

DEMENTIA AND END-OF-LIFE CARE: CLINICAL RESPONSES AND INTERVENTIONS



DESCRIPTION:

People with a primary diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease and other types of dementia are the fastest growing segment of the hospice population. This program will address strategies to help hospice and end-of-life clinicians understand the complex challenges that these diagnoses present at life’s end. Experts will share information about various types of dementia, their progressions, and how to support the emotional and logistical challenges faced by patients and families. The program will also stress the role of hospice and palliative care professionals in raising awareness about dementia.

PROGRAM DETAILS:

This presentation features experienced professionals offering their own expertise on the topic. On the screen, you will see the slide presentation and will be able to hear the experts talking and presenting. If you login for the live version of the program, you’ll also have the opportunity to email or text the experts’ questions that they will discuss and answer during the program’s Q & A session.

LIVE DATE: March 11, 2025
TIME: Noon to 1:30pm ET
ON DEMAND: Available for 1 year; until September 11, 2025
LENGTH: 90 minutes
CEs: 1.5 hours
CONTENT LEVEL: The program is mainly for professionals already working in the field but is practical for all levels of education – entry level, intermediate or advanced.
TARGET AUDIENCE: Health care clinicians, social service clinicians and others working in the hospice, palliative care, counseling, hospital, nursing home, funeral home, or faith community environments

This program will be live on the air date, recorded and made available for on demand viewing. The recorded program will be available approximately a day after the live event.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

To view the program, you will need a computer and screen, reliable internet access, and speakers.

TEST LINK (for live program viewing) Audio and Video: <https://zoom.us/test>

Technical Questions? Please go to <https://zoom.us/> and click “support”

PROGRAM FEES/MATERIALS:

Registration includes continuing education and on-demand viewing for 6 months from live date.

Single Webinar Registration

Individual Viewer: Member: FREE | Non-member: \$35.00
Organizational Viewing: Member: FREE | Non-member: \$135.00

HOW TO REGISTER:

Register directly online, on HFA's website: <https://www.hospicefoundation.org>

MATERIALS AREA:

Materials are available on HFA's website at <https://hospicefoundation.org/Shop-HFA/My-Account>. From here, click on "Orders/Courses." *Information will be posted to your account as they become available.*

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this webinar, participants will be able to:

- Recognize common symptoms and challenges faced by patients living with dementia and their caregivers in the final stage of dementia.
 - Apply strategies and interventions for supporting patients living with dementia and their caregivers at the end of life.
 - Develop and plan education and awareness about dementia in broader community and healthcare settings.
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PROGRAM OUTLINE:

- I. Introduction (10 minutes)
 - a. Welcome
 - b. Need statement
 - c. Overview of presentation
 - II. Understanding Dementia (20 minutes)
 - a. Disease Progression
 - b. Impact in EOL Care
 - III. Common Symptoms (20 minutes)
 - a. Physical (pain, swallowing, etc.)
 - b. Cognitive/Behavioral (delirium, agitation, etc.)
 - c. Emotional (anxiety, depression, etc.)
 - d. Interventions
 - IV. Supporting Caregivers (15 minutes)
 - a. Addressing needs of family and caregivers
 - b. Navigating difficult conversations
 - V. Role of Hospice and Palliative Care in Dementia Education (15 minutes)
 - a. Educational role
 - b. Community impact
 - c. Advocacy and public awareness
 - VI. Q&A and Wrap-up (10 minutes)
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CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE) CREDITS:

This program is valid for 1.5 continuing education contact hours. CE hours are available for 6 months, until September 11, 2025.

A complete list of board approvals for this webinar program is posted to HFA's website at www.hospicefoundation.org on the program's registration page.

COURSE COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS:

Participants must attend the entire 1.5 hour program. Partial credit is not awarded. Participants must also complete the entire CE process online which includes a required evaluation form and exam. The exam must be completed at 80% or above (the exam may be re-taken, if necessary).

EXPERT PANELISTS:

André Cernasov, DO, joined Agrace in August 2024 and is board certified in both family medicine and hospice & palliative medicine. Prior to this role, he practiced inpatient and outpatient palliative medicine at Advocate Aurora Health from 2021 to 2024, where he also served as the Associate Program Director for the Aurora HPM Fellowship in Milwaukee, WI. Dr. Cernasov graduated from Johns Hopkins University and earned his medical degree from Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine in New York City. He is passionate about academics and is dedicated to educating learners of all backgrounds about hospice care, as well as ensuring that all patients maintain comfort and dignity when dealing with life-limiting illness.

Deanna Rymaszewski, MSW, APSW, APHSW-C, is the Clinical Educator – Social Worker for Agrace Hospice Care, a not-for-profit hospice based in Fitchburg, WI that serves South Central Wisconsin. She has a Bachelor's degree in Spanish, with an emphasis in Hispanic Health and Human Services, and a Master's in Social Work. She is currently enrolled in the Doctor of Social Work (DSW) program at Simmons University. She has had the opportunity to work with diverse populations in Milwaukee and Madison as well as surrounding areas. She has experience working with the elderly, physically disabled, and terminally ill and their grieving families. Deanna has worked as a Social Worker, Bereavement Coordinator and Volunteer Coordinator. In her current role, Deanna develops education on a wide range of end-of-life topics including advance directives, what to expect, dementia, grief, and bereavement. She presents to Agrace staff as well as the local community members and providers.

REVIEWER:

Angela Novas, MSN, RN, CRNP, ACHPN, Senior Medical Officer, Hospice Foundation of America

BIBLIOGRAPHY/REFERENCES:

Eisenmann, Y., Golla, H., Schmidt, H., Voltz, R., & Perrar, K. M. (2020). Palliative care in advanced dementia. *Frontiers in Psychiatry*, 11. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsy.2020.00699>

National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO), National Alliance for Care at Home, & National Association for Home Care & Hospice. (2024). NHPCO facts and figures. In *NHPCO Facts and Figures (2024 EDITION)* [Report]. <https://www.nhpc.org/wp-content/uploads/NHPCO-Facts-Figures-2024.pdf>

Stephanie P Wladkowski, Cara L Wallace, Current Practices of Live Discharge from Hospice: Social Work Perspectives, *Health & Social Work*, Volume 44, Issue 1, February 2019, Pages 30–38, <https://doi.org/10.1093/hsw/hly040>

Triandafilidis, Z., Carr, S., Davis, D., Jeong, S. Y., Hensby, J., Wong, D., Attia, J., & Goodwin, N. (2024). Improving end-of-life care for people with dementia: a mixed-methods study. *BMC Palliative Care*, 23(1). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12904-023-01335-w>

Yeh, J. C., Newman, J., Main, R., & Hunt, L. J. (2021). Improving End-of-Life Care for persons living with Dementia: Bereaved caregivers' observations and recommendations. *Journal of Pain*

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SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DISABILITY (ADA):

Reasonable accommodation may be made available, on an individual basis. To request accommodation, please contact HFA via email at educate@hospicefoundation.org or call 800-854-3402, or write to HFA, 1707 L Street NW, Suite 220, Washington, DC 20036.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

Planners (Panelists and Review Committee Members) disclose no conflict of interest relative to this educational activity. None of the planners or presenters for this educational activity have relevant financial relationships to disclose with ineligible companies.

FOR QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR ADDRESSING GRIEVANCES

Please contact Hospice Foundation of America (HFA)

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