## Unit 2
Care of the Cognitively Impaired Client

### A. Signs and symptoms of dementia (2 hours)

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<th>TEACHING METHODS</th>
<th>EVALUATION METHODS</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Upon completion of this unit the student will be able to identify signs and symptoms of dementia with 80% accuracy. | A. Normal aging of the nervous system  
B. Definition of dementia  
C. Signs and symptoms of dementia  
D. Reversible and irreversible dementia  
E. Definition of Alzheimer's Disease  
F. Common problems at different stages of Alzheimer's Disease  
G. Recognizing cognitive impairment | 1. Lecture  
2. Discussion  
3. Questions and answers  
4. Handouts  
5. *Resources | 1. Quizzes  
2. Written exam |

### B. Concepts and techniques for addressing the unique needs and behaviors of individuals with dementia (3 hours)

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| Upon completion of this unit, the student will be able to describe the concepts and techniques for addressing the unique needs and behaviors of clients with dementia. | A. Unique needs and behaviors of clients with dementia  
1. Personal care  
2. Environment  
3. Menu planning | A. Lecture  
B. Discussion  
C. Questions and answers  
D. Handouts  
E. Role playing | A. Quizzes  
B. Written exam  
C. Demonstration |
individuals with dementia including, but not limited to, agitation, combativeness, sundown syndrome, wandering, and forgetfulness, with 80% accuracy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4. Mealtime</th>
<th>F. *Resources</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5. Structured programming</td>
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<td>6. Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Concepts and techniques for addressing unique needs and behaviors</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Agitation</td>
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<td>2. Combativeness</td>
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<td>3. Sundown syndrome</td>
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<td>4. Wandering</td>
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<td>5. Forgetfulness</td>
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<td>6. Other behaviors</td>
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C. Basic concepts of communication with cognitively impaired clients (3 hours)

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| Upon completion of this unit, the student will be able to demonstrate with 80% accuracy basic concepts of communication with cognitively impaired clients including techniques to reduce the effects of cognitive impairment. | A. Definition of communication  
B. Differences between verbal and non-verbal communication  
C. Communication problems affecting clients with cognitive impairment  
D. Effective communication methods  
E. Techniques to reduce the | A. Lecture  
B. Discussion  
C. Questions and answers  
D. Handouts  
E. Role playing  
F. *Resources | A. Quizzes  
B. Written exam  
C. Demonstration |
D. **Basic concepts of behavior management with cognitively impaired clients (3 hours)**

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| Upon completion of this unit, the student will be able to describe with 80% accuracy the basic concepts of behavior management for cognitively impaired clients. | A. Behavior management plans  
1. Immediate actions  
2. Medical evaluation  
3. Behavior assessment  
4. Care planning  
B. Problem solving approach to challenging behaviors | A. Lecture  
B. Discussion  
C. Questions and answers  
E. Handouts  
F. *Resources | A. Quizzes  
B. Written exam |

E. **Recognizing changes in the client's condition and reporting and documenting changes (2 hours)**

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| Upon completion of the unit, the student will be able to identify changes in the client's condition with 80% accuracy and will demonstrate reporting and documentation of changes with 75% accuracy. | A. Significant changes  
1. Behavioral symptoms  
2. Vital signs  
3. Changes in ADL's  
4. Falls  
5. Orientation  
6. Changes in ROM | A. Lecture  
B. Discussion  
C. Questions and answers  
D. Handouts  
E. *Resources | A. Quizzes  
B. Written exam |
7. Recent socialization changes
8. Signs of depression
9. Changes in sleep pattern
10. Pain
11. Weight loss

B. Reporting changes in condition
C. Proper documentation of changes in condition

*Resources:


2. “Special Care for Special Persons: Basic Skill Building for Caregivers of People with Cognitive Impairment”, A Training Program developed by the Alzheimer’s Association National Capital Area Chapter for Virginia Department of Social Services, Division of Licensing Programs, 730 East Broad Street. 7th Floor, Richmond, Virginia, 23219-1849