Ethical considerations and challenges when working with people with dementia and their carers

Qualitative Research on Mental Health 4

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Context

820,000 in the UK with a diagnosis of dementia (Dementia UK, 2010)

£17 billion per annum in care costs (Alzheimer’s Society, 2010)

Lived relationship

Two thirds living in the community (NHS, 2010)
Ethical review (1)

A mountain you have to climb
Ethical review (2)

NHS ethical review

• In-depth process!
• Time consuming
• Detailed planning needed
(Pre-planned) issues and pragmatic solutions (1)

- Discussion and partnership
  - research protocol
  - research tool design

- Obtaining informed consent
(Pre–planned) issues and pragmatic solutions (2)

- Building rapport
  - researcher self–disclosure
  - accessible information
  - clear boundaries
  - advocacy

- Safeguarding
- Reflexive practice and researcher support
Researching (reflexively) in the field

Unpredictable
References

