

# DEFINING QUALITY DEMENTIA CARE

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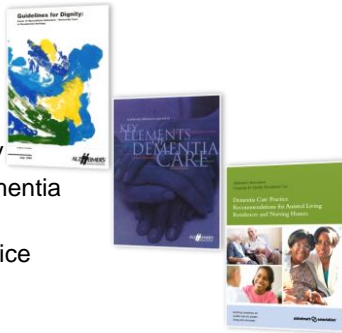
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## Defining Quality Care: Dementia Care Practice Recommendations

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### Quality Care: History

Guidelines for Dignity  
Key Elements of Dementia  
Care  
Dementia Care Practice  
Recommendations

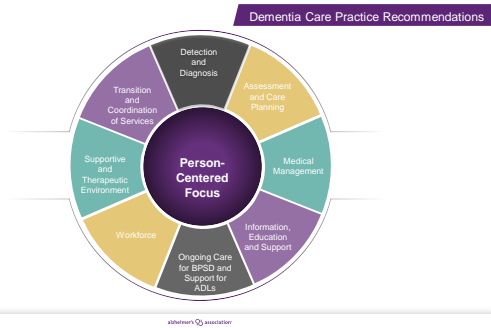


### Quality Care: Today

- Evidence-based practices
- 56 recommendations by 27 expert authors
- Applicable to various care settings and throughout the disease continuum
- Published as a supplement to Feb 2018 issue of The Gerontologist
- Foundation for quality person-centered care



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## PERSON CENTERED FOCUS

- Know the person
- Person's reality
- Meaningful engagement
- Authentic, caring relationship
- Supportive community
- Evaluation of care practices

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## PERSON CENTERED FOCUS

Know the person living with dementia

- Gather knowledge of the person (past and present) in assessment
- Include the individual, family and friends
- Include knowledge of the person in care plan and re-assessment
- Share knowledge of person with all staff

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## DETECTION AND DIAGNOSIS

- Information about brain health and cognitive aging
- Signs and symptoms of cognitive impairment
- Concerns, observation and changes
- Routine procedures for assessment and referral
- Brief mental status test when appropriate
- Diagnostic evaluation follow-through
- Better understanding of diagnosis

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## DETECTION AND DIAGNOSIS

Signs and symptoms of cognitive impairment; diagnostic evaluation is essential

- Educate staff about signs and symptoms
  - Develop process for referral to qualified professional for diagnostic evaluation
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## ASSESSMENT AND CARE PLANNING

- Regular, comprehensive, person-centered assessments and timely interim assessments
  - Information gathering, relationship building, education and support
  - Collaborative, team approach
  - Accessible documentation and communication systems
  - Advance planning
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## ASSESSMENT AND CARE PLANNING

Regular comprehensive person-centered assessments and timely interim assessments

- Perform initial assessment at intake
  - Conduct when person is at peak performance and distraction-free
  - Conduct interim assessment at least every 6 months and/or when changes occur
  - Tailor frequency for individual and family
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## MEDICAL MANAGEMENT

- Holistic, person-centered approach
  - Role of medical providers
  - Common comorbidities of aging
  - Non-pharmacologic interventions
  - Pharmacological interventions when necessary
  - Person-centered plan for possible medical and social crises
  - End-of-life care discussions
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## **MEDICAL MANAGEMENT**

Common comorbidities of aging and discussions with MD about them

- Educate staff about common comorbidities
  - Develop protocol for when MD should be contacted
  - Have discussion about types of acute care that can/cannot be provided
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## **INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND SUPPORT**

- Preparation for the future
  - Work together and plan together
  - Culturally sensitive programs
  - Education, information and support during transition
  - Technology to reach more families
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## **INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND SUPPORT**

Education and support early to prepare for future

- At orientation, assess knowledge and build a plan
  - Within 30 days, provide basic education —types of dementia, common symptoms, diagnosis and current treatments
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## **ONGOING CARE: ADLs**

- Support for ADL function
  - Person-centered care practices
  - Dressing — dignity, respect, choice; process; environment
  - Toileting — also health and biological considerations
  - Eating — also adaptations and functioning; food, beverage and appetite
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## **ONGOING CARE: ADLs**

Person-centered care practices when providing ADL support

- Know personal preferences
  - Learn and honor preferred daily schedule
  - Use positive reinforcement for encouragement
  - Encourage independence — graded approach
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## **ONGOING CARE: BPSD**

- Social and physical environmental triggers
  - Non-pharmacological practices
  - Investment for implementation
  - Protocols
  - Evaluation of effectiveness
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## **ONGOING CARE: BPSD**

Characteristics of social and physical environmental triggers

- Identify situations where social or physical environment:
    - Evokes behavioral response
    - Produces stress
    - Evokes behavior that expresses unmet need
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## **WORKFORCE**

- Orientation and training, and ongoing training
  - Person-centered information systems
  - Teamwork and interdepartmental/interdisciplinary collaboration
  - Caring and supportive leadership team
  - Relationships
  - Continuous improvement
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## WORKFORCE

Thorough staff orientation and training, as well as ongoing training

- Set an expectation that all staff welcome, serve and respond
  - Provide orientation that includes in-depth information on dementia, caregiving strategies and person-centered care
  - Create a specific orientation for each department
  - Create a “mentor” or “buddy” program to help and support the new employee in learning about the organization
  - Establish a learning organization — ongoing in-service and educational programs for all staff, departments and shifts
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## SUPPORTIVE AND THERAPEUTIC ENVIRONMENT

- Sense of community
  - Comfort and dignity
  - Courtesy, concern and safety
  - Opportunities for choice
  - Meaningful engagement
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## SUPPORTIVE AND THERAPEUTIC ENVIRONMENT

Courtesy, concern and safety within the care community

- Provide cues and tools to support functioning
  - Consider secured perimeter or technology that is non-limiting
  - Use design to minimize fall risk
  - Provide sufficient lighting
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## TRANSITION AND COORDINATION OF SERVICES

- Education about common transitions in care
  - Timely communication of information between, across and within settings
  - Preferences and goals of the person living with dementia
  - Strong inter-professional collaborative team to assist with transitions
  - Evidence-based models
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## TRANSITION AND COORDINATION OF SERVICES

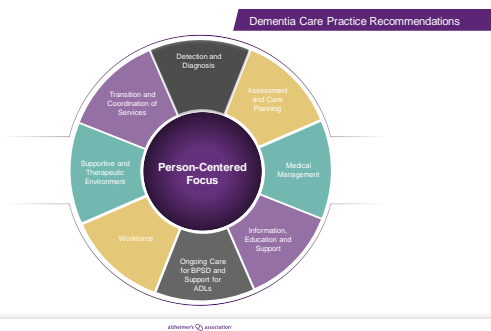
Education and preparation about common transitions in care

- During orientation, have discussions about types of and criteria for transitions

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## Perspectives from Individuals living with Dementia

- Encourage early detection and diagnosis
- Share appropriate information and education
- Get to know the person
- Maximize independence
- Practice patience and compassion
- Personalize care to meet individual needs and preferences
- Adjust care approaches to reflect day-to-day needs and abilities
- Provide ongoing opportunities for engagement that have meaning and purpose
- Ensure coordination among those who provide care
- Train staff on the most current disease information and practice strategies
- Inform and include the individual in new interventions as appropriate
- Create a safe and supportive environment that reflects the person



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## Putting It All Together

1. Develop a Plan
2. Create Short and Long Term Goals
3. Include Staff
4. Take small steps
5. Get help if needed
6. Build Support
7. Recognize & Celebrate Accomplishments

## **Next Steps: Get Involved**

In-person and online programs and services

Curriculum review and essentiALZ®

certification

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## **Questions?**

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