



Course Information

BPSD: Responding to Behavioural Symptoms of Dementia

Course Code: R-160921-NZ Course Series: Dementia

Learning Pathway: Developing



Course Aim: Identify practical approaches that will assist care staff in responding to the behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia

Target Audience: New care staff, experienced care staff, registered nurses, enrolled nurses, management

Learning Outcomes:

After viewing this course participants should be able to:

- Explain why understanding underlying reasons for behaviours is crucial to responding appropriately.
 - Recognise approaches that can be used in the short term to respond to behaviour that may challenge staff.
 - Identify how to record and review episodes of behaviour in order to support the development of long term response strategies.
-

Subject Matter Expert:

Hilary Woodhead is the Director of Support in Dementia, an organisation that designs and delivers a range of specialist service improvement and dementia education and training interventions across the voluntary and public health and social care sector. Hilary has experience of working directly with people with dementia and their families, managing services and developing complex packages of bespoke service improvement and training. Hilary is an Associate Consultant of the Mental Health Foundation and a Dementia Specialist Advisor for the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

Associate Professor Colm Cunningham provides leadership to HammondCare Dementia Centre, Colm has a background in nursing and social work as well as a Masters of Science in Dementia Studies. His research interest and expertise are in environmental design, pain management, dementia and delirium, dementia and intellectual disabilities and night care. Colm is an Associate Professor at the University of Salford Institute for Dementia and a Visiting Fellow in Dementia Design at the University Of Edinburgh School Of Health in Social Science.

Think About:

Consider the following questions:

- What underlying reasons for behaviours are crucial to responding appropriately?
- What approaches can be used in the short term to respond to behaviour that may challenge staff?
- What policies and procedures are in your care home?

Active Learning Hours:

This course and the accompanying assessment may require up to three hours of active learning. It is the learner's responsibility to calculate how many hours of active learning have taken place. The course viewed must be relevant to the care worker or nurse's context of practice for it to be considered continuing professional development. Certificates are available from your coordinator.

Key definitions



Alzheimer's disease	This is the most common cause of dementia. During the course of the disease, the chemistry and structure of the brain changes, leading to the death of brain cells.
Vascular dementia	If the oxygen supply to the brain fails, brain cells may die. The symptoms of vascular dementia can occur either suddenly, following a stroke, or over time, through a series of small strokes.
Dementia with Lewy bodies	This form of dementia gets its name from tiny spherical structures that develop inside nerve cells. Their presence in the brain leads to the degeneration of brain tissue.
Reminiscence	The act of reviewing past events of a person's life. In dementia care it is used to help distract a person's attention from behaviours such as walking about, aggression, disinhibition and others.



Resources to support your learning

Alzheimer's New Zealand:

<http://www.alzheimers.org.nz/>

Agewell – Memory Loss and Dementia:

http://www.agewell.org.nz/health_memory_loss_dementia.html

DISCLAIMER:

Except where otherwise stated, scenarios depicted in this course are fictional and any resemblance to any person or event is purely coincidental. The information in this course has been prepared as general information only. It is not intended to provide legal, industrial or other specialist advice and should not be relied upon as such. All advice and information are professionally sourced and provided in good faith and, while all care has been taken, no legal liability or responsibility is accepted for any possible error. For direction concerning your particular circumstances, independent advice should be sought. Copyright 2016. The contents of these Learning Resources remain the property of ACC. They are for the exclusive use of current members of ACC; their use, distribution, and storage are subject to the terms and conditions laid out in Membership Agreements.