



Canadian Academy of Health Sciences
Académie canadienne des sciences de la santé

Dementia – Friendly Care Settings

UNDERSTANDING THE PERSON-ENVIRONMENT FIT IN
DEMENTIA CARE

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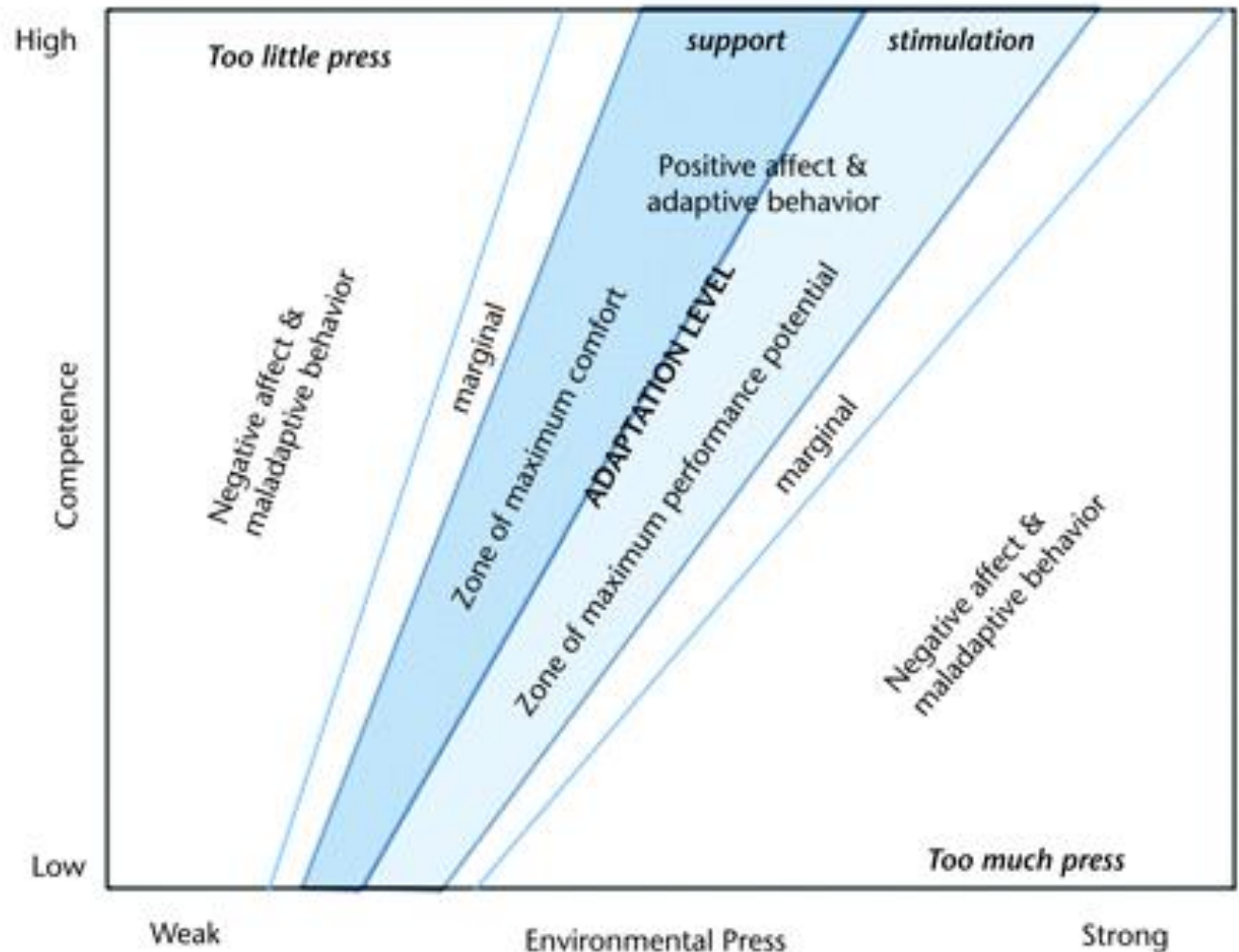


Environmental Press (EP)

LTC Facilities
often maintain a
level of
HOMOGENEITY

BUT

Persons with
dementia have
different levels
of competencies





Care Environments

Two examples:

Long-term facility-based care

- Nursing homes

Community-based care environments

- Adult Day Programs

How does the physical layout and environmental press impact the quality of life of residents/participants living with dementia?



Care and Construction

Facility-based care is undergoing cultural changes

- New innovative physical designs
- Changes in staffing approach
- Resident-centred care

Funding: CIHR Partnerships in Health Systems Improvement;

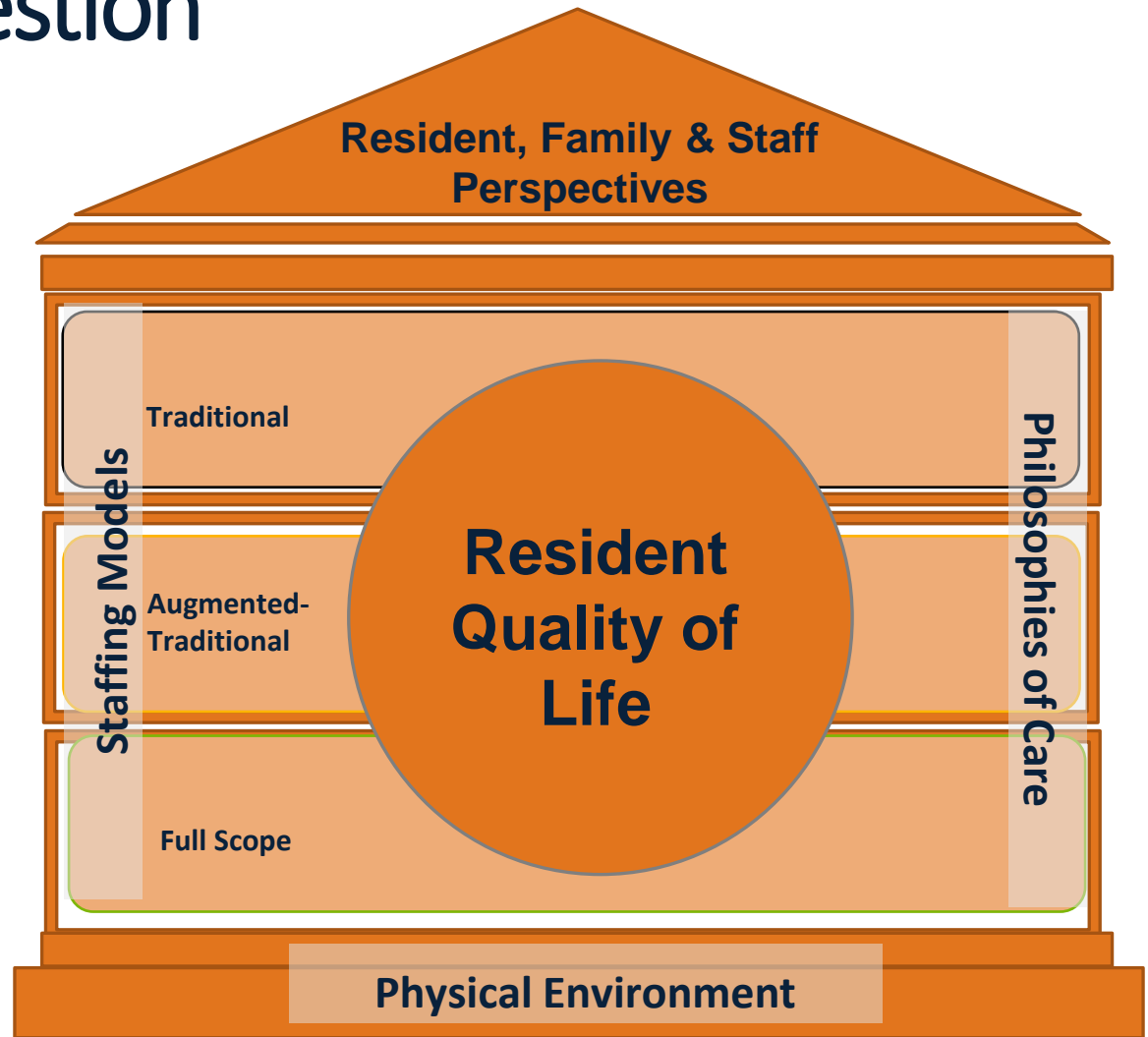
Based in Nova Scotia involving 23 facilities, 300 residents; 400 family and 800+ staff



Fancey, P., Keefe, J., Stadnyk, R., Gardiner, E., & Aubrecht, K. (2012). Understanding and assessing the impact of nursing home approach to care and physical design on residents and their families: A synthesis of the literature. *Seniors Housing & Care Journal*, 20(1), 99-114.

Research Question

To what extent and in what ways do differences in the **nursing home model of care** impact **resident quality of life**?



Godin, J., Keefe, J., Kelloway, K., & Hirdes, J. (2015). Nursing home resident quality of life: Testing for measurement equivalence across resident, family, and staff perspectives. *Quality of Life Research*. doi: 10.1007/s11136-015-0989-4



What influences quality of life

RESIDENT

Marital status
Health scale
Homelikeness
Personal relationships
Staff-Resident bonding

FAMILY

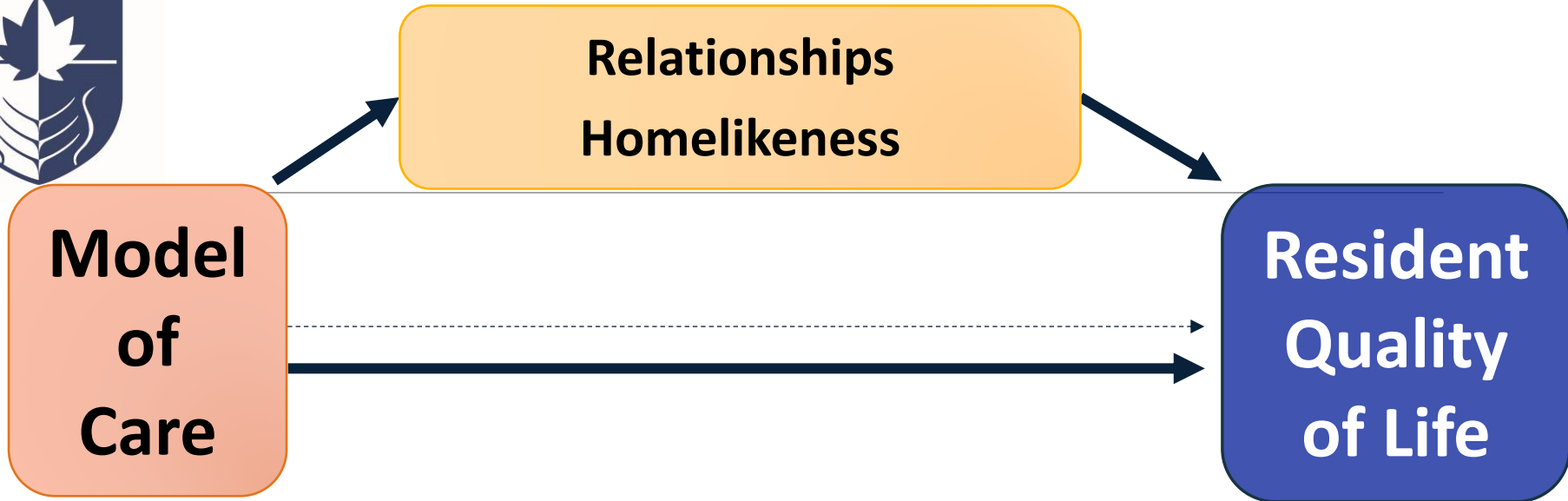
Resident cognitive status
Homelikeness
Family – Staff relationships
Resident – Resident relationships

STAFF

New-Full-scope
Homelikeness
Resident – Staff relationships
Role clarity
Skill use
Transformation leadership
Resident challenging
Job influence

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graph TD; Resident[RESIDENT] --> QoL((Resident Quality of Life)); Family[FAMILY] --> QoL; Staff[STAFF] --> QoL;
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Resident Quality of Life



- Person-Environment fit is the resident's ability to exercise choice and autonomy within their environment.
- Recognition that this space need to be flexible as individuals capacities are changing and the space will need to adapt.

Keefe, J., Kelloway, K., & Macinnis, A. (2014). Enhancing resident's quality of life through care and construction. Long Term Care Today, (Fall/Winter) pp. 16-18.



Assessing Adult Day Program Environment for Persons with Dementia

(Brown & Keefe, 2012)

Dementia-Friendly Environments Should...





Flexibility

- Survey results of Adult day Programs in NS demonstrated significant challenges in environmental suitability based on the nine criteria.
- Increased need for more and improved community care options integrating agency of persons living with dementia
- recognition that these physical spaces must anticipate and adjust to the diversity of persons participating in this space





Emerging issue:
Where are care environments
geographically located?

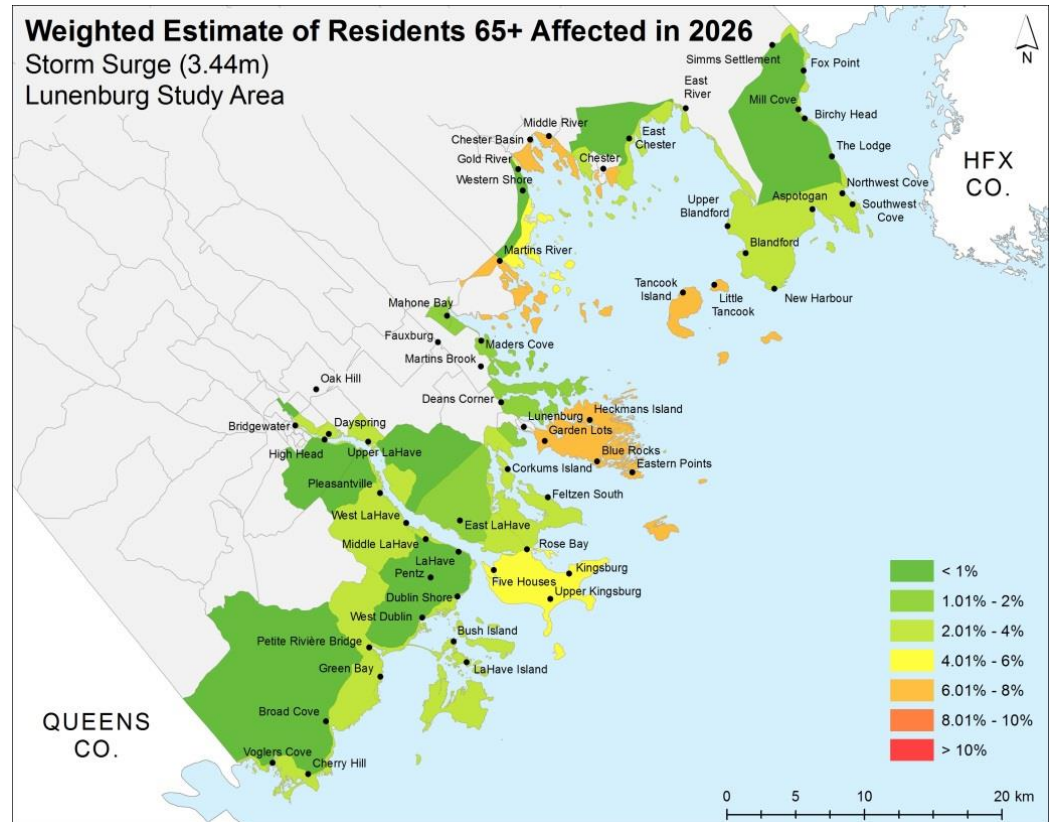


Climate Change and Vulnerable Populations

Rural coastal communities are experiencing rising sea levels along their coastlines and more frequent, more intense storms

Potential of such coastal flooding will impact on key infrastructure of importance to older person.

Climate change adaptation planning needs to consider the geographical placement of care environments



Rapaport, E., Manuel, P., Krawchenko, T. and Keefe, J. (2015). How can aging communities adapt to coastal climate change? Mapping community asset vulnerability for planning and adaptation. *Canadian Public Policy*, 41(2), 166-177.



Closing Remarks

SPACE

Flexibility

- How a space is structured and what happens in the space (i.e., maladaptive behaviours)
- Expectations about what a person can do are built into the physical design
- Adaptations that work for some may be disabling to others

SPACE & PLACE

Endurance

- Where a space is located structures the space
- Expectations about the physical environment in which care homes are located will have implications for what happens in those spaces
- Reminder that adaptations happen beyond our control (external conditions)