



Learning Objectives

Module 1: Introduction to End-of-Life Dementia Care

After completing this module, you will be able to:

- Describe the goals of end-of-life care.
- Describe the changes in the person with dementia that indicate he or she is approaching the end of life.
- Understand and be able to respond to common caregiver concerns.

Module 2: The CARES® Approach

After completing this module, you will be able to:

- Explain why it is important to connect with people with dementia who are at the end of life.
- Describe how using the CARES® Approach can make a person's remaining time peaceful and comfortable.
- Explain how using the CARES Approach can help you to be more effective with people who are at the end of life and to remain focused on their needs and comfort.

Module 3: Decision Making at the End of Life

After completing this module, you will be able to:

- List key decisions that must be made regarding end-of-life care.
- Explain common advanced care planning terms (for example, Do Not Resuscitate, Do Not Tube Feed, Do Not Hospitalize, and Do Not Use Antibiotics), and describe the rationale for each.
- Explain how the care team can support, guide, and honor families regarding end-of-life decisions.
- Explain the importance of communication between care team members—including the family—regarding end-of-life decisions.

Module 4: Comfort Care

After completing this module, you will be able to:

- Describe what is meant by comfort care, palliative care, and hospice care.
- Explain the physical changes that occur at the end of life, including signs of active dying.
- Describe changes in behavior that can occur at the end of life and ways you can respond.
- Explain things that you can do to ensure there is good communication between members of the care team, including the family.
- Describe steps you can take to provide person-centered, effective care for people with dementia who are at the end of life.

Module 5: Emotional and Spiritual Support

After completing this module, you will be able to:

- List ways to make interactions more meaningful and enhance emotional quality of life for people with dementia at the end of life.
- Describe ways that spiritual needs can be met to improve a person's well-being at the end of life.
- Discuss support strategies for team members—including the family—when death is near.