ABMU dementia training: Evaluation and consultancy

Evaluation of the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board (ABMU) Dementia Training Programme: Independent review and consultancy.

Background:
Following the Trusted to Care Report in 2014, the ABMU Health Board made significant changes to its dementia training programme. The changes included increasing the size of their Dementia Care Training Team and revising the three levels of training that they deliver. The Association for Dementia Studies was commissioned to review the multi-level dementia training programme, explore its impact on practice, and produce a series of recommendations to help the Health Board take the work forward.

Findings:
Overall the training courses were rated positively by participants and there was evidence of increased dementia knowledge and staff confidence. The evaluation identified a wide range of initiatives that staff who participated in the training planned to incorporate into their work in order to improve care for patients living with dementia.

Evaluation methods:
• Observations of training sessions
• Pre/post session evaluations
• Dementia Knowledge Assessment Tool
• Telephone interviews with course participants
• Face-to-face interviews with stakeholders and training team
• Comprehensive review of training materials

Consultancy:
The evaluation identified a number of areas where improvements could be made to strengthen the training programme and better support the Dementia Care Training Team. It developed a comprehensive set of recommendations aimed at helping the Health Board maximise the effectiveness of the dementia training programme.

The Association for Dementia Studies is available to conduct independent evaluations and provide un-biased consultancy to help organisations identify areas where they can improve their dementia-related provision.

Contact: dementia@worc.ac.uk 01905 542531
Mary Bruce, m.bruce@worc.ac.uk

The Association for Dementia Studies is based at the University of Worcester in the West Midlands.