

OPTIMISING MANAGEMENT AND CARE DELIVERY IN PEOPLE LIVING WITH CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE

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Doctor of Philosophy (Nursing)

2014

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORSHIP AND ORIGINALITY

I certify that the work in this thesis has not previously been submitted for a degree nor has it been submitted as part of requirements for a degree except as fully acknowledged within the text.

I also certify that the thesis has been written by me. Any help that I have received in my research work and the preparation of the thesis itself has been acknowledged. In addition, I certify that all information sources and literature used are indicated in the thesis.

Signature of Student

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Course: Doctor of Philosophy (Nursing)

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PREFACE

This dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing is presented as a series of discrete studies that seek to understand the experience of individuals living with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and how we can work towards solutions that optimise care delivery and health care utilisation in this patient group. A substantial part of this dissertation has already been published in peer review journals or submitted as manuscripts and the thesis as a whole complies with the 'Procedures for Presentation and submission of Theses for Higher Degrees - University of Technology, Sydney; Polices and Directives of the University'. All published manuscripts are direct result of the research work undertaken for this dissertation with the majority of the authorship attributed to myself as a doctoral student.

This dissertation is organised in four sections: Section 1: Introduction and conceptual frameworks; Section 2: Understanding the barriers and facilitators to care delivery; and Section 3: Looking to innovative future approaches to COPD care and Section 4: Overall thesis discussion.



SECTION TWO: UNDERSTANDING BARRIERS AND FACILITATORS TO **CARE DELIVERY**

Chapter 3 Self-management and Self-efficacy in COPD

Chapter 5 Experience and sustained unmet needs of individuals with advanced COPD

Chapter 4 Cognitive impairment and impact on COPD management

SECTION THREE: LOOKING TO INNOVATIVE FUTURE APPROACHES TO **COPD CARE**

Chapter 6 Telecommunication use and online delivery of chronic disease management

Chapter 7 Interventions to support a palliative care approach in in patients with COPD

Chapter 8 Comprehensive approaches to COPD management

SECTION FOUR: DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Figure i: Thesis structure

DPTIMISING CARE DELIVERY IN COPD

The introductory and discussion chapters are presented in a traditional format with Chapter 1: Introduction providing a broad background to the piece of work, including the prevalence and burden of COPD, the epidemiology and key features of this condition, and the management of COPD. The introduction will also outline the significance of this dissertation and the overall research problem and aim of the research. Chapter 2: Conceptual Frameworks introduces the several conceptual frameworks that have informed the development and theoretical design of the studies included in this thesis; including: the chronic care model; self-management; self-efficacy; and comprehensive approaches to chronic disease management. While a theoretical discussion and conclusion are integrated as part of each chapter, Chapter 9: Doctoral Discussion will provide a general overall discussion that summarises the collective findings and provides for implications for future policy, practice and research

The series of discrete yet interrelated studies are presented in Section Two: Understanding Barriers and Facilitators to Care Delivery and Section Three: Looking to Innovative Future Approaches to COPD Care as chapters with an introductory extended abstract followed by the published article or submitted manuscript. In Section Two, Chapter 3 presents a key integrative literature review that place the dissertation within the context of the previous knowledge, Chapter 4 provides a further metasynthesis of qualitative data from the last two decades to understand the sustained unmet needs of patients with end-stage COPD and Chapter 5 presents a focus group study exploring individuals' perspectives about cognitive impairment and how these changes might impact their ability to manage their condition.

In Section Three, Chapter 6 explores the innovative technological approaches to healthcare delivery and improved health service utilisation through a prevalence survey study and a focus group study; Chapter 7 presents an integrative review that describes the evidence for interventions that support a palliative care approach in the transition to chronic progressive COPD; and Chapter 8 presents a Cochrane Overview that explores the evidence for and elements of comprehensive approaches to complex and multifaceted disease management.

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PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES PUBLISHED AS PART OF DOCTORATE

- Disler RT, Inglis SC, Newton PJ, Currow DC, Macdonald PS, Glanville AR, Donesky D, Carrieri-Kohlman V, Davidson PM. Patterns of technology use in patients attending a cardiopulmonary outpatient clinic: a self-report survey. *interactive Journal of Medical Research*. 2015; 4:1.
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- 4. **Disler RT,** Gallagher RD, Davidson PM. Factors influencing self-management in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: An integrative review *International Journal of Nursing Practice*; 2012; 49: 230-242. INDEN-IJNS publication award 2012
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- 8. **Disler RT,** Inglis SC, Davidson PM. Non-pharmacological management interventions for COPD: an overview of Cochrane systematic reviews. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Review*.
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AWARDS RECEIVED DURING DOCTORAL TENURE

2015 Lung Foundation Australia and A Menarini Australia Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Travel Grant (\$5000)

- This award provides support for individuals presenting at the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand conference, to travel and present at the American Thoracic Society or European Respiratory Society conference in that same year.
- The research presented in the conference papers and posters is presented in Chapters are presented in Chapter 5, 6 and 8 of the thesis. One of the three papers has been published as a full peer reviewed article and the remaining two papers have been submitted and are under review.

2015 American Thoracic Society, Denver US, Abstract Award (Nursing Assembly) (\$500).

- This funding was presented for the abstract: Disler RT, Inglis SC, Newton PJ, Currow DC, Macdonald PS, Glanville AR, Donesky D, Carrieri-Kohlman V, Davidson PM. Technology Use in Patients Attending a Cardiopulmonary Clinic.
- The research presented in this conference poster is presented in Chapter 6 of this thesis and has been published in the Interactive Journal of Medical Research.

2014 Lung Foundation Australia/Cochrane Airways Group Scholarship presented at the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand conference (\$2500)

- This award provides recognition and support for individuals undertaking a Cochrane review or overview in the area of respiratory disease.
- The Cochrane Overview funded was: Disler RT, Inglis SC, Davidson PM. Non-pharmacological management interventions for COPD: an overview of Cochrane systematic reviews. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2013, Issue 2. Art. No.: CD010384. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD010384.
- This paper is presented in Chapter 8 of the thesis, has been submitted for publication and is currently under editorial review.

2014 Nursing International Trainee scholarship for the abstract accepted and presented at the American Thoracic Society Conference in San Diego (\$1500).

• This conference presentation contributed to collaborative work undertaken with colleagues in the United States of America into those patients most likely to respond to dyspnoea self-management programs.

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2014 American Thoracic Society Conference in San Diego, Abstract Award (\$500)

 This funding was awarded by the Nursing Assembly for the collaborative work undertaken with colleagues in the United States of America into those patients most likely to respond to dyspnoea self-management programs. This funding was declined as this could not be taken in conjunction with the 2014 Nursing International Trainee Scholarship.

2013 Invited international speaker at the 2014 American Thoracic Society conference in Philadelphia (\$2000)

 This conference presentation contributed to the Chapter 7 Interventions to support a palliative approach in patients with COPD.

2012 Inaugural International Journal of Nursing Studies/ International Network in Doctoral Education Publication Award (€500)

- This award is in recognition of the best doctoral paper accepted and published by the International Journal of Nursing Studies in 2012.
- The paper awarded was: Disler, R.T., Gallagher, R.D. & Davidson, P.M. 2012, 'Factors influencing self-management in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: An integrative review', *International Journal of Nursing Studies*, vol. 49, pp. 230-242.
- This paper is presented in Chapter 3 of the thesis and has been cited 25 times over the past three years.

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- 2013 Disler RT. Nursing Year in Review: Palliative Interventions in COPD: Current Approaches to Care. International Invited Speaker, American Thoracic Society Conference, 17-22 May 2013, Philadelphia, USA.

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DOCTORAL ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a substantial health problem both within

Australia and internationally, and is noted by the World Health Organization Global Burden

of Disease: Update to be one of the most common, burdensome and widespread chronic

conditions internationally. It is estimated that 210 million people worldwide have COPD with

80 million in the chronic progressive phase of the disease. Moreover, it affects 10% of all

people over 40. Issues of healthcare access, increasing health costs and the need for

improved health outcomes drive the search for more effective and economically sustainable

approaches to support patients with chronic illnesses, such as COPD. Despite treatment

optimisation, individuals with chronic progressive COPD continue to experience high

symptom burden and have limited access to supportive services. Additionally, current care

approaches to care delivery are episodic and expensive and reach only a small proportion of

the population.

COPD remains a substantial problem with marked symptom burden and recognised barriers

to care, yet solutions are less evident. An emerging body of data underscores the

importance of collaborative and multifaceted approaches, and these approaches are

currently a focus of clinicians and policy makers in hospital avoidance. Nurses play a

prominent role in these approaches through planning and coordinating the complex care for

individuals with COPD. Understanding the challenges to care delivery will inform health

professionals and policy makers in the optimal care delivery approaches that provide

sustained positive impact for individuals with COPD.

OBJECTIVES

This thesis presents a series of discrete yet interrelated studies that have sought to

understand how best to optimise care delivery in COPD. Specifically, the thesis sought to:

understand the underlying factors that influence and challenge individuals' experience of

living with COPD and their ability to manage their condition and engage with health care

services;

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conceptualise how can we better address unmet needs and facilitate the transition from

chronic to the end stage disease; and

conceptualise innovative, multifaceted and tailored approaches that optimise care

delivery and healthcare utilisation while meeting the needs of the individual.

METHODS

This dissertation is presented as a series of discrete, interrelated studies. Several

methodological approaches have been used in the development and theoretical design of

the individual studies and have assisted in study design and interpretation of findings. The

theoretical underpinning and methodological processes are discussed in each individual

study chapter, and include: integrative review; metasynthesis of qualitative data; qualitative

focus groups; quantitative self-report survey; and systematic overview of published evidence

within the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews. The dissertation is organised in four

sections: Section 1: Introduction and conceptual frameworks; Section 2: Understanding the

barriers and facilitators to care delivery; and Section 3: Looking to innovative future

approaches to COPD care and Section 4: Overall thesis discussion.

FINDINGS

Despite advances in management and optimisation of treatments, individuals living with

COPD experience well-established and ongoing needs, which have not markedly improved

over the past two decades. While the physical challenges associated with COPD are well

recognised, existential determinants, such as social isolation, are additionally seen to have a

high impact on the individuals and their ability to manage their condition. However, they are

rarely acknowledged or addressed in planning care delivery. The measure of success and

effectiveness of interventions remains strongly based on health related quality of life, health

utilisation and mortality data. Consequently, these outcomes continue to inform and drive

policy and practice development. In optimising care delivery and healthcare utilisation, it is

important to also consider the impact of provider influence, socioeconomic status, cognition,

and health literacy.

Support for collaborative self-management has been recognised as a vital component for

increasing continuity and quality of chronic illness care in the future. Regular access to this

expert advice around symptom management, problem solving and coping techniques are necessary for patients to make self-management decisions with increased confidence. Nurses play a prominent role in facilitating and accessing such support through planning and coordinating the complex care for individuals with COPD. Understanding the challenges to care delivery will inform health professionals and policy makers in the optimal care delivery approaches that provide sustained positive impact for individuals with COPD.

The transition from chronic to chronic progressive COPD is particularly difficult for individuals living with COPD. Challenges in prognostication and the limited recommendations provided for end-stage care in international COPD guidelines are likely contributors to the lack of palliative and supportive care delivery in individuals with COPD. Improving providers' confidence in initiating end-of-life discussions, through training in approaches to end-of-life conversations and available services, would assist in the utilisation of advanced care planning and system interventions. In addition, collaboration between primary, secondary and, tertiary care should be strengthened to improve delivery of care across different parts of the health system and encourage the integration of active management with planning for the final stages of life.

Comprehensive and multivariate systems approaches are necessary to address the complex needs experienced by individuals with COPD. Evidence for these interventions is challenged due to intrinsic heterogeneity in their components and delivery. Clear articulation and consensus on essential intervention components are required for high quality care delivery; using a pre-specified and standardised taxonomy may inform health providers and consumers in design and development of future interventions for COPD management.

Finally, current care approaches are episodic, expensive, and reach only a small proportion of the population. The long-term tasks of self-management and overall burden of disease provide a compelling argument for accessible and convenient avenues for patients to obtain ongoing treatment and peer support. Communication tools are already a pervasive component of healthcare delivery and will increasingly influence future healthcare delivery in COPD and other chronic conditions. The new generation of empowered health consumers expect healthcare systems that accommodate their changing needs and preferences. Innovation in delivery approaches, such as those seen in asynchronous online health delivery

platforms, may be an important adjunct to traditional forms of healthcare and address some of the limitations of traditional care delivery. Further research is required into the socioeconomic and physical benefits of such approaches particularly in those who have limited access to face to face health support.

CONCLUSIONS

There is clear documentation of the marked burden and barriers to COPD care, yet solutions are less evident. This thesis has sought to understand how we can optimise care delivery in COPD. Issues of healthcare access, increasing health costs and the need for improved health outcomes drive the search for more effective and economically sustainable approaches to support patients with chronic illnesses, such as COPD. Future COPD care must be delivered through multifaceted and comprehensive approaches that tailor care to the sociopsychological needs, and associated health literacy of the individual. Collaborative care between individuals and health providers, and strengthening of relationships between primary, secondary and tertiary care, are essential to assisting individuals in accessing resources and moving between different parts of the health system. The long-term tasks of self-management and overall burden of disease provide a compelling argument for accessible and convenient avenues to obtain ongoing treatment and peer support, such as those seen in asynchronous online health delivery platforms. It is hoped that in understanding the factors that influence individuals engagement with care delivery that the work in this thesis will inform new and innovative delivery approaches that help address the varied needs of individuals with COPD and that engage patients with health professionals and peers in supportive and collaborative relationships.