

OPSWISE

Older People's Services and Workforce Interventions: a Synthesis of Evidence

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RESEARCH QUESTION

The study aims to increase understanding of how workforce development interventions can improve the skills and care standards of clinical support workers within older people's health services.

Objectives include:

- to identify the mechanisms through which development interventions deliver support workforce and organisational improvements to benefit the care of older people
- to investigate the contextual characteristics that mediate the potential impact of these mechanisms on clinical care standards for older people

DESIGN

Systematic realist review conducted in 4 phases over 18 months

Phase 1: Programme theory development

Phase 2: Retrieval, review and synthesis

Phase 3: Refining and testing

Phase 4: Actionable recommendations

THE TEAM

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ABOUT THE STUDY

The OPSWISE study will fill a gap in the evidence base by identifying the interventions that have the potential to enhance the skills and care standards in the clinical support workforce for older people. We are specifically interested in uncovering how and why workforce development interventions may impact, and on whom, to guide workforce development policy and practice. Our definition of workforce development includes the support required to equip those providing care to older people with the right skills, knowledge and behaviors to deliver safe and high quality services (Skills for Care, 2011). The review will also identify how and why these interventions may (or may not) work, in what situations and for whom. Further details about the study are available here:

<http://www.nets.nihr.ac.uk/projects/hsdr/1212932>

<http://opswise.bangor.ac.uk>