

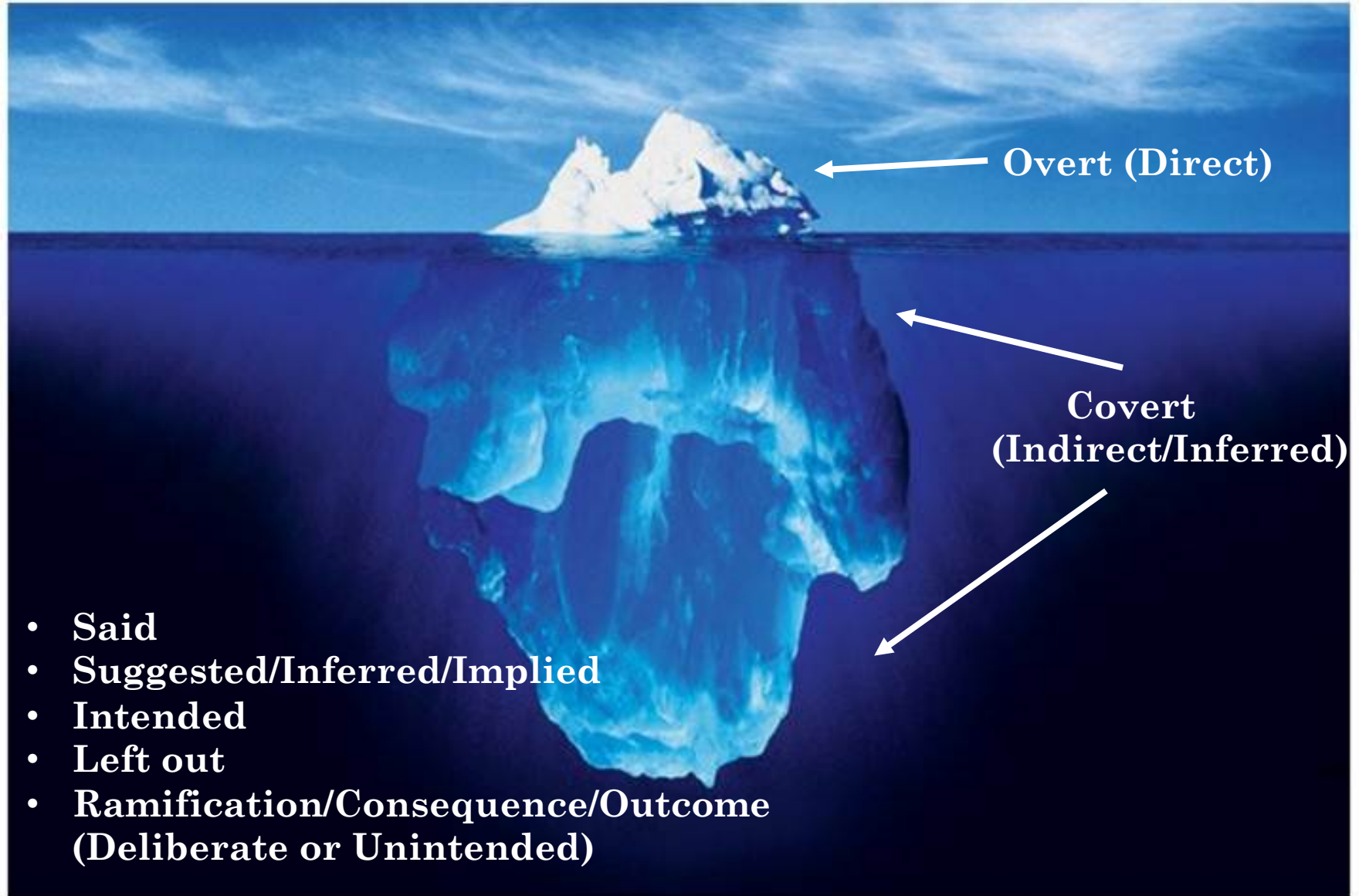


**TOWARDS AN ALTERNATIVE IN
PERSON-CENTRED DEMENTIA CARE:**

Policy and policy instruments

Janet Nahirniak

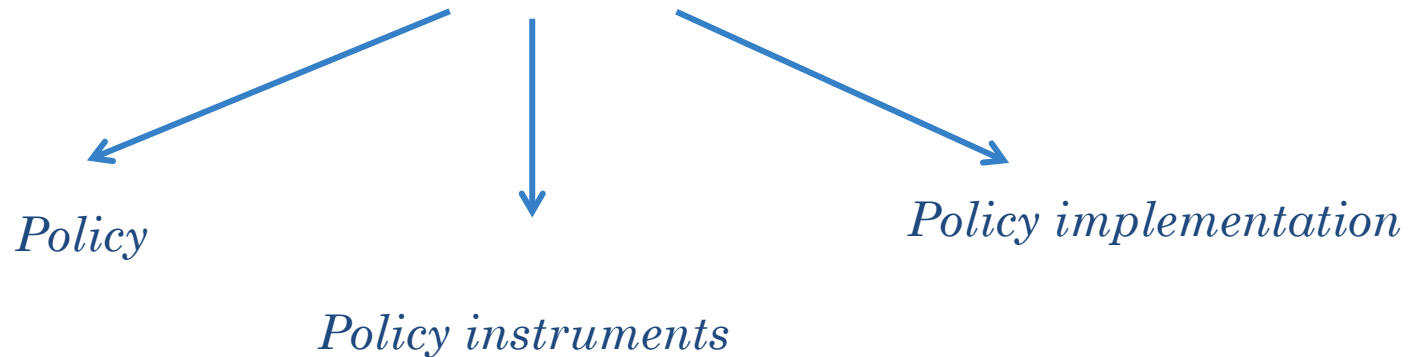
POLICY CAN BE... ~~COMPLEX~~ SNEAKY



RESEARCH GOAL:

Identify extant *supports* or
barriers to
alternative person-centred
dementia care

(created intentionally or unintentionally)



WHY PERSON-CENTRED?

- Because Albertans requested it.
(Alberta Health, 2016b; Alberta Health Services, 2016)
- Because it's a stated goal of Alberta Health.
(Alberta Health, 2016a, Alberta Health, 2016b; Alberta Health Advocates, 2014; Alberta Health Services, 2015b)
- Because it's considered 'best practice'.
(Alberta Health, 2016b, 2.23).



PERSON-CENTRED DEMENTIA CARE

What does “Person-centred” *mean*?

- ***Holistic***, responding to the needs of the whole person
- ***Integrated***, or *partnered (inclusive of the person with dementia and their family)*
- ***Collaborative***, with all care providers regardless of discipline, working together for the “patient’s” highest good.
- ***Respectful***, consciously honouring the dignity and worth of the person with dementia.
- ***Individualized***, through specific care plans or ***personalized***, through selections regarding palate, music or decor
- ***Preference-based***, acknowledging choice in manner, frequency or degree of care.



CURRENT ALBERTA DEMENTIA POLICY



The Alberta Dementia Strategy & Action Plan was scheduled for release in 2015. It awaits ministerial approval.



POLICY INSTRUMENTS



- *Alberta Health Act*
- *Alberta Health Charter*
- *Continuing Care Standard*

Alberta Health oversees *all aspects of Continuing Care*, including Long Term Dementia Care



VISION/GOALS

(What is desired)

Accommodations Standards Licensing Information Guide:

Long term care



Policy Implementation

(How desired goals are accomplished)



PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

- Intended policy goals *are aligned* with those of innovative, person-centred care. All of the examined policy instruments contain stated alignment with some (if not all) of the principles.
- *Mixed* (or unintended) *messages* may unintentionally be conveyed to hands-on workers through inclusion, exclusion or repetition of principles.
- *Interpretation may not align* with values and intention.
- *Implementation may not align* with values and intention.



HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN ?

Mixed (or unintended) messages may unintentionally be conveyed to hands-on workers through inclusion, exclusion or repetition of certain principles.

- **Ex.- risk aversive/ 'safety first' message conveyed through the compulsory inclusion of safety in 8 out of 12 Accommodations Standards directly pertaining to person-centred care (Alberta Health, 2015).**

Availability heuristic is a cognitive bias where a frequently appearing item becomes more memorable and therefore seems more important.

- **Disconnect between original message and ground floor implementation. I.e., the intended message is person-centred care, and the operationalized message becomes risk aversion.**

- **Telephone**

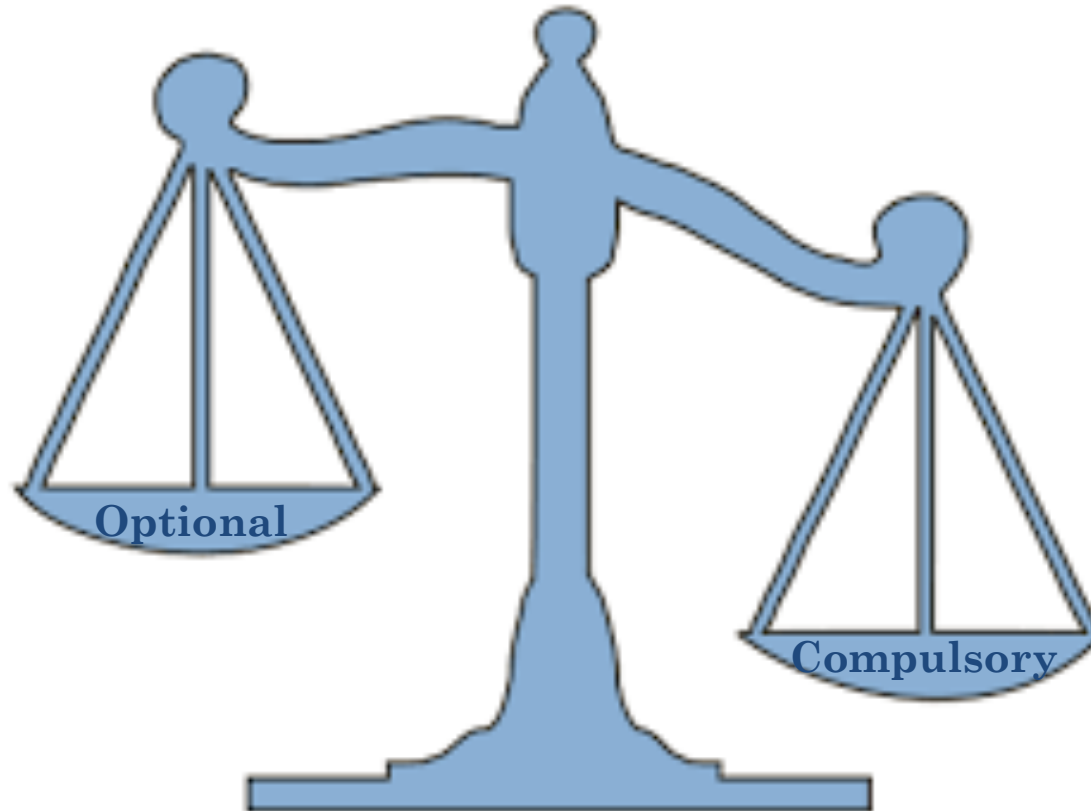


- **Inability of staff to implement person centred care in a meaningful way due to time restraints created by volume and nature of required (safety-oriented) tasks.**



When individualized or preference-based standards are optional, what message does this send?

Which is most important?



Policy implementation may not align with intent.

Current policy promotes person-centred care... in a safe manner.

➤ Intent = person-centred care.

➤ Intent = safety (also)

Person-centred care



Safety-centred care

Implementation



Person-centred care



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. A generally accepted *multi-disciplinary definition of person-centred care*, including its essential principles should be implemented.
2. “CCHSS recognizes the Client’s *right to live at risk and respects the Client’s choice*” (Alberta Health, 2016b, p. 9). Approaching the issue of safety from this perspective may mitigate the problem of conflicting values when attempting to balance risk aversion with person-centred care.
3. The belief in the *primacy of safety or protection from harm* must be addressed
4. Long Term Care Accommodation Standards should be re-evaluated with the understanding that *unintended messages may be communicated* through frequency of attention, lack of attention, or optional status.
5. Within Long Term Care Accommodation Standards, the *standards of personal choice items and social and leisure activities should be compulsory*.
6. An *educational campaign* could be undertaken to replace old school beliefs that maintain a frail or vulnerable senior paradigm, with the positive message supported by current research.
7. Given the possible disparity between intention and implementation, *further research* into the (mis)alignment of policy principles to actualized implementation is warranted, especially once a definitive Albertan dementia policy is in place





QUESTIONS?

REFERENCES:

- Alberta Health Act*, 2010 (PDF). Statutes of Alberta, 2010. Queen's Printers. Retrieved from [Alberta Health Act](#)
- Alberta Health, 2016a. Alberta's 5-Year Health Action Plan, 2010–2015 (Website). Government of Alberta, 2016. Retrieved from <http://www.health.alberta.ca/initiatives/5-year-health-action-plan.html>
- Alberta Health, 2016b. Alberta's 5-Year Health Action Plan, 2010–2015 (Website). Government of Alberta, 2016. Retrieved from <http://www.health.alberta.ca/initiatives/5-year-plan-progress.html>
- Alberta Health, 2015. *Accommodation standards and licensing information guide: Long-term care*. Compliance and Licensing Branch, Government of Alberta, 2015. Retrieved from <http://www.health.alberta.ca/documents/CC-Accommodation-Guide5-2015-LTC.pdf>
- Alberta Health Advocates, 2014. Alberta Health Charter, Alberta Health, 2016. Retrieved from <https://www.albertahealthadvocates.ca/education/Pages/Health-Charter.aspx>
- Alberta Health Services, 2016. AHS' Four Foundational Strategies (Website). Government of Alberta, 2016. Retrieved from <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/about/Page12951.aspx>
- Alberta Health Services, 2015a. Assessing Compliance with Accommodation Standards in Supportive Living and Long-Term Care Accommodations (PDF). *Things to Know*. Government of Alberta, 2015. Retrieved from: <http://standardsandlicensing.alberta.ca/thingstoknow.html>
- Brooker, D. (2003). What is person-centred care in dementia? *Reviews in Clinical Gerontology*, 13(3), 215-222 8p. Retrieved from <http://login.ezproxy.library.ualberta.ca/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=rzh&AN=106650136&site=live&scope=site> <http://ds->
- Brooker, D., & Latham, I. (2016). *Person-centred dementia care : Making services better with the VIPS framework*. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers. Retrieved from <http://login.ezproxy.library.ualberta.ca/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=1077129&site=eds-live&scope=site>
- Brummel-Smith, K., Butler, D., Frieder, M., Gibbs, N., Henry, M., Koons, E., et al. (2016). *Person-centered care: A definition and essential elements*. Wiley Subscription Services, Inc. doi:10.1111/jgs.13866



REFERENCES CONTD.

- Finset, A. (2011). Research on person-centred clinical care. *Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice*, 17(2), 384-386. doi:10.1111/j.1365-2753.2010.01608.x
- Glass, A. P. (2014). Innovative seniors housing and care models: What we can learn from the netherlands. *Seniors Housing & Care Journal*, 22(1), 74-81. Retrieved from <http://login.ezproxy.library.ualberta.ca/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=100116977&site=eds-live&scope=site>
- Greene, S. M., Tuzzio, L., & Cherkin, D. (2012). A framework for making patient-centered care front and center. *The Permanente Journal*, 16(3), 49-53. Retrieved from <http://login.ezproxy.library.ualberta.ca/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=cmedm&AN=23012599&site=eds-live&scope=site>
- Jenkins, C., & Smythe, A. (2013). Reflections on a visit to a dementia care village. *Nursing Older People*, 25(6), 14-19. Retrieved from <http://login.ezproxy.library.ualberta.ca/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=rzh&AN=104187659&site=eds-live&scope=site>
- McGreevy, J. (2015). Dementia and the person-centred care approach. *Nursing Older People*, 27(8), 27-31. doi:10.7748/nop.27.8.27.e713
- Ryan, J., & Carey, E. (2009). Developing person-centred planning in dementia care. *Learning Disability Practice*, 12(5), 24-28. Retrieved from <http://login.ezproxy.library.ualberta.ca/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=42986883&site=eds-live&scope=site>

