Dementia screening tests: value in assisted living facilities in NJ

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Background
- Dementia is defined as cognitive impairment or decline in mental ability, which is associated with memory loss. It typically affects individuals of age 65.
- Phase 1: Dementia screening tests (Phase 1). A second goal is to determine if these facilities would change their policy based on the results of Phase 1 using a follow-up survey (Phase 2).

Objectives
- The objective of this study is to survey assisted living facilities (ALFs) throughout NJ regarding the perceived advantages and disadvantages of using various dementia screening tests. (Phase 1). A second goal is to determine if these facilities would change their policy based on the results of Phase 1 using a follow-up survey (Phase 2).

Methods
- This study was approved by the Rutgers Institutional Review Board.
- Data were collected via e-mail surveys.
- The data set is representative of North, Central, and South Jersey across a majority of counties, with 81% (17/21) of NJ counties represented.

Results
- Table 1: Respondent Results From Phase 1 Survey (n=70)

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency of Screening</th>
<th>Informant Requirement</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Time Required for Administration</th>
<th>Sensitivity in Detecting Mild Dementia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CADi (9)</td>
<td>All (100%)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>CAD (3-5 minutes)</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMSE</td>
<td>All (100%)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>MMSE (6)</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIMS</td>
<td>All (100%)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>BIMS (5)</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini-Cog</td>
<td>All (100%)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Mini-Cog (5)</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLUMS</td>
<td>All (100%)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>SLUMS (5)</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CADi</td>
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<td>None</td>
<td>SLUMS (5)</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Descriptive statistics were used to describe the information obtained.

Demographics
- The data set is representative of North, Central, and South Jersey across a majority of counties, with 81% (17/21) of NJ counties represented.

Figures:
- Figure 1: Percentage of Residents with Dementia (n=70)
- Figure 2: Age Range of Majority of Residents (n=70)

Conclusion
- Dementia screenings more frequently due to Phase 1 results (n=25).
- MMSE is the most common tool (59%) and 4 may switch to it for initial screening.
- Disadvantages: longest time required for administration and lowest sensitivity in detecting mild dementia.
- Advantage: meets needs and is easier to use.
- CADi is not commonly used (5%) and 1 may switch for initial and ongoing screening because it is faster and easier to use.
- Advantage: meets needs; easiest to administer and score, and shortest time required for administration.
- 4/6 of follow-up respondents may change policy due to Phase 1 results.
- Further research is needed to identify the best screening test and measure the impact of this study.

Authors
- Kristina Vishnevetskaya: Nothing to disclose
- Michael Tocani: Nothing to disclose
- Mary Wagner: Nothing to disclose
- Loretta Kase: Nothing to disclose

Acknowledgments
- Some respondents were lost to follow-up due to illegible or incorrect e-mail addresses provided or hard-copy surveys, or due to being no longer employed at the same facility.
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