



DEER LODGE CENTRE

Making lives better

Research Project Summary

Code: DLC- 08-309

Subject areas: Geriatrics, Pain Assessment

Title	Psychometric Evaluation of the PACCI (Pain Assessment in the Cognitively/Communicatively Impaired) Tool.
Overview	Pain is associated with depression, decreased socialization, sleep disturbance, impaired ambulation, and increased health care utilization and costs. Those individuals who cannot report their pain verbally, and who lack the ability to formulate and express their degree of discomfort or pain are treated for pain the least.
Objectives	The purpose of this research is to evaluate the psychometric properties of a tool developed at Riverview Health Centre to measure pain/discomfort in residents with advanced dementia or severe cognitive or communicative impairment. This tool consists of 30 behaviors divided into four categories: behavioural, facial, physical, and vocal expression.
Principal Investigator	Carole Hamel
Affiliation	Riverview Health Centre
Location	DLC
Subject area	Geriatrics, Pain Assessment
Methodology	Questionnaires
Project timelines	11 months
Potential benefit	Pain is often under diagnosed and under treated in the elderly, and especially in those patients/residents with cognitive and/or communicative impairments. However, there is no evidence to indicate that pain is any less prevalent in this population. Proper pain assessment will lead to better pain management and quality of life for the cognitively and communicatively impaired patient/resident.
Status	Ongoing
Publications	None as of Yet
Last summary update	April 2008