

Understanding the Person Behind the Dementia: Insights & Strategies to Improve Outcomes in PT & OT

2023 APTA- TN & TNOTA State Meeting

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Course Objectives

1. Examine best practice recommendations for education of healthcare workers, caregivers, and peers related to the challenges persons with dementia face in their daily life and how to appropriately accommodate our patient's needs.
2. Equip participants with insights and practical tools to apply their experience and knowledge of the functional and cognitive effects of dementia in the development of effective inter-professional treatment approaches.
3. Describe how skilled touch enables care partners to connect and communicate in new ways with people living with dementia
3. Explain the clinical impact of skilled touch on behavior, pain, and anxiety of people living with dementia
4. Competently perform two skilled touch techniques.
5. Describe three ways that heightened understanding and empathy for people living with dementia will lead to improved therapeutic outcomes.

Speaker Introductions

- Laura Ellen Christian, President, AGE-u-cate Training Institute
- Ann Germany, Director of Client Communications, AGE-u-cate Training Institute
- Caroline Rogers, Director PTA program Chattanooga State

Demographics

- 67 million Americans age 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's dementia in 2023! ¹
- 2/3 of Americans with AD are women ¹
- Increased incidence in Black and Hispanic older adults ¹
- AD was the 5th leading cause of death in persons 65 and older ²
- Duration of illness from Dx to death?
- Burden of AD (financial, medical, family, society)

“To Care for those who once cared for us is one of the highest honors”



Emotional and Social Well-Being of the Caregiver

- Employment / Financial
- Time
- Mental Health
- Social network
- Physical demands
- Chronic stress

Person-Centered Care Delivery

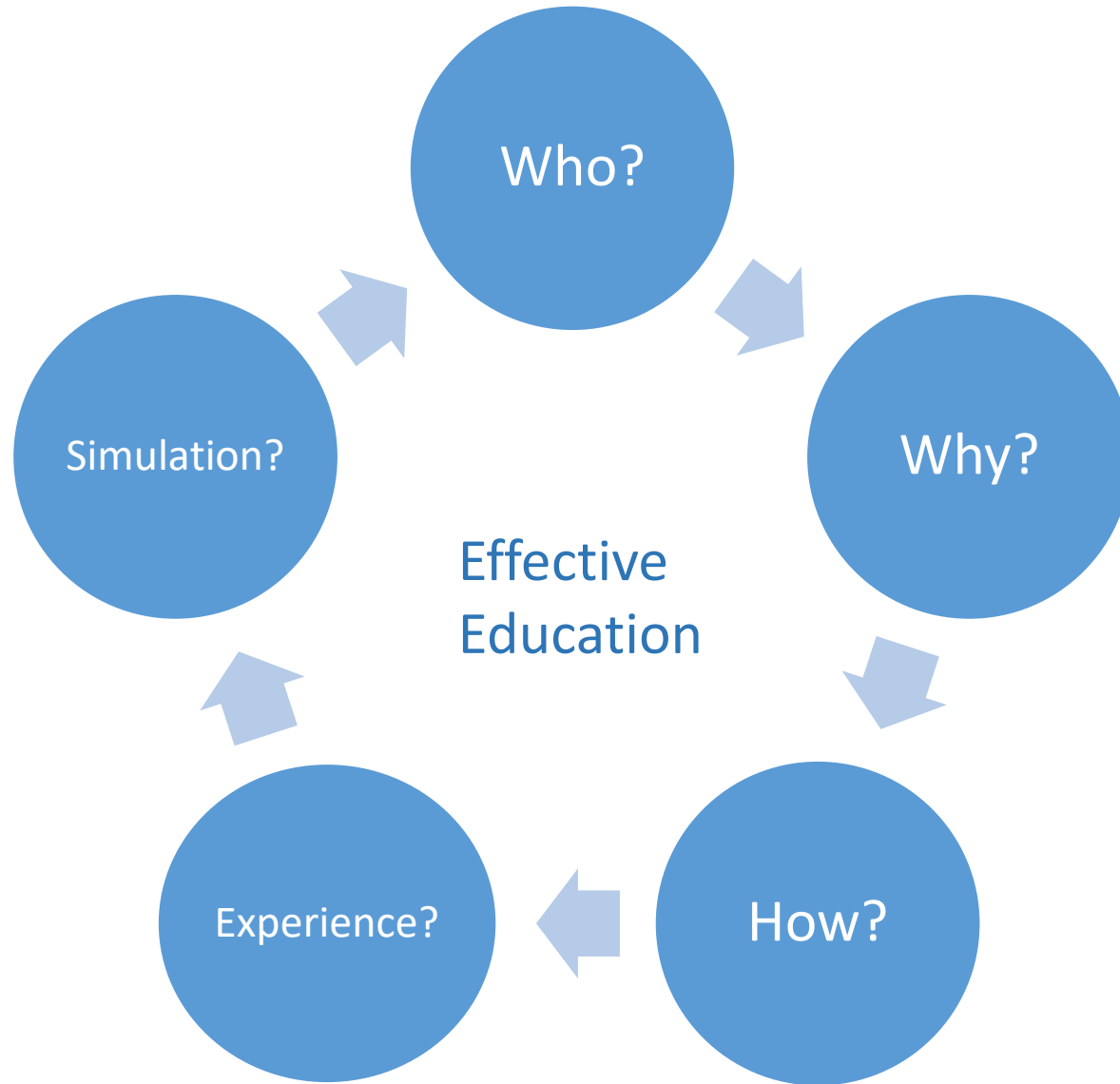


Global Deterioration Scale

1. No cognitive decline
2. Age Associated Memory Impairment / Very mild cognitive decline
3. Mild Cognitive Decline
4. Moderate Cognitive Decline
5. Moderately Severe Cognitive Decline
6. Severe Cognitive Decline
7. Very Severe Cognitive Decline

What challenges have you faced in your treatment of persons with dementia ?





Interventions

- Dementia Live (see attached handouts)
- Compassionate Touch (see attached handouts)
- Participants may also download white papers from <https://ageucate.com>

Bibliography

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6. Catlin A, Boggess J. Dementia Live® white paper. Accessed September 28, 2023. <https://ageucate.com/>
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