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Evaluating the efficacy of the Driving and Dementia Decision Aid (DADD) as a resource for health professionals to support drivers living with a dementia facing decisions who may need to consider driving retirement

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EVALUATING THE EFFICACY OF THE DRIVING AND DEMENTIA DECISION AID (DADD) AS A RESOURCE FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS TO SUPPORT DRIVERS LIVING WITH A DEMENTIA FACING DECISIONS WHO MAY NEED TO CONSIDER DRIVING RETIREMENT.

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Objectives: Issues of fitness to drive following a diagnosis of dementia present unique challenges for health practitioners supporting individuals with a recognised dementia who may face the difficult decisional journey regarding the time to retire from driving. The purpose of this presentation is to report preliminary findings of an intervention study exploring the efficacy of the Dementia and Driving Decision Aid (DADD) as a clinical practice resource for use by occupational therapists, community nurses and other health practitioners. The DADD (Carmody, Traynor, Iverson & Andrew, 2014), a freely available booklet informed by consumer opinion, assists drivers with a diagnosis of dementia and their family carers on the decisional journey toward driving retirement.

Occupational therapists and community nurses participated in focus group interviews. Results of the preliminary investigation will be presented including: perceived strengths and limitations of using the booklet as a therapeutic resource; and strategies for adopting the DADD as a discussion tool. Findings support the need for further investigation regarding the impact of the DADD in assisting health practitioners address driving retirement issues with those drivers diagnosed with a dementia and their family carers.


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