

Exploring Social and Structural Determinants of Health (SSDoH) Barriers in Dementia Care: Preliminary Outpatient Data from a Regional Hospital in Southern Taiwan

Chia-Hui Hsiao¹⁴⁵ , Yen-Hsiu Huang²⁴⁵ , Yuan-Han Yang³⁴⁵ , Chi-Heng Wu⁶

¹Management Center, Kaohsiung Medical University Gangshan Hospital, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, ²Nursing, Kaohsiung Medical University Gangshan Hospital, Kaohsiung , Taiwan, ³Neurology, Kaohsiung Medical University Gangshan Hospital, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, ⁴Kaohsiung Medical University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, ⁵Kaohsiung Medical University Chung-Ho Memorial Hospital, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

⁶General Affairs, E-Da Hospital, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

One in three participants experienced healthcare access difficulties, highlighting the importance of routine SSDoH assessment in dementia care.

INTRODUCTION	METHODS	RESULTS	CONCLUSIONS	REFERENCES
Social and structural determinants of health (SSDoH) influence dementia care outcomes, but evidence from Asian clinical settings remains limited. This study applied the NACC UDS v4.0 Form A1a to identify transportation, financial, loneliness, and healthcare access barriers among patients attending a neurology outpatient clinic in Southern Taiwan.	• Cross-sectional survey in neurology outpatient clinic • Instrument: NACC UDS v4.0 Form A1a • Twenty-four participants were included, and administration method was available for 22 participants. • Self-administered when feasible; staff/proxy-assisted when needed • Healthcare access difficulty defined as delaying care, difficulty obtaining prescriptions, or missing follow-up appointments.	• 75.0% owned a car and 83.3% reported consistent transportation access. • 45.8% were unable to leave home due to transportation problems at least sometimes. • 54.2% reported transportation-related worry. • 16.7% reported transportation affected appointments or daily activities • 31.8% reported moderate-to-extreme difficulty meeting monthly payments • 79.2% endorsed at least one loneliness item at the level of agree or strongly agree. • 37.5% met criteria for healthcare access difficulty • Access difficulty more common among those with transportation barriers (63.6% vs 15.4%)	Transportation constraints, financial strain, and loneliness were common SSDoH challenges and were associated with healthcare access difficulties in this preliminary cohort. Routine SSDoH assessment may support equitable and context-sensitive dementia care planning in Taiwan.	1. National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center (NACC) UDS v4.0 Form A1a. 2. WHO. Social Determinants of Health Framework. 3. Alzheimer's Association. Dementia Care Practice Recommendations.
				CONTACT Chia-Hui Hsiao Management Center Kaohsiung Medical University Gangshan Hospital E-mail: kmughneuro@gmail.com
				