



Online Continuing Education Courses
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AOTA Approved Provider #4023

Course Title: Geriatrics 242

Course Subtitles: Behavioral Problems and Dementia

Target Audience: OT/OTA's, PT/PTA's

Course Length: 1 hour

Course Description: Behavioral problems decrease quality of life of people with dementia and their care providers. Three main consequences of dementia are functional impairment and in some cases also mood disorders and psychosis. These consequences, alone or in combination, result in 3 main behavioral problems: apathy, agitation, and rejection of care/aggression. Nonpharmacologic management strategies include meaningful activities and individualized comfort care, for example, Namaste Care. If needed, pharmacologic management should concentrate on treatment of main dementia consequences, especially depression, instead of treating secondary symptoms, for example, insomnia. Use of antipsychotics should be minimized but antipsychotics may be necessary for augmentation of antidepressants.

Course Instructor: Joanne Brown, MS, OTR/L, CHT

Educational Level: Introductory, Intermediate, Advanced

The course is written at the intermediate level, but learners of all levels will benefit from the information.

Course Objectives:

At the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- List and describe the 3 behavioral problems in people with dementia including apathy, agitation, and rejection of care/aggression
- Describe and differentiate agitation vs. rejection of care/aggression and list 1 key factor in symptom management of each condition
- List and describe 2 nonpharmacologic interventions that can be used in managing behavioral symptoms in people with dementia
- List 10 problematic behaviors that are commonly evaluated using the Cohen-Mansfield Agitation Inventory scale
- List 3 other conditions that include apathy as a feature or characteristic

Outline of Content:

Hour #1

- Introduction

- Apathy
- Treatment of apathy

Pharmacologic Treatment

- Agitation

Physical Conditions

Environmental Factors

Psychiatric Conditions

- Treatment of agitation
- Aggression
- Treatment of aggression
- Summary

Instructional Methods and Formats:

Online course available 24/7 at www.OnlineCE.com includes Audiovisual formatted course with downloadable course handout. See course formats for additional details.

Course Completion Requirements:

A minimum passing score of 100% is required for course completion. You will have as many attempts as needed until your passing score of 100% is achieved. Upon successful completion of course, you will receive your certificate of completion and AOTA eligible CEUs.

AOTA Classification Codes:

Category 1: Domain of OT

Category 2: Occupational Therapy Process

Category 3: Professional Issues

Additional Policies:

OnlineCE Policies are available by clicking on the tab – Policies – located in the left-hand navigation bar.

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