The Neglect of the Elderly Population: Literature Review

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The Neglect of the Elderly Population

Elderly abuse and neglect happens behind closed doors and leaves older adults stuffed at the hands of their caregivers. As life moves on, so does the aging process. From the day a person is born until they are in their older years, someone is taking care of this individual. That care could be coming from a mom, a nurse, or self. When aging, life becomes more of a challenge than it used to be. Increasing problems, including vision, medical conditions, or hearing problems, can arise. In this case, some families may not have the time to put into their loved ones, so they put them in a nursing home. According to an article, elderly residents were physically, psychologically, finically, and sexually abused and neglected (Malmedal et al., 2020). In addition, nurses can face legal risks if they do not follow the laws that protect older adult practice (Eliopoulos, 2022). As a nurse, providing adequate and equal care to all patients. This literature review examines the issues with abuse and neglect in the elderly population. Also, it will bring light to the legal issues attached to the mistreatment of older adults. The more aged care facility patients should not be living in fear of experiencing any abuse or neglect under the care of nursing staff or caregivers.

A literature review of survey instruments used to measure staff-to-resident elder abuse in residential care settings

Elder abuse is common and an increasing problem in all settings, especially in health care (Malmedal et al., 2020). These types of abuse and neglect can come from many forms, including psychological, physical, sexual, financial, intentional, or unintentional. When aging, a person is more vulnerable to abuse due to age, cognitive impartment, or physical impairment (Malmedal et

al., 2020). This study provided information to measure the amount of mistreatment in the elderly in residential care settings. The study found that most cases of abuse include ignoring residents, keeping them in wet garments or pads, and restraining them beyond the required time, leaving them with pressure sores (Malmedal et al., 2020). An analysis done on the levels of neglect and abuse found that 33.4% reported psychological abuse, 14.1% physical, 11.6% neglected, and 1.9% endured sexual abuse (Malmedal et al., 2020). In addition, the staff themselves admitted to committing the act of abuse or neglect on more than one occasion, with data of 64.2%. It is astonishing how many staff admitted to committing acts of abuse or neglect on these elderly patients. After reviewing the data, it is apparent that more needs to work on education-wise and from the ends of the caretakers to reduce these issues as a whole.

Key Points

The article's main point was to bring light to the abuse and neglect of the elderly in residential care settings. Another key point the authors showed was the different forms of abuse the residents are going through, including psychological, physical, sexual, material, financial, intentional, or unintentional neglect (Malmedal et al., 2020). Lastly, paying attention to different contributing factors to make the elderly vulnerable is essential. These factors include old age, cognitive decline, physical impairment, or mental illness (Malmedal et al., 2020). As an older adult, a person is more susceptible to this form of treatment due to the inability to avoid neglect or abuse.

Assumptions

The authors in this research express the thought of elders being abused or neglected in residential care settings. They believe the treatment may not only be coming from staff but other

resists and relatives as well. 64.2% of staff in an institution were abusing and neglecting the older residents (Malmedal et al., 2020). The authors also assume that the elderly with cognitive impairments like dementia receive more psychological abuse with data above 25% (Malmedal et al., 2020). Also, the study may not be as accurate due to the residents who are afraid to speak up or do not want to get a staff or resident in trouble. The evidence shows, there is still a significant indication of issues within the facility.

Deficit/Conclusion

As a reader, do accept the authors' line of reasoning. Personally, the older population is getting mistreated behind the scene of thesis residential facilities, and it needs to be a more investigated topic to end the abuse. This article relieved data proving the number of different types of abuse and neglect happening to the older population. The data also revealed the number of staff members who admitted to conducting acts of mistreatments on more than one occasion. These findings can aid in the wake-up call to residential care facilities to improve and make sure these acts of abuse and neglect come to an end. If nursing fails to accept the data showing 64.2% of staff admitting to the abuse, the data from the residents themselves of what types of mistreatment they have endured, then legal action needs to be taken place. As a nurse, the job is to advocate and take care of the patient, not to harm them. If the resident is willing to speak up, the facility needs to handle the situation and have a no-tolerance policy for this type of treatment. As an older adult, life is already more of a challenge, and being mistreated or putting them in harm is not what a nurse for any reason should be allowed to do.

Using latent class analysis to identify profiles of elder abuse perpetrators

Elderly abuse and neglect are not one form, and this article shows many different types of this action. These subcategories can be related to neglect, financial exploitation, psychological or sexual abuse (DeLiema et al., 2017). A theory-based upon caregiver stress and burden shows to be the main factor (DeLiema et al., 2017). Elder abuse from caregivers shows to reflect in the situational aspect of their life. Studies have shown that caregivers who have been victims of abuse are more prone to inflict physical and psychological abuse upon the elderly they care for (DeLiema et al., 2017). The average mean of people varies from females, different nationalities and substantiated various types of abusers (DeLiema et al., 2017). Females' mean of abuser characteristic averaged about 53.5%, and non-Hispanic white was about 51.9% (DeLiema et al., 2017). Different abuse types, including emotional, physical, neglect, and financial displayed neglect to be the highest form with 51.9% (DeLiema et al., 2017). This study showed the gaps in different types of abuse and underlining factors. Reporting abuse helps promote and curve elderly mistreatment to prevent further abusive treatment.

Key Points

The main focus was to bring light to elderly abuse and the different forms that could be present in each case. The gap in the approach of different abuser types provides an opening for new interventions in the justice system to fix the issues at hand. The study broke down the different subtypes, including race, gender, and forms of abuse, to better report what interventions can be put in place to prevent more elderly mistreatment (DeLiema et al., 2017).

Assumptions

The authors express the various subtypes, and identifying different abuser characteristics, victim characteristics, and substantiated abuser types promote a movement to end the mistreatment of the elderly population. The study shows abuser characteristics mean average was shown to be 53.5%, victim characteristics shown to be 79.2%, and substantiated abuse types vary with each type (DeLiema et al., 2017). The authors feel abuser risk factors are different and come from different approaches. There are four profiles of abusers, including caregiver, temperamental, dependent caregiver, and dangerous (DeLiema et al., 2017). Each profile falls within the types of abuse: neglect, financial, emotional, sexual, and physical (DeLiema et al., 2017). As the evidence shows, the study shows high percentages of abuse with each sub-type of abuse.

Deficit/Conclusion

As a reader, do accept the authors' line of reasoning. Personally, the older population is getting mistreated. Breaking up the abuse types into different subcategories can help people identify more thoroughly what interventions to prevent further mistreatment of the elderly population. This article relieved data proving the number of different types of abuse and neglect happening to the older population. The data also revealed the different characteristic abuse types and what the relation connected to the victim is. These findings can aid in better interventions put in place to prevent further mistreatment. If nursing fails to accept the data showing a large percentage of different types of abuse, then legal action needs to occur. As a nurse, it is their responsibility and in the patient's right to receive proper care.

The effectiveness of logotherapy in mitigating the social isolation of neglected

institutionalized older people

The elderly population is dealing with various types of abuse. One of the more prevalent forms of abuse is neglect (Elsherbiny et al., 2018). Social isolation is a form of neglect and very common in older adults (Elsherbiny et al., 2018). It is also common for the elderly to feel their life has no meaning (Elsherbiny et al., 2018). This study focused on one intervention for elders who deal with neglect and social isolation. This intervention is called logotherapy, which includes three primary roots. The first root is philosophical, expressed through existentialism and phenomenology (Elsherbiny et al., 2018). The second root is spiritual and shows through being committed to a human being (Elsherbiny et al., 2018). The third root can show through individual psychology (Elsherbiny et al., 2018). The study was to see how effective logotherapy is for the elderly dealing with social isolation and neglect. The data presented different groups, and each group showed a significant difference after implementing logotherapy into their lives. A steady increase was shown before, after, and the follow-up. One group showed that before the intervention was 0.436. After the intervention was 0.489, the follow-up was at 0.599 (Elsherbiny et al., 2018). Logotherapy was successful in helping an increase in social networking and elders to be more socially invested in life. This intervention should be put in place to reduce neglect in the elderly population.

Key Points

The main focus is to identify the effectiveness of logotherapy for older adults dealing with social isolation and neglect. The study included a social disconnectedness scale and a perceived isolation scale to manage the data over twelve weeks (Elsherbiny et al., 2018). The data presented an improvement in social isolation and neglect in the elderly population (Elsherbiny et al., 2018). As a person ages, they deal with much loss and feel an emotional emptiness inside. Some elderly lose one's purpose in life, which can affect a person's physical and emotional wellbeing (Elsherbiny et al., 2018). This form of therapy guides the older population to have more appreciation for their wellbeing. Statics show a significant difference in social isolation and neglect in elders (Elsherbiny et al., 2018). This form of therapy is proven to aid the older population.

Assumptions

The authors express the importance of using logotherapy to effectively help treat social isolation and neglect in the elderly population. The article shows that elder abuse is prevalent and mainly stems from neglect and social isolation (Elsherbiny et al., 2018). Many of the abusers can from family members not taking good care of their loved ones or not taking care of them at all (Elsherbiny et al., 2018). There is said to be about 58% of elder abuse cases are being reported (Elsherbiny et al., 2018). The authors want to display an intervention that will change the mindset of the elderly population to prevent further damage.

Deficit/Conclusion

As a reader, do accept the authors' line of reasoning. Personally, it is essential to find

interventions that work and aid in treating the older population. This article relieved data proving

logotherapy was successful in regaining self-worth in the elderly population. The data also

revealed the importance of what this type of therapy can do and how valuable it can be for

dealing with abuse or social isolation. These findings can aid the older population to prevent

further damage to the mistreated elderly. If nursing fails to accept the data showing a large

percentage of improvement for older adults, then they would be doing a great disservice to the

rest of the population that needs this. As a nurse, it is their responsibility to make sure the patient

receives the best treatment and the evidence proves logotherapy to be.

Conclusion

Elderly abuse and neglect happens behind closed doors and leaves older adults stuffed at the

hands of their caregivers. According to the articles, elderly residents were physically,

psychologically, finically, and sexually abused and neglected (Malmedal et al., 2020). In

addition, some elderly individuals are victims of abuse at the hands of some of their family

members (Elsherbiny et al., 2018). As a nurse, it is their job to be providing adequate and equal

care to all patients. This literature review examines the issues with abuse and neglect in the

elderly population. The articles went in-depth on the different types of abuses and data to provide

insight into the significance of these issues at hand. Patients should not be living in fear of

experiencing any abuse or neglect under the care of nursing staff or caregivers. Healthcare

systems need to take research and improve upon the mistreatment of the older population. The

data presented showed the mass amount of numbers of mistreatment. The article based on

logotherapy is a positive intervention that will provide the patients to have a better outcome. The

healthcare system needs to make sure the nursing staff or any health care worker is equipped

with education to make sure this mistreatment of the older population comes to an end.

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