3) promoting positive emotions by recalling memories; and (4) reducing anxiety and care burden for family and formal caregivers. Neutral attitudes toward PARO were reported by three residents with mild cognitive impairment as they reported it did not make any difference. Barriers to using PARO included limited staff training and the implementation of person-centered care due to limited resources.

**Conclusion:** Overall, multiple stakeholders were positive about using PARO to reduce pain and behavioral symptoms of nursing home residents living with dementia and chronic pain. PARO may also reduce the care burden of family and formal caregivers. PARO might be incorporated into daily practice to support nursing home residents living with dementia. Improving staff training and understanding individual preferences of residents may enhance the implementation of PARO in this population.

Figure 1: A resident living with dementia and her family after interacting with PARO  
(Distribution of this photo has been approved by the resident and her family)



## **P118: The Geriatric Psychiatry Fellowship Program in Mexico**

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This program was established by Dr. Oscar Ugalde in the year 2000 at the National Institute of Psychiatry of Mexico and was supported by the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

Now starting its 23<sup>rd</sup> year, the 12-month program allows 1 to 4 national or foreign psychiatrist each academic year to develop clinical geriatric psychiatry practice knowledge, as well as academic and research skills to attend to the mental health of the aging population. It provides supervised clinical training in different settings: outpatient geriatric psychiatry clinic, cognition clinic, nursing home setting, geriatrics clinic and neurology clinic. The fellowship also provides the opportunity to learn about thanatology, research methodology, philosophy, spirituality, social work, neuropsychology, dementia, geriatrics, as well as legal, financial and legal issues related to the care of older adults.

The over 60 fellowship graduates from Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Mexico have established themselves as national and international leaders in the field of old age mental health.

The Geriatric Psychiatry Fellowship in Mexico is accredited by de National Autonomous University of Mexico and The National Institute of Psychiatry of Mexico Ramón de la Fuente Muniz at Mexico City is the primary training facility.

In this presentation, the assistant professor of the program, Dr. Luis Moncayo, will lay out an overview of the content, structure, and goal of The Geriatric Psychiatry Fellowship Program in Mexico.

## **P119: The Valladolid Multicenter Study: The Use of Benzodiazepines in the Elderly and Falls Reported By a Liaison Psychiatry Units**

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