

## INTRODUCTION

Living with cognitive impairment and dementia in Indigenous communities represents a different experience than for non-Indigenous peoples.

Colonization, residential schools, and forced assimilations have contributed to a cultural genocide that maintains health inequities in Canada and worldwide (Flicker & LoGiudice, 2015)

## OBJECTIVE & RESEARCH QUESTION

Though Indigenous peoples experience a higher rate of cognitive impairment and dementia under the age of 65 than non-Indigenous counterparts worldwide, little research has been conducted to understand cognitive and dementia among Indigenous peoples.

The research question guiding this review was: What are Indigenous perspectives on cognitive impairment and dementia?

## METHODS

The team used Whitemore and Knafl's (2005) updated approach to integrative reviews and PRISMA guidelines for narrative analysis. A systematic search of published literature from 2010-July 2020 was undertaken in 4 databases.

Thirty-four studies met the research question and inclusion criteria. Each of these studies was appraised using the Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP).

## RESULTS

Four themes emerged from the analysis:

- 1) Frequency of cognitive impairment and dementia in Indigenous populations.
- 2) Culturally appropriate assessment techniques.
- 3) Tools for use in clinical settings
- 4) Intersectoral collaboration

## DISCUSSION

Clinicians/Practitioners:

- ❖ Need to use trauma-informed practice along with cultural competency and safety
- ❖ Need to acknowledge the intergenerational and lasting effects of colonial practices.
- ❖ Draw on Indigenous traditional knowledge, culture, and traditions to develop early screening dementia programs in collaboration with Indigenous communities and Elders.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We acknowledge the SHRF for providing the funding for this study.

## CONTACTS

PI: Louise Racine PhD RN, TCN Scholar, College of Nursing, U of Saskatchewan

[louise.racine@usask.ca](mailto:louise.racine@usask.ca)

Co-PI: Susan Fowler-Kerry PhD RN

[susan.fowler.kerry@usask.ca](mailto:susan.fowler.kerry@usask.ca)