

	N.C. Nurse Aide I Curriculum
	MODULE T Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease
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	Objectives
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Define the terms dementia, Alzheimer's disease, and delirium.■ Describe the nurse aide's role in the care of the resident with Alzheimer's.
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	Dementia
	Usually progressive condition marked by development of multiple cognitive deficits such as memory impairment, aphasia; and inability to plan and initiate complex behavior
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Alzheimer's Disease

- Progressive disease
- Gradual ↓ in memory, thinking and physical ability over several years
- Average life span is 8 years, but survival may be from 3 to 20 years
- Progressive into 3 stages



Early Stage (Mild)

- Memory loss affects everyday activities
- Difficulty remembering names
- Difficulty following directions
- Disoriented
- Increased moodiness, agitation or personality changes
- Poor judgment and bad decisions
- Difficulty maintaining living spaces, paying bills and managing money



Middle Stage (Moderate)

- Longest
- ↑ restlessness during evening
- ↑ memory loss
- Requires assistance with ADLs
- ↑ problems with communication, ambulation and impulse control
- ↑ behavioral issues
- Bladder and bowel incontinence
- Auditory or visual hallucinations
- Finally requires full-time supervision



Late Stage (Severe)

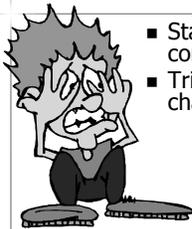
- Terminal stage
- Loses ability to verbalize needs
- Does not recognize self or family
- Becomes bed-bound
- Total dependence
- Body function ↓
- Death



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Delirium



- State of severe sudden confusion, reversible
- Triggered by acute illness or change in physical condition

Symptoms of delirium?

Notify nurse and stay with resident

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Dementia or Delirium?

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	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease – Key Terms</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Cognition ■ Confusion ■ Irreversible ■ Onset ■ Progressive <p style="font-size: small; margin-top: 20px;">DHSR/HCPRI/CARE NAT 1 Curriculum - July 2013 10</p>

	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease – Key Terms</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Dignity ■ Independence ■ Quality of life ■ Respect <p style="font-size: small; margin-top: 20px;">DHSR/HCPRI/CARE NAT 1 Curriculum - July 2013 11</p>

	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Respect, Dignity, Quality of Life</h2>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Every human being is unique and valuable</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Therefore, each person deserves understanding and respect ■ Dementia does not eliminate this basic human need – how does person-centered care relate? <p style="font-size: small; margin-top: 20px;">DHSR/HCPRI/CARE NAT 1 Curriculum - July 2013 12</p>

Respect, Dignity, Quality of Life

- Abilities, interests and preferences should be considered
- As disease progresses adjustments needed



Important for staff to know who resident was before dementia.



Respect, Dignity, Quality of Life



An individual's personality is created by his/her background



Respect, Dignity, Quality of Life

Encourage residents to participate in activities and daily care, but **avoid** situations where resident is bound to fail



To promote independence do things with rather than for resident

Respect, Dignity, Quality of Life



Long-term care facilities must provide care that maintains or enhances each resident's dignity, respect and quality of life



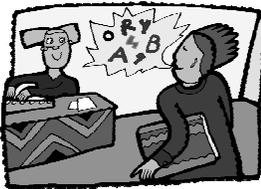
Alzheimer's Disease – Communication

Residents often experience problems in making wishes known and in understanding spoken words



Communication becomes more difficult as time goes by

Communicating – Nurse Aide's Role



Components

Communicating – Nurse Aide’s Role



Techniques

Communicating – Nurse Aide’s Role



Strategies

Communicating – Nurse Aide’s Role

Hello Mrs. Jackson.
My name is Sarah Smith and
I am going to take care of you today.

Tips

Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease – Behavior Issues

- Behavior
- Catastrophic reaction
- Delusion
- Depression
- Paranoia
- Sundowning
- Trigger
- Wandering



Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease – Behavior Issues

Behavioral responses associated with each stage

- Early stage
- Middle stage
- Late stage



Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease – Behavior Issues

Behavior – an observable, recordable and measurable physical activity

- Normal brain – has the ability to control responses
- Alzheimer's disease and dementia – have lost much of the ability to control responses



Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease – Behavior Issues

Behavior is a response to a need

Before choosing a specific intervention, trigger must be identified

Triggers may be environmental, physical, or emotional



Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease – Behavior Issues

- Effective behavior management
- Changing the environment
- Intervention must meet needs while maintaining respect, dignity and independence



Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease – Common Behaviors



Wandering

A known and persistent problem behavior that has a high risk factor for resident safety

- Safety risk factors
- Reasons
- Preservation of resident safety and interventions



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Sundowning

A behavioral symptom of dementia; refers to ↑ agitation, confusion and hyperactivity that begins in late afternoon and builds throughout the evening

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Sexual Activity

Offensive or inappropriate language, public exposure, offensive and/or misunderstood gestures

- Treat the resident with dignity and respect
- Remove resident from public
- Redirect attention to appropriate activity
- Assist the resident to bathroom



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Agitation

Nurse aide must ensure safety and dignity of agitated resident while protecting safety and dignity of other residents



Disruptive Verbal Outbursts



Are one of the most persistent behaviors in a long-term care facility

Catastrophic Reaction



Catastrophic Reaction



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Catastrophic Reaction



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Catastrophic Reaction



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Catastrophic Reaction



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Activities

- Goal – to give support needed so that they can participate in the world around them to the best of their ability
- Must focus on the fact that the resident is involved and satisfied, not on the task or activity



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Activities

Activity-based care is focused on assisting resident to find meaning in the day, rather than just to keep busy



Activities fall into two categories:

- Doing activities
- Meaningful activities

Activities



Principles of activity-based care

Activities

- Timing is important and individualized
- Cultural environment refers to values and beliefs of people in an area



Nurse Aide Stress and Burnout



	<p style="text-align: center;">The End</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>DHSR/HCPRI/CARE NAT I Curriculum - July 2013</small></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><small>43</small></p>
