Fall 2017

Evaluating the Effectiveness of Abilities Care Approach™ Training

Michelle DAmato  
*Dominican University of California*

Sophie E. Miller  
*Dominican University of California*

April Perez  
*Dominican University of California*

Carmen Joaquin  
*Dominican University of California*

Louiza Alexandria Villarina  
*Dominican University of California*

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholar.dominican.edu/ug-student-posters

Part of the [Geriatric Nursing Commons](https://scholar.dominican.edu/ug-student-posters), [Geriatrics Commons](https://scholar.dominican.edu/ug-student-posters), [Interprofessional Education Commons](https://scholar.dominican.edu/ug-student-posters), and the [Occupational Therapy Commons](https://scholar.dominican.edu/ug-student-posters)

Survey: Let us know how this paper benefits you.

Recommended Citation

DAmato, Michelle; Miller, Sophie E.; Perez, April; Joaquin, Carmen; and Villarina, Louiza Alexandria, "Evaluating the Effectiveness of Abilities Care Approach™ Training" (2017). *Student Research Posters*. 59.  
https://scholar.dominican.edu/ug-student-posters/59

This Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the The Dominican Experience at Dominican Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in Student Research Posters by an authorized administrator of Dominican Scholar. For more information, please contact michael.pujals@dominican.edu.
EVALUATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ABILITIES CARE EXPERTS™ TRAINING

MICHELLE D’AMATO, CARMEN JOAQUIN, SOPHIE MILLER, APRIL PEREZ, & LOUIZA ALEXANDRA VILLARINA
CAPSTONE ADVISORS: SUSAN MORRIS, OTR/L, PhD & GINA TUCKER-ROGHI, OTR/L, OTD

INTRODUCTION

The burden of caring for an individual with dementia is significant due to associated cognitive, behavioral, and affective changes. Approximately 50% of US nursing home residents have a diagnosis of dementia ( Daly, Bay, Levy, & Carnahan, 2015).

In skilled nursing facilities (SNFs), certified nursing assistants (CNAs) assume the majority of activities of daily living (ADLs) and primary care (Butke & Chiodo, 2015).

OTs are in a unique position to collaborate with CNAs in providing individualized care to reduce burden of care.

ABILITIES CARE APPROACH (ACA)

ACA is an occupation-based, stage-specific dementia care approach developed by occupational therapists (OTs) that promotes quality dementia care for SNF residents. Within Claudia Allen’s Cognitive Disability Model, OTs evaluate patients to determine their Allen Cognitive Level, occupational profile and retained abilities.

ACA provides CNAs with standardized guidelines for individualized care to best facilitate occupational engagement based on patient’s dementia stage and retained abilities.

ABILITIES CARE EXPERTS® (ACE)

ACE is a six-week training program to prepare CNAs for implementation of ACA principles.

ACA OTs lead ACE sessions to convey the importance of adaptive, occupation-based care approaches.

ACE emphasizes the value of occupational engagement through individualized care approaches and meaningful interactions.

RESULTS

ACE CNA PARTICIPANTS SCORED CONSISTENTLY HIGHER ON EACH MEASURE COMPARED TO NON-ACE PARTICIPANTS

* INDICATES STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE \( p < .05 \)

COMPARISON OF KEY FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH QUALITY OF CARE, COMPARED TO STANDARD CNA DEMENTIA TRAINING

METHODS

KNOWLEDGE

SELF-RATING OF DEMENTIA KNOWLEDGE*
Global measure of individual perception of dementia-specific knowledge

DEMENTIA KNOWLEDGE ASSESSMENT SCALE (DKAS)
General knowledge of dementia diagnosis

ACE TRAINING FINAL EXAM PART I
General knowledge of dementia presentation and progression

ACE TRAINING FINAL EXAM PART II*
Knowledge of stage-specific, dementia care approaches

ATTITUDES

ATTITUDES TOWARD DEMENTIA SCALE (ATDS)
Caregiver beliefs and feelings towards individuals with dementia

Satisfaction

JOB SATISFACTION SCALE (JSS)
Sense of fulfillment, meaning and value derived from working with patients with dementia

SELF-EFFICACY

SELF-EFFICACY SCALE (SES)*
Caregiver confidence in ability to provide effective, person-centered care for patients with dementia

CONCLUSION

This study provides initial evidence that ACE training can improve key caregiving factors associated with quality of care.

A training approach focused on applying individualized and stage-specific care strategies has the ability to maximize quality of care by facilitating resident engagement and meaningful client-caregiver interaction.

IMPLICATIONS

Findings support the value of using ACA-directed, client-centered approaches to optimize participant participation in daily tasks.

OT expertise in providing stage-specific dementia care training can improve the educational outcomes of caregivers.

Further empirical research may help to further understand the optimal use of ACA-focused dementia training programs to improve quality of care.

REFERENCES:


ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to our capstone advisors for their endless support & valued insight.

Extended gratitude to the Ensign facilities & CNA participants whose dedicated time & effort made this project possible.

Special thanks to our capstone advisors for their endless support & valued insight.

Extended gratitude to the Ensign facilities & CNA participants whose dedicated time & effort made this project possible.