Suffering in Silence: Pain in Dementia

Professional Development Workshop

Wednesday 24th February 2016, 1:00pm-5:00pm

Pain in an older person with dementia can be difficult to identify and treat. Dementia limits a person’s ability to communicate the pain they experience and many ‘suffer in silence’. In the last decade we have seen an explosion of research in this field and there are now a number of promising assessment tools and management strategies.

At this half-day evidence-based workshop you will learn:

> The prevalence and complexity of pain and dementia
> Strategies, tools and approaches to identify and assess pain in people with dementia
> How to treat and manage pain in people with dementia.

Three leading experts in the field of pain research will present: Professor Stephen Gibson, Associate Professor Benny Katz and Dr Steven Savvas.

Who should attend:

> Healthcare providers
> Allied health, nursing, clinical and medical staff
> Researchers and academics.

> Cost: $240 (incl GST) per person
> Venue: National Ageing Research Institute
> Ten percent discount for early bird registrations before 12th February 2016
> Ten percent discount for more than one registration from the same organisation
> Afternoon tea and all workshop materials provided.

“Excellent presenters with a wealth of knowledge to share”
- NARI workshop participant
Speaker Profiles

**Professor Stephen Gibson (NARI)**
BBSc (Hons) PhD MAPsS

Stephen Gibson is Director of NARI’s Clinical Research Division. He is also Director of Research at the Caulfield Pain Management and Research Centre. Stephen is a registered psychologist and has been involved in ageing research for over 25 years. His current research interests include studies on pain assessment in persons with dementia, age differences in pain and its impacts, fMRI responses to pain, and the implementation of pain management guidelines into the residential aged care sector. He was awarded the 2006 Pfizer International Visiting Professorship in pain medicine.

**Associate Professor Benny Katz (St Vincent’s Hospital, Melbourne)**
FRACP FFPMANZCA

Benny Katz is the Director of Geriatric Medicine at St Vincent’s Hospital and director of the Pain Clinic for Older People located at St George’s Hospital in Kew. He is a Clinical Associate Professor at University of Melbourne and Adjunct Associate Professor at ACEBAC, LaTrobe University.

He has a long standing interest in pain management in older people and has authored many articles and chapters on this topic. He is currently the vice president of the IASP special interest group on pain in older persons.

**Dr Steven Savvas (NARI)**
PhD, B Hlth Sci (Hons), B Ma & Comp Sci

Steven Savvas is a researcher at NARI where he is currently the trial coordinator for a large multi-site clinical trial involving people with dementia in residential aged care. Previous research projects at NARI include investigating the impact that analgesics have on behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia as well as depression and pain. Steven has extensive experience in clinical trials, having worked in a number of roles since 2006, and has a track record for conducting research in challenging areas such as addiction and dementia.

---

**Further information**
Marcia Fearn, Education Coordinator.  
Phone: (03) 8387 2305  
Email: education@nari.unimelb.edu.au  
NARI website: [www.nari.net.au](http://www.nari.net.au)