**Presentation of preliminary findings at British Society Gerontology Conference, July 2024 (**[Programme (1).pdf](file:///C:\Users\abt08thu\Downloads\Programme%20(1).pdf))

**An evaluation of the relevance and potential use of Adult Social Care Outcomes Toolkit (ASCOT) in assessing quality of life amongst older adult care home residents for health protection practice**

Authors: Wenjing Zhang1, Nick Smith1, Ann-Marie Towers1, Jane Greenstock2, Florence Jimoh3, Diane Bunn3

*1University of Kent, Canterbury, United Kingdom. 2NHS Midlands and Lancashire Commissioning Support Unit, Stoke on Trent, United Kingdom. 3University of East Anglia, Norwich, United Kingdom.*

Around 300,000 older people currently reside in care homes in England. The care home sector, characterised by various organisational designs and structures and involving group-living, and care provision, presents unique challenges in implementing effective infection control measures (ICMs).

Despite the impact of infectious outbreaks, such as COVID-19, on the wellbeing of staff, residents, and their family and friends, there is limited research on the effects, highlighting the need for further investigation.

This presentation shares the findings of a proof-of-concept study which aimed to evaluate the potential of the Adult Social Care Outcomes Toolkit (ASCOT) to assess resident quality of life in supporting health protection practices during infectious outbreaks in care homes.

Employing a case-study approach, the evaluation encompassed three key components: 1) an incident analysis of 3-4 infectious disease outbreaks in Kent and Norfolk; 2) mapping incident findings to ASCOT and exploring how ASCOT could, theoretically, have assessed resident wellbeing and how it could have been used in support of residents’ wellbeing, through interviews with care home managers; and 3) presenting several scenarios illustrating how ASCOT can be used in planning and evaluation, drawing insights from current guidance, documents, and consultations with UK Health Security Agency and Health Protection Teams.

The presentation will conclude with a discussion of recommendations for future research and how, in particular, older adult care homes, can use quality of life measures such as ASCOT to gain a deeper understanding of the impact of infectious hazards and outbreaks on resident wellbeing and quality of care.