Spouses lived experience of living with as partner diagnosed with a dementia: a particular focus on how everyday life conditions are managed

There’s a special request to join a workshop or a poster presentation with the following theme: “Rehabilitation of citizens diagnosed with dementia”.

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Abstract

**Background:** The incidence of Citizens diagnosed with a dementia is growing for every year, which leaves a growing collective responsibility in Public Health, by involving health care, primary care and informal care. In order to develop early prevention for spouses and their partners it is of importance to render help related to informal care and involve spouses in planning service in order to meet spouses’ needs.

**Aim:** The aim of the study is to explore and understand spouses’ lived experience of living with a partner diagnosed with a dementia, with a particular focus on how changes in everyday life conditions are managed.

**Theoretical frame and methods:** In this study, concepts from Professor Birte Bech-Jørgensen theory ‘everyday life’ will be used as an ‘a priori’ theoretical frame of reference. A phenomenological biographic narrative approach will be used in order to capture a detailed narrative of lived experience. 10 -12 biographic narrative interviews will be conducted with spouses to partners diagnosed with a dementia. The interviews will be audio played and analysed based on inductive principals by using Giorgi’s Phenomenological strategies for analysis, including three steps and by using narrative analyse strategies. A Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) approach is also taken in order to be responsive to the spouses lived experiences while planning the data collection.

**Findings:** Results will be available by August 2017, and will contribute with knowledge and themes of importance about the spouses lived experience of living with a partner diagnosed with a dementia, in order to understand spouses’ narratives and needs for support.

**Conclusion:** Knowledge about the spouses’ needs for support can help develop health promotion interventions and prevention programs targeting the needs of the spouses.

**Keywords**
Dementia, spouses, lived experiences, everyday life, management.

**References**