

# Dementia education opportunities for pre-registration Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy students - A Scoping Review

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## INTRODUCTION

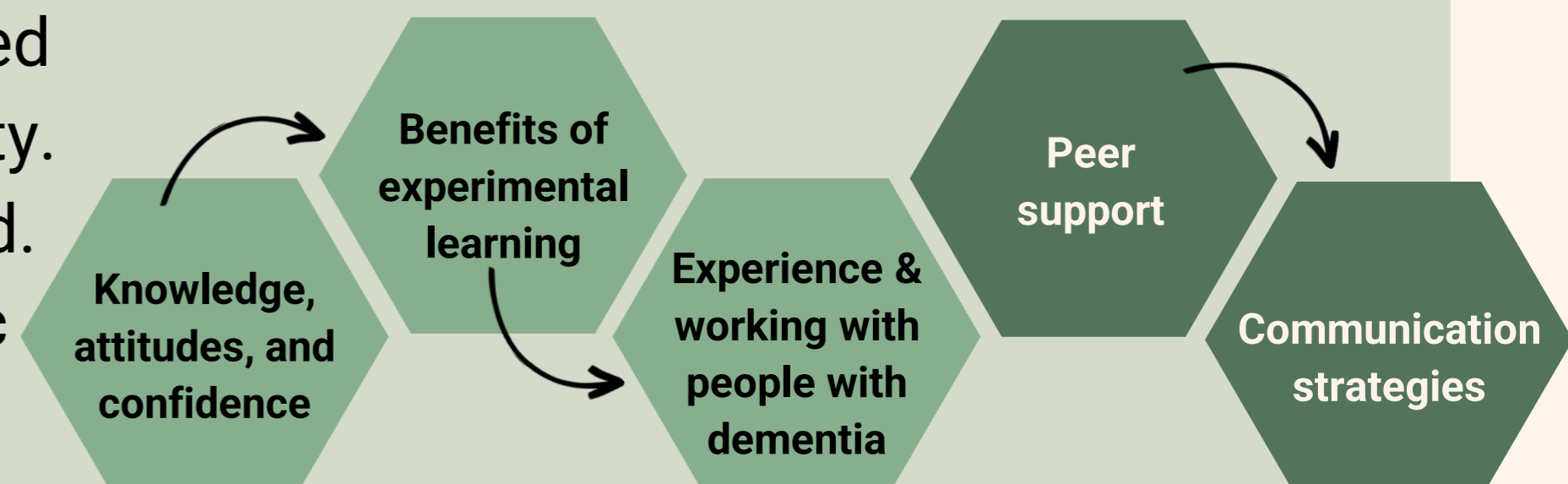
Approximately **43.8 million** people in the world are living with dementia. This is expected to increase to at least **100 million** by 2050 (Nichols et al., 2019). There is a **global need** to improve the **dementia education and training for healthcare workers and students** (Hvalič-Touzery et al., 2018). However, there is a lack of research exploring dementia education for **occupational therapists (OTs)** and **physiotherapists (PTs)**.

## OBJECTIVES

- To identify the different dementia education opportunities available for pre-registration OT and PT students.
- To identify the gaps/barriers in the available dementia education opportunities for pre-registration OT and PT students.
- To use the results of this paper to recommend inclusive dementia OT and PT students

## SCOPING REVIEW METHODOLOGY

- Overall, **14,646** searches were identified
- **57 articles** were assessed for eligibility.
- **4 globally** based articles were included.
- The data was analysed using **thematic analysis**.



## RESULTS

- **Dementia experience** influences **desire to work** with people with dementia (PWD)
- **Experiential learning opportunities** positively impacted student's **knowledge, confidence, and attitudes** towards working with PWD.
- **Virtual dementia education** interventions seem **beneficial** and are **cost effective**.
- Benefits of **peer support**.
- Importance of **communication skills**.

## CONCLUSION

- There is **limited research** around dementia education for OT and PT students.
- More research into dementia education in the **UK** is needed.
- Utilise **didactic teaching** in conjunction with **experiential learning opportunities**.
- Further exploration of **peer support, virtual learning, and communication skills**.

## REFERENCES

- Hvalič-Touzery, S., Skela-Savič, B., Macrae, R., Jack-Waugh, A., Tolson, D., Hellström, A., de Abreu, W., & Pesjak, K. (2018). The provision of accredited higher education on dementia in six European countries: An exploratory study. *Nurse Education Today*, 60, 161–169. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nedt.2017.10.010>.
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