Age UK report

Hidden in Plain Sight: the unmet mental health needs of older people

October 2016

For too long, older people’s mental health has taken a back seat to their physical health needs. Sadly, this means that much mental illness goes unrecognised and untreated. Financial resourcing is part of the problem, but our acceptance of outcomes for the old that we would never tolerate in younger people is also to blame. The report by Age UK is an important contribution to combatting the hidden ageism that so often is at the root of this problem.

This paper offers practical suggestions as to how this important issue can be improved and highlights the need of having specialist mental health services for older people across the county – something which is simply not the case at present.

Dr Amanda Thompsell, Chair Faculty of Old Age Psychiatry

Read the Age UK report on the NHS Confederation website