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**Poster presentation at IASSIDD, Melbourne 2016**

Title: What are the challenges and facilitators to conducting research with people with intellectual disabilities? The perspectives of care staff

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Aims: People with intellectual disability (ID) are under-represented in health research. Care staff may act as gatekeepers, potentially limiting participation in research that may be beneficial to the potential participants and others. This study aimed to explore care staff’s attitudes towards research with people with ID, including perceived barriers and solutions.

Method: Focus groups and interviews with eight care staff were transcribed verbatim and analysed using thematic analysis.

Results: Care staff felt that research should be inclusive of people with ID. Barriers were identified, mainly to recruitment. Care staff felt organisational policies could prevent them from supporting someone to participate in research. The decision-making process for someone without capacity to consent was viewed as lengthy, complex, and possibly not worth embarking upon. Effective communication and trust-building between the researcher and participant before and during the study was deemed essential.

Conclusions: This in-depth understanding of potential challenges perceived by care staff is key to informing the dialogue between research and practice. Researchers need to be aware of existing, or potential, barriers to recruitment in order to design effective recruitment strategies. Title: Self-management in people with epilepsy and intellectual disability: Unmet needs and the feasibility of a picture booklet intervention