

Background

Home care is a paid for service that provides help to people to live independently at home. Home care can help with many different tasks such as washing, dressing, preparing meals, shopping, helping to get out of the house and many more. These services can be provided or funded in different ways. People who use home care services can feel that the care they receive could be improved. According to AgeUk a third of calls to their helpline are regarding problems with home care services. Covid-19 created increased pressure and challenges in home care services. There has been a limited amount of research carried out into home care. There is a need to understand what good home care looks like. By understanding what people want from good home care, services can be informed, prioritised and re-set following the Covid-19 pandemic.

What are we aiming to find out?

This research will help home care services and those who provide them to a better understanding of what good home care should look like. This study is run by the University of Nottingham.

In this this study we will:

- Find out what research has already been done and what is currently known about home care provision
- Interview people who receive home care and those who deliver it, about what are the most important aspects to them and what good home care looks like.
- Survey a wide range of people involved with home care the aspects discovered in the interviews. The survey will ask which aspects are most important to them.
- Then ask people who receive home care and their families to feedback on the results from the other parts of the study. This will produce recommendations for good home care.

Who will take part?

Adults who receive home care, their families or friends and also people who deliver home care will be asked to take part in an interview or a survey. These will be completed by telephone, online or in person.

We want a wide range of people to take part who organise their homecare in different ways or work in different job roles within home care services.

Patient and public involvement

We will involve 6-8 members of the public in the design of the study. We will listen to their feedback and make changes to the research to make it relevant to people who use home care services.

Additionally, we will have an advisory group of both members of the public and those with experience of home care services to advice on writing, recruitment and the analysis of our research. We will also use this group in the sharing of our recommendations.

Summary

We will share the findings of the research widely. We will present our findings to people and services who provide, fund or use homecare services. Findings will be shared through social media, talking at events and written recommendations.

Would you like to help us in the design of our study? We are currently looking for home care recipients and their family members to give us feedback on our study design. We can offer a £20 Amazon voucher for your time.

Please contact Janet Darby or Fran Allen for further information:

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Mail box: 0115 8230291- Please leave a message and we will get back to you.