

## INTRODUCTION

Caring for a family or community member with dementia presents different challenges for Indigenous persons globally than non-Indigenous counterparts.

In the spaces where biomedical perspectives on mental health dominate, Indigenous care receivers' and family caregivers' needs, worldviews, and challenges remain poorly described.

## OBJECTIVES AND RESEARCH QUESTION

Indigenous peoples experience a higher rate of cognitive impairment and dementia than non-Indigenous counterparts worldwide. Yet, little research has been conducted to understand Indigenous community and family caregivers' perspectives, needs, and challenges when caring for a person living with cognitive impairment or dementia. The research question guiding this review was: What are Indigenous family or community caregivers' needs and challenges when caring for a family member presenting dementia or cognitive impairment?

## METHODS

The team used Whittemore 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 through 6 databases.

Fifty-one studies fit the research question and inclusion criteria. Each of these studies was appraised using the Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP).

## RESULTS

Five themes emerged from the analysis:

- 1) Decolonizing Western perspectives on dementia
- 2) The centrality of cultural safety
- 3) Caregivers' experiences
- 4) Pre-dementia community education
- 5) Family and community-centred care

## DISCUSSION

Clinicians/Practitioners:

- ❖ Need to support Indigenous individuals' family and community caregivers by prioritizing Indigenous perspectives about cognitive impairment and dementia.
- ❖ Need to use a the "two-eyed seeing" approach to better support Indigenous community caregivers to decolonize Western views on dementia.
- ❖ Recognize the challenges of providing informal care within Indigenous communities.

## 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)