**Transcript**

***Professor Rhonda Nay – Sex and dementia***

Our research is about people with dementia. I think the majority of people in society think that once you get a diagnosis of dementia then you cease to be a person and you cease to be able to make your own decisions and so our work is about trying to understand what decision making is for people with dementia and how we can improve the way in which carers respond to that.

The key outcome is that people with dementia will feel that they are acknowledged as human beings and that we can learn the language of dementia and understand what it is that people with dementia are trying to tell us so that they have more controls over their life and their death.

What we would expect from the outcomes of our work is a really significant impact on society. If you take account of the fact that probably dementia is the most stigmatised and the most feared health condition currently in society then to be able to show people that they will remain human, that they will be respected, that they will have control. I think people with dementia want to be able to have a red wine, want to be able to have sex, want to have their pain treated, basically want to be human beings and so our work, we hope, will add to that body of knowledge that says having dementia doesn’t take away who you are as a person.