

Evidence-Based Management of Patients with Dementia



2021

Jacksonville, FL

Ascension St. Vincent's Southside

4201 Belfort Road

Jacksonville, FL 32216

March 20-21

Savannah, GA

Host: St. Joseph's / Candler Health System

Location: Candler Hospital

5353 Reynolds Street

Savannah, GA 31405

August 14-15

20 Contact Hours

Patients with dementia benefit as much from rehabilitation as those without dementia.

It is up to the rehabilitation professional to learn how to utilize the strengths and abilities of the dementia patient to help meet their rehabilitation goals.

FACULTY

Nicole Dawson, PT, PhD, GCS is an Assistant Professor in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at the University of Central Florida and Co-Director of the Innovative Mobility Innovative (IMOVE™) Lab. She graduated from Ohio University with a Master's degree in Physical Therapy in 2002. Dr. Dawson is a Board Certified Geriatric Physical Therapist with over 16 years of clinical experience along with a PhD in Adult Development & Aging Psychology. She has been recognized for excellence in teaching by the Academy of Geriatric Physical Therapy through receipt of the Distinguished Educator Award and the American Physical Therapy Association being awarded the Margaret L. Moore Outstanding New Faculty Award.

Her current area of research includes developing non-pharmacological interventions to improve functional and psychosocial outcomes in patients with dementia, identifying predictors of falls in older adults with cognitive impairment, as well as gaining a better understanding of the disability experience of older adults. Dr. Dawson has been published in peer-reviewed journals including *The Gerontologist* and the *Journal of Geriatric Physical Therapy*. She has presented at numerous international and national conferences on the subject. She is passionate about bettering the treatment and care of these patients and is dedicated to assisting students and clinicians in gaining skills and knowledge to better help these patients maximize their potential.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Day 1

- 7:30 am Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 8:00 am Normative Age-Related Cognitive Changes
 - Age-related structural changes
 - Theories of normal cognitive aging
 - Age-related functional changes
- 10:30 am Break
- 10:45 am Atypical Cognitive Changes in Aging
 - Comparison of normal aging and dementia
 - Differentiation of different types of dementia
 - Progression of Dementia
 - Global Deterioration Scale
 - Functional Staging for Rehabilitative Purposes
 - Pharmacological Treatments
- 12:30 pm Working Lunch (on your own) – Group Discussion
- 1:30 pm Strength-based Approach to Rehabilitation
 - Strength-based vs. medical model
 - Remaining strengths in dementia
- 3:30 pm Break
- 3:45 pm Strength-based Approach to Rehabilitation (cont)
 - Constructs requiring compensation in dementia
 - Components of strength-based approach
 - Personhood & person-centered care
- 6:00 pm Questions and Answers
- 6:30 pm Course Day Adjourns

Day 2

- 7:30 am Continental Breakfast
- 8:00 am Treatment Strategies to Facilitate Successful Outcomes
 - Effective communication strategies
 - Behavioral management strategies
- 10:30 am Break
- 10:45 am Treatment Strategies (cont)
 - Current evidence-based interventions and best practices for individuals with dementia
 - Functional documentation for use with interventions
 - Documenting progress for individuals with dementia
- 12:30 pm Working Lunch (on your own) – Group Discussion
- 1:30 pm Current Research on Dementia
 - Updated diagnostic criteria
 - Prevention of cognitive decline
- 3:00 pm Break
- 3:15 pm Case Studies and Active Learning
- 6:00 pm Questions and Answers
- 6:30 pm Course Adjourns

OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this seminar, participants will be able to:

1. Implement current evidenced-based interventions and best practices in literature for patients with dementia.
2. Use effective communication strategies and person-centered care to maximize outcomes.
3. Evaluate strengths and domains requiring compensation in patients with dementia
4. Contrast differences between strength-based approach and traditional medical model.
5. Distinguish the different types of dementia and their symptomology.
6. Describe the progression of dementia and appropriate treatment goals for each stage.
7. Recognize potential emotional and behavior disturbances that may impact treatment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

While patients with dementia pose unique challenges to rehabilitation professionals, the potential benefits from quality therapy is astounding. Having a strong foundational understanding of the available strengths to these patients is crucial in developing a solid treatment plan. These patients present with deficits in attention, judgment, memory, communication, and language but also have several functions that remain intact through the disease. It is commonly thought that patients with dementia cannot benefit from rehabilitation services because of behaviors, lack of communication, or difficulties in learning. However, the current literature demonstrates that this is not case. Skilled rehabilitation is an integral part of an older adult's return to the optimal functional level of independence following an injury or illness. Patients with dementia benefit as much from rehabilitation as individuals without dementia, but it is up to us as the rehabilitation professionals to understand how to exploit the strengths and abilities of these individuals to help meet their goals.

This course will provide a better understanding of cognitive aging through discussion on which parts of cognition are the strongest throughout the progression of dementia and how to use these abilities to promote a successful episode of care. Barriers to treatment will be discussed along with best practice and evidence-based approaches to overcome these challenges to improve functional outcomes for these patients. The different types of dementia will be discussed highlighting effective strategies to maximize patient outcomes. Understanding the use of a strength-based approach will be emphasized to help you and your staff better treat this growing group of challenging patients.

REGISTRATION

AUDIENCE: Primary Audience - Physical Therapists, Physical Therapist Assistants, Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapist Assistants.

LEVEL: This course is at an intermediate level.

FEE: The registration fee includes all course sessions, breaks, continental breakfasts, and course handout.

Jacksonville, FL - \$545. If postmarked before 3/3/21

Savannah, GA - \$545. If postmarked before 7/28/21

LATE REGISTRATION: Postmarked after the above date requires an additional \$25 late fee.

EARLY BIRD: \$495 - If completed registration and payment are received by:

Jacksonville, FL - February 17, 2021

Savannah, GA - July 14, 2021

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Nicole Dawson
PT, PhD, GCS

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"Great course. I loved all the discussion and real life examples."

"Instructor kept my attention and kept me engaged...I really appreciated her humor."

"Lots of knowledge and experience."

"Amazing speaker...blown away by her energy, knowledge, and passion. These past two days ave been so enjoyable."

"I have had the rare privilege of seeing Nicole Dawson present. She has so much insight, passion and expertise in the area of working with older adults with dementia that her energy, ideas, and enthusiasm are contagious. I have never seen someone with such a gift for bringing research into clinically applicable information. Participants will leave this course with so many new and exciting examinations and interventions that they can use immediately. Nicole really brings this topic to life."

- Carole B. Lewis, PT, DPT, GTC, GCS, MSG, MPA, PhD, FSOAE, FAPTA



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