

to death. Pearson's chi-square (χ^2), analysis of variance was used (ANOVA), and logistic regression were used for statistical analysis.

Results: SG was more likely than controls to be unmarried, unemployed, or from racial minority groups (all $p < 0.001$) and was more likely to have diabetes mellitus ($p < 0.001$) or cardiovascular disease ($p = 0.004$). SG was less likely to receive an electrocardiogram (ECG) ($p < 0.001$), echocardiogram ($p = 0.003$), or cardiac catheterization procedure ($p < 0.001$), and more likely to receive hemoglobin A1C testing ($p < 0.001$). Of those receiving an ECG, SG had a greater mean QTc interval (453.8 ms vs. 438.0 ms; $p < 0.001$) and were twice as likely to have an ECG result interpreted as "prolonged QTc" ($p < 0.001$). Between group differences for utilization of troponin or low-density lipoprotein testing, or pacemaker-related procedures were not statistically significant.

Conclusion: Individuals with schizophrenia in this cohort were less likely to receive cardiovascular evaluations and interventions during their last year of life. Despite the higher likelihood for prolonged QTc, a recognized biomarker of cardiac risk, SG was less likely to receive an ECG. Given the greater cardiac comorbidity and higher risk of sudden cardiac death in schizophrenia, interventions are needed to address these disparities in care.

425 - Incorporating young children into family caregiving for people with dementia in Taiwan.

Author List: Ching-Yi Kuo, MA. Shu-Chuan Chen, PhD. National Tainan Junior College of Nursing.

Background:

Positive attitudes and appropriate knowledge about dementia are essential for the provision of suitable dementia care. Children as future voters may take on a critical role to increase community awareness and knowledge about dementia. Guided by Chinese filial piety cultural virtues, Taiwanese children are taught to respect and care for family seniors and extend this respect to other seniors. Accordingly, young children are considered part of family dementia caregiving system, despite children rarely assume formal caregiver role and not directly provide care work. However, Taiwanese children may possess stigmatized attitudes toward dementia due to a lack of proper dementia knowledge.

Research Objective:

This study aims to survey Taiwanese children age 9-11 years old attitudes and knowledge to the concepts of dementia.

Methods: A total of 312 Taiwanese children from 8 elementary schools in the south Taiwan, aged 9-11 years old, were surveyed to assess their knowledge and attitudes toward dementia. Participants completed The Kids Insight into Dementia (KIDS), which is a 5-scale questionnaire containing three factors, "Personhood", "Stigma", and "Dementia Understanding". The data was analyzed using quantitative method.

Results: The results show that Taiwanese children are unfamiliar with dementia as related to brain disease ($M = 3.94$, $SD = 2.91$), Taiwanese children are unfamiliar about nursing home provision of care ($M = 3.97$, $SD = 2.17$), Taiwanese children do not know the course of dementia disease ($M = 3.34$, $SD = 1.39$). Participants scored high on the question of "people with dementia have hobbies and interests" ($M = 4.15$, $SD = 1.22$); Participants reported that they agreed less often with stigma attached to the people with dementia, including items of "I would feel a bit scared if I met someone dementia in the street" ($M = 2.70$, $SD = 1.79$), "people with dementia can be creepy" ($M = 2.18$, $SD = 1.71$), "It would be annoying of frustrating to spend time with someone with dementia" ($M = 2.15$, $SD = 1.17$), "It is unlikely that I would meet someone with dementia" ($M = 2.36$, $SD = 1.27$).

Conclusions: Our findings suggest that Taiwanese children may express less stigmatized attitudes toward people with dementia and yet they report less understanding of concepts of personhood of people with dementia. Therefore, dementia education is necessary to increase dementia knowledge among school age children in Taiwan.

426 - Character Strengths association with Personal Growth in Grandparents providing Regular Care

Noriega, C., López, J., Pérez-Rojo, G., Galarraga, L., Velasco, C., Carretero, M.I., López-Frutos, P.

Introduction

The number of grandparents providing regular care for their grandchildren has increased substantially. Data drawn from the SHARE survey shows regular caregivers care for more than 30 hours per week in Europe. This means that many regular caregivers are performing tasks that are part of parents' responsibilities. Some research has shown lower perceived health and role strain. However, it can also offer opportunities to grow. Rapid social changes have led to grandparents not perceiving their predecessors as role models, making them having to update themselves to relate with their grandchildren. Character strengths are the natural ability by which thoughts, feelings and behaviours allow to achieve goals. They could help grandparents increase their perceptions of personal growth. However, the role played by character strengths in personal growth has not been studied yet.

Method

This study aimed to analyze what character strengths predict extended babysitters' personal growth. This study included 107 grandparents providing regular care (more than 15 hours per week) to at least one grandchild from Spain. The average age was 69.46 (SD=7.02), 63.6% were women, 76% were maternal grandparents and the average daily hours of care provided was 5.07 (DT=14.61). To analyze data, we conducted stepwise multiple regressions.

Results:

In step one, the total score of character strengths explained 21.1% of the variance in personal growth ($F(1, 105) = 28.14; p \leq .001$). The total score of character strengths and emotional intelligence accounted for 25.6% of the variance in step two ($F(1, 104) = 17.91; p \leq .001$). In the final step, total character strengths, emotional intelligence and creativity explained 28.6% of the variance ($F(1, 103) = 13.79; p \leq .05$). The higher scores in character strengths, emotional intelligence and creativity, the more personal growth grandparents showed.

Conclusion:

These results reflect the importance of considering character strengths as factors associated with grandparents' personal growth. Future interventions focused on extended babysitters could consider character strengths. Especially, creativity and emotional intelligence, strengths that may help grandparents to connect and dialogue with their own emotions and those of their grandchildren as well as experience the difficulties associated with caregiving as opportunities for growth and development.

Funding: This Project was funded by Fundación San Pablo CEU (M02.0401.000.MPFI20CN)