“International perspectives on best practice when working with family carers of people with an intellectual disability from across the life course”

Internationally family carers are a valuable commodity not only to the individual they support but also to the public, community, services and Governments. Yet, it has been reported that their role has been made more challenging by a number of factors that leave them feeling unsupported and devalued. In contrast, there have also been a number of studies that have reported the positive experiences families have identified of supporting a relative with an intellectual disability. Family carers’ experiences are influenced by the complexity of need of their relative, informal and formal support availability and the relationships they have with professionals and services. Accordingly, taking an international perspective, this special issue of the journal has a focus on understanding what is best practice when supporting family carers of people with an intellectual disability from across the life course.

International papers are welcomed that explore or report on best practice when supporting family carers of people with an intellectual disability from across the life course. Also, papers that focus on particular marginalised groups or populations, for example, fathers, black and minority ethnic groups, indigenous populations, refugees are particularly welcome. Furthermore, papers that have considered the impact of social policy and legislation on the lives of family carers of people with an intellectual disability are sought.

Expressions of interest and enquiries for further information should be sent to the guest editor: Neil James (n.james@uea.ac.uk)

Papers should be submitted via the electronic submission portal for the journal (https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jnlid) by the 30th September 2018 clearly indicating that the submission is for this special edition.

The special edition of the journal will be published in September 2019.