

The African Immigrant Dementia Education project is a community-university partnership with the goal of developing a culturally tailored dementia education program with African immigrants in Minnesota. In collaboration with our community partner (African Career, Education & Resource, Inc.), a project advisory board that features professionals and family members from the African immigrant community was assembled and its first meeting was held in February 2021. Preliminary discussions about content, mode of delivery and cultural considerations of an eventual dementia education intervention have begun. This presentation will offer details on the process of working with an advisory board and community partner to identify and culturally tailor an evidenced-based dementia education curriculum for a unique cultural group. Also, we will present challenges encountered during this process and offer suggestions and strategies to promote successful researcher-community partnerships.

ADAPTING THE ADS PLUS PROGRAM AND STUDY FOR A SPANISH SPEAKING POPULATION

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While Hispanic/Latinos are at increased risk for Alzheimer's Disease, they are often cited as a "difficult-to-reach population" to engage in community-based research or clinical trials. One reason may be that many community-based supportive interventions for dementia caregivers are not adapted for Spanish-speaking populations. The purpose of this presentation is to describe the process of adapting the Adult Day Services Plus (ADS Plus) program for this population. In addition to translating ADS Plus into Spanish, staff, familiar with the program from four sites, which serve a predominantly Hispanic population, participated in a set of three focus groups that reviewed recruitment and intervention materials. Emerging themes included, Hispanic caregivers do not refer to themselves as caregivers but as the familial relationship (e.g. daughter, son, wife), and Hispanics often view research as a waste of resources. Future studies should consider these cultural elements towards caregiving in developing programs for Spanish-speaking dementia caregivers.

Session 4215 (Symposium)

EAST MEETS WEST: COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS FOR DEMENTIA PREVENTION AND SUPPORT

Chair: Fei Sun

Discussant: Melissa Batchelor

This East Meets West Symposium presents cross-cultural evidence of community-based programs developed to address cognitive health needs of older adults or to support dementia family caregivers. It includes five studies from

mainland China, Taiwan, and the U.S.A. The first study explored the adherence to computerized cognitive training to promote cognitive health among Chinese older adults using a qualitative approach. External encouragement, and self-awareness of performance improvement were found influential to older adults' adherence. The second study spearheaded by American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) in the U.S.A shed further light on technology use in promoting brain health by comparing in-person versus online cognitive training to older Americans during the COVID-19 pandemic. The third study tested the effectiveness of a cognitive health management model for community-dwelling older adults including healthy and mild cognitively impaired (MCI) ones in Shanghai, China. Older adults with MCI who received the management service showed better cognition outcomes compared to their counterparts in the control group. The fourth study focused on a community program named "Carer Café", developed to support dementia family caregiver in Taiwan. Participants (n=375) reported reduced stress and increased access to service referrals. The last study examined the stakeholders' perceptions of dementia friendly initiatives (DFI) being implemented in U.S.A, mainland China, and Taiwan to support persons with dementia and family caregivers. The impacts of DFI made, challenges DFI faced, and strategies DFI used during COVID-19 pandemic were discussed. The discussant will comment on each article's contributions and limitations in the context of literature.

EXPLORING FACTORS CONTRIBUTE TO ADHERING IN COMPUTERIZED COGNITIVE TRAINING AMONG HEALTHY OLDER ADULTS IN CHINA

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Computerized cognitive intervention has the potential to enhance cognition among healthy older adults. However, little is known of the factors associated with adherence in computerized cognitive training among healthy older adults in China. This study was designed to explore these factors utilizing a descriptive qualitative method. A semi-structured interview was used to interview 13 informants. The analysis suggested that factors associated with adherence to the computerized cognitive intervention, included 3 core themes: (1) individual characteristics, with three subthemes of "having free time", "emotion", and "persistence characteristics"; (2) encouragement, with three subthemes of "peer group support", "support from healthcare professional", and "supervision from facilitators"; and (3) self-recognized improvement related to training, with two subthemes of "better brain function" and "emotion improved". The results revealed multi-factors promote adherence including personal and social aspects.

A COMPREHENSIVE COGNITIVE HEALTH MANAGEMENT MODEL FOR COMMUNITY-DWELLING OLDER ADULTS IN SHANGHAI

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To investigate whether a comprehensive cognitive health management model improves cognitive function among