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Australians love to drive: what do drivers over 55 say about dementia and driving?

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Recommended Citation

Traynor, Victoria; Andrew, Catherine; and Brown, Jo-Ann: Australians love to drive: what do drivers over 55 say about dementia and driving? 2010.
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Australians love to drive: what do drivers over 55 say about dementia and driving?

Abstract

Background: Driving requires cognitive skills that can be compromised by dementia and some drivers find it difficult accepting the need to consider retirement from driving. This workshop explores driving and dementia and provides opportunities to discuss this topic with consumers, carers, practitioners and researchers.

Disciplines

Arts and Humanities | Life Sciences | Medicine and Health Sciences | Social and Behavioral Sciences

Publication Details

Traynor, V., Andrew, C. & Brown, J. (2010). Australians love to drive: what do drivers over 55 say about dementia and driving?. National Dementia Research Forum (DCRC).

DCRC Forum

Gold Coast

2010

Invited Workshop

Australians Love to Drive: What do drivers over 55 say about dementia and driving?

Background

Driving requires cognitive skills that can be compromised by dementia and some drivers find it difficult accepting the need to consider retirement from driving. This workshop explores driving and dementia and provides opportunities to discuss this topic with consumers, carers, practitioners and researchers.

Aims

The aims of this workshop are to provide:

- An overview of the current literature on driving and dementia
- Discuss current thinking about the role of practitioners in supporting a person with dementia to consider retirement from driving
- Opportunities to review existing tools used to assess the capability of person with dementia to drive
- Generate views from people with dementia and carers about driving and dementia
- Highlight findings from a research project involving drivers over 55 and people with dementia on their views about what support they consider helpful in considering retirement from driving

Conclusion

At the end of this workshop participants will have developed an understanding about current thinking in driving and dementia and have a greater awareness about the views of consumers and carers about how to manage retirement. Participants will have shared with each other the challenges faced in this area and some best practice ideas. Preliminary research findings which will be shared could provide a foundation for delivering innovative care within this area for future practice and policy development.

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