

Disclosure

I have no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to this topic or presentation.

Older adults and storytelling

- Population aging (UN, 2017)
- Storytelling has been used with older adults for life review (Scott & DeBrew, 2009)
- Storytelling has the potential to assist older adults to adjust to identity threats associated with aging (Trentham, 2007)

Digital Storytelling (DST)

- Innovative method that combines storytelling, group work, and technology to facilitate the creation of a short multi-media video clips to express personal or community stories (Lal, Donnelly, & Shin, 2015).
- Creative way for people to share their stories using a combination of voice, images and music (Stenhouse, Tait, Hardy, & Sumner, 2013).

Objective

To describe how digital storytelling has been used among older adults with typical aging, with dementia or with cognitive impairment.



Research Question

P: Older adults with or without dementia

I: Digital storytelling

C: Comparisons to be made after data extraction

O: Any outcome

S: Any study design in scholarly publications

Inclusion

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Exclusion

1. Use of digital storytelling:
 - a. Pilot form (TRL= 5, with minimum one older adult)
 - b. Include digital media* production to create narrative forms of telling a story
 - c. included participants who were older adults (50 years or older) typical aging, or with a diagnosis of dementia, or with of cognitive impairment.

2. Published Jan 1, 2005 – Dec 12, 2017

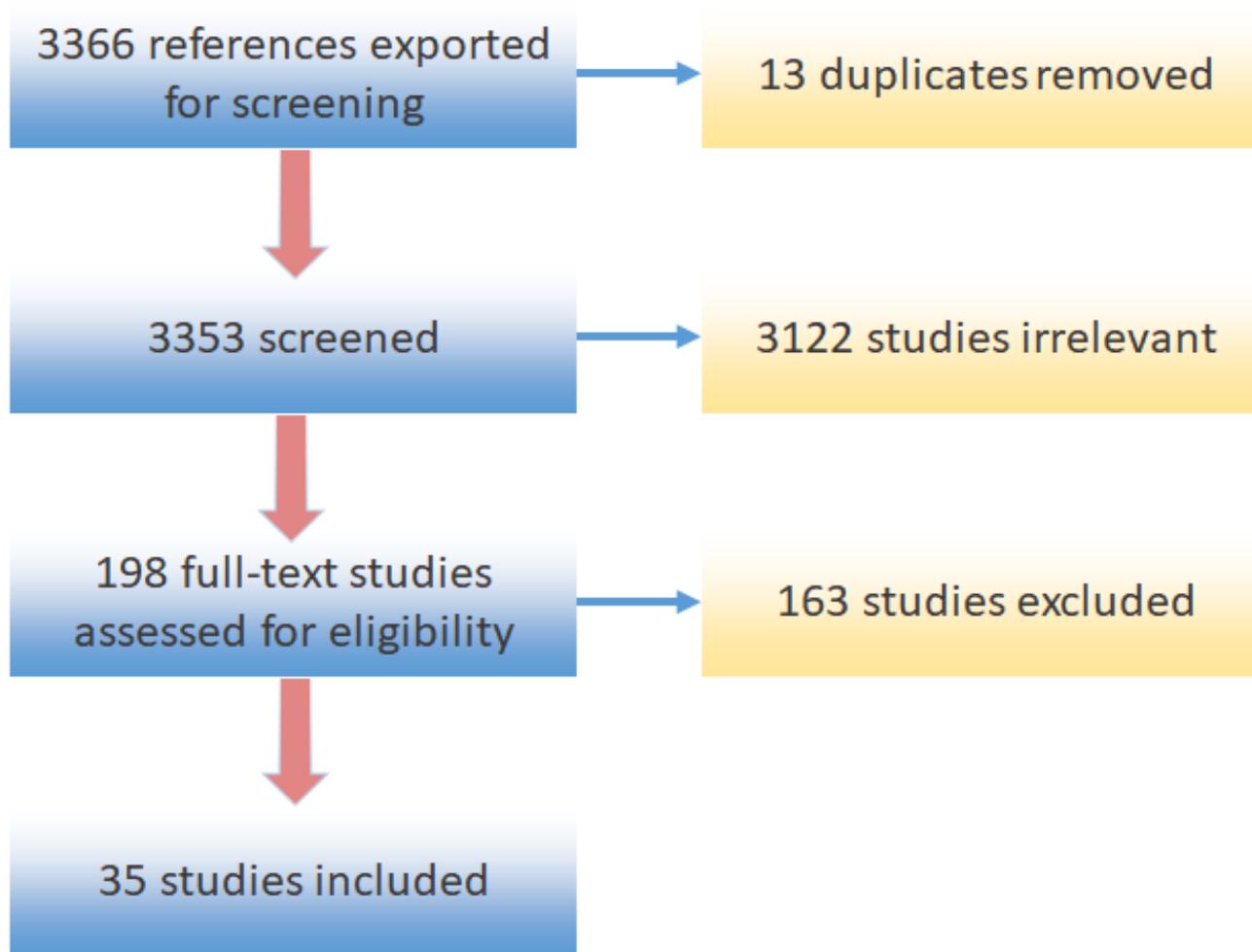
1. Books, book chapters, theses, lecture notes, reviews

2. No digital materials used (e.g., photographs on paper)

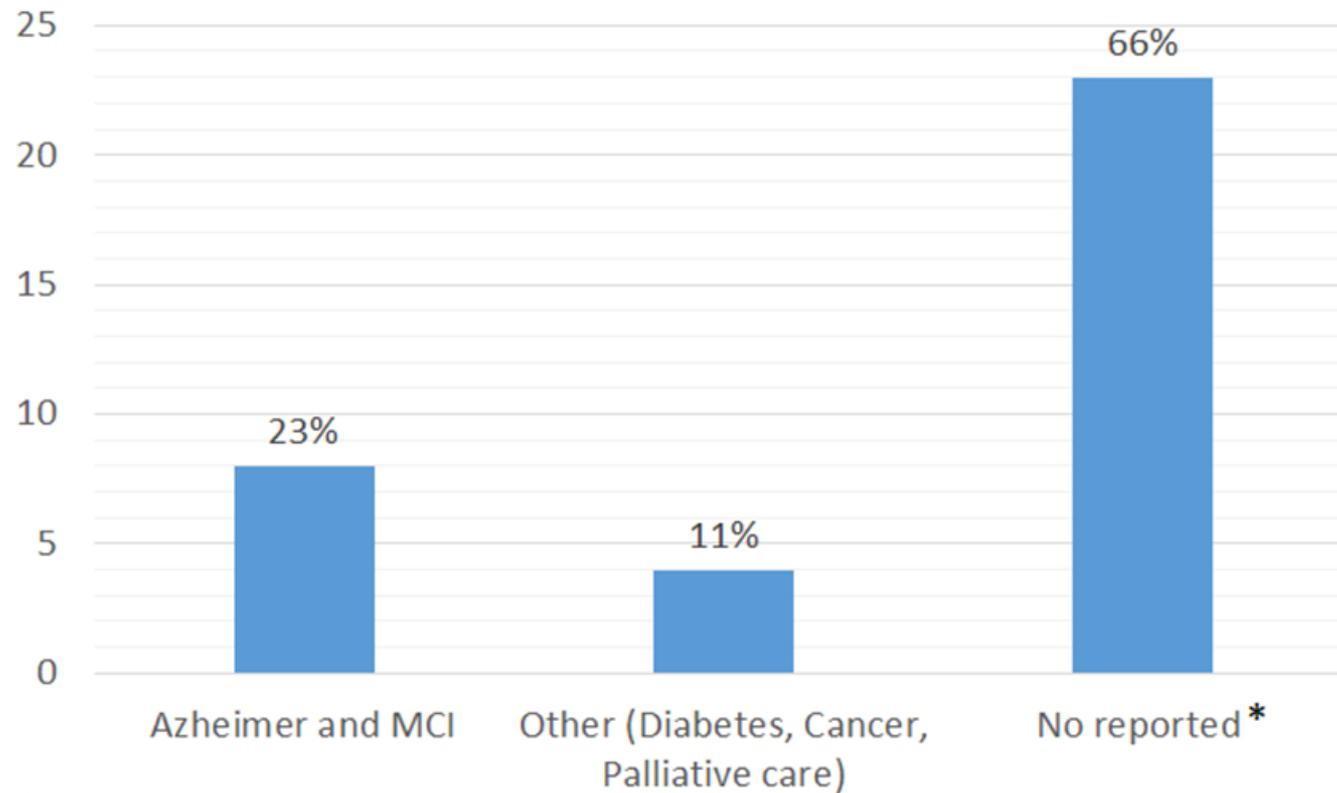
3. Digital media only for gathering research data

4. Publications not available

Results

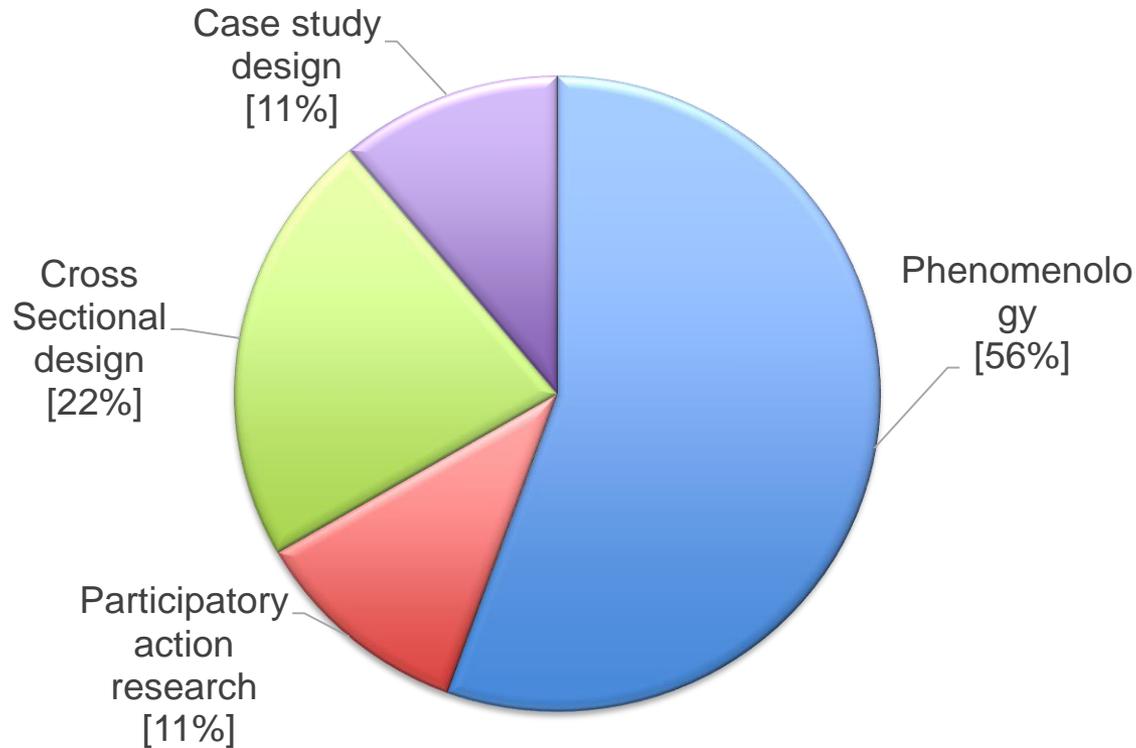


Most papers included healthy (typical) older adults (66%)



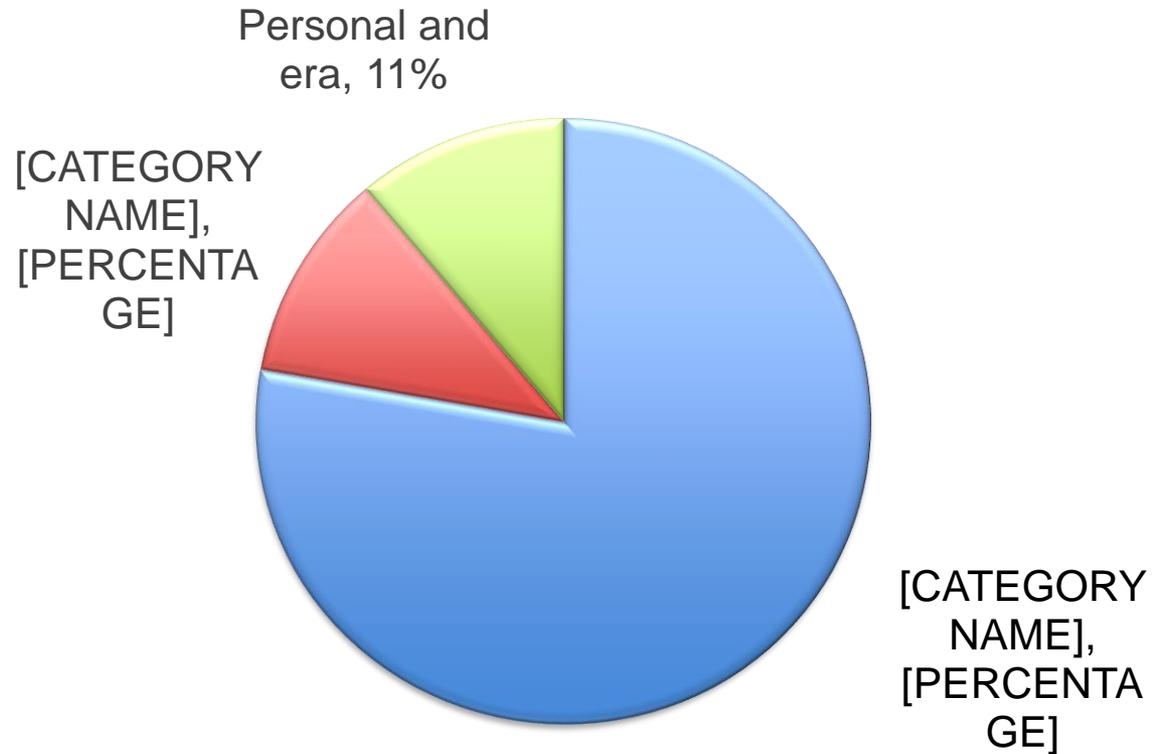
*No medical condition reported

Most studies used qualitative research (67%)



Mean sample size=15, SD=12.60

Most stories included personal content (78%)

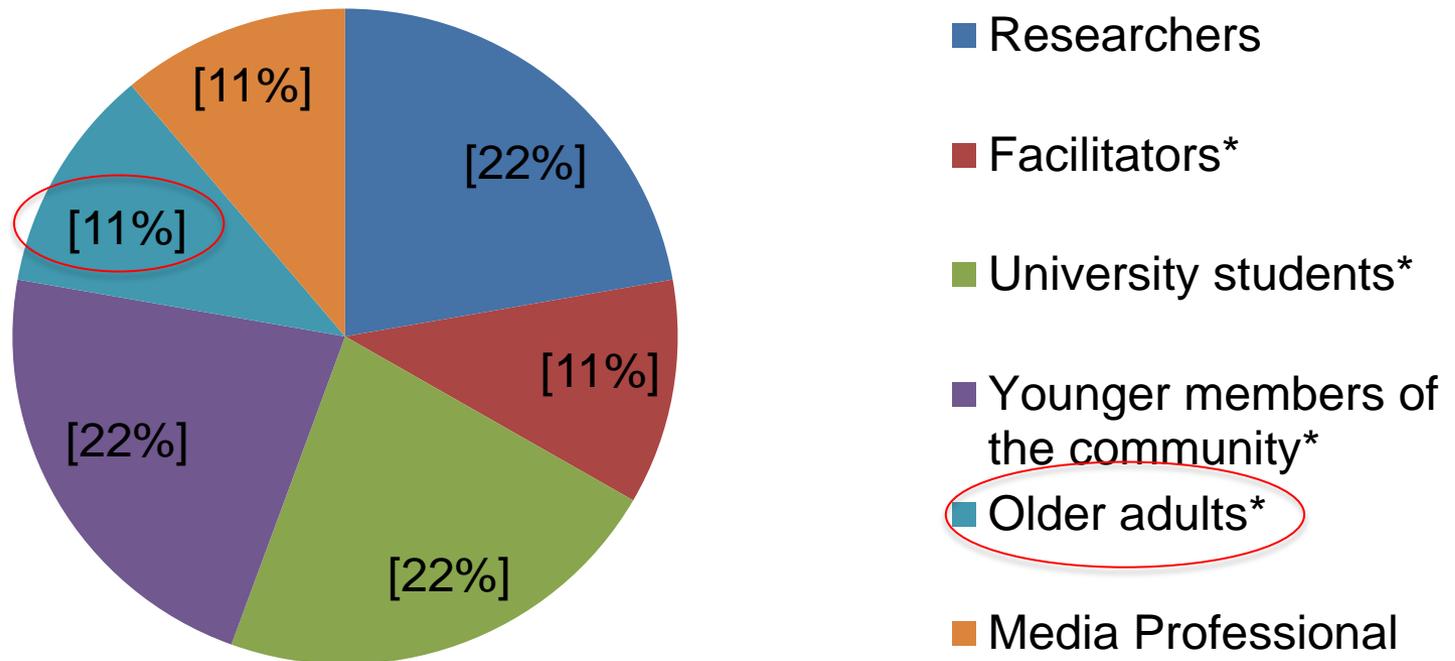


Methods for producing digital storytelling

Methods for producing DST	Description
Workshops Courses Participatory design method	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Selecting the theme• Making the script• Selecting and gathering visual and audio material• Training in editing process• Editing the digital stories• <u>Sharing the digital stories</u>
Community program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Older adults told their stories to young people• Youth produced digital stories from interviews• <u>Digital stories were shared through a community screening.</u>
Technology facilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• eBead system: a prerecorded audio prompt invited the user to tell a story associated with an object.• The recording was played back when the object was selected by a young member of the community.• Project Greenwich: online service that enables people to create their own timelines.• Follow-up interviews.

Who did the video editing process?

Older adults in 11% of cases



*Training in editing process was provided

MAIN OUTCOMES

Older adult participants:

- Showed engagement with each others' stories.
- Reported positive effects on mood and social stimulation.
- Enjoyed the production process and the series of screenings.
- Valued the opportunity for shared experience, creative expression, and helpful facilitation.
- Felt that intergenerational connections were healthy and improved awareness of the other generation's issues.

Conclusions

The use of digital storytelling in older adults with dementia:

- Has potential to positively impact social and emotional outcomes.
- Is a means to strengthen intergenerational connections.
- May help to reduce stigmas about aging.
- Has been found fun and gratifying by older adults.

Future research

The literature on digital storytelling for older adults is in its early stages

- More research is needed to identify the impact of digital storytelling in the lives of older adults
- Need to heighten levels of evidence

Recommendations for using digital storytelling

- Older adults can produce digital stories but require facilitation
- Older adults did not like the timeline format
- Sharing the digital storytelling with significant others is an important component of the digital storytelling process.

Acknowledgments





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Thank you!

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