# Urban Futures Symposium | 21 – 25 August 2023

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**Presentation**: Confirmation of Candidature

**Title**: Overcoming Language-Related Barriers in the Access of CALD Clients with Dementia to Health and Social Services through Interpreters

**Abstract**:

The Australian government's immigration system aims to promote national growth, prosperity, and social cohesion, including access to social and health services for new arrivals who are settling in Australia. However, research highlights linguistic and communicative insufficiencies among CALD immigrants as significant barriers to equitable healthcare. Older immigrants with memory loss or dementia encounter added difficulties as they are unable to communicate in the mainstream language of Australia and are unfamiliar with its culture and healthcare systems.

This research study aims to investigate the impact of language interpreters on healthcare access for CALD immigrants with dementia. Questionnaires and interviews will be used to explore the perspectives of interpreters, health service providers, and caregivers of CALD dementia sufferers. By examining general experiences and perceptions of these cohorts as well as their expectations from each other, this study seeks to understand the barriers hindering healthcare access for CALD dementia sufferers.

The study's findings will enhance understanding of challenges faced by CALD dementia sufferers and improve their healthcare access and well-being, while making interpreters' role clearer for health practitioners and CALD dementia sufferers.

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