

Supporting people with advanced dementia

Course level: Intermediate

Course duration: Half day (3 hours)

Delivery style: Interactive face-to-face training or virtual delivery

Who should attend? Anyone supporting people with advanced dementia, suitable for those in both community and care environments

Delegate numbers: 8 – 15 people per course

Pre-course requirements: Alzheimer's Society Dementia Awareness training or equivalent

Course overview: This course looks at the changes a person will experience as their dementia advances. You will explore how to meet the needs of people with advanced dementia in a holistic way, understanding the importance of sensory stimuli and the impact it has on someone's wellbeing. You will look at ways of communicating non-verbally and identifying non-verbal cues in others.

Learning outcomes:

- Recognise the changes that might affect a person at later stages of dementia and respond to those changes
- Identify ways to maintain and support a person's psychological needs in the later stages of their dementia journey
- Identify and promote wellbeing for people in the later stages of their dementia journey
- Explore effective ways of connecting with a person experiencing advanced dementia

Why Alzheimer's Society training?

We are the UK's leading dementia charity and are passionate about our cause. Our trainers all have professional experience of supporting people living with dementia and our courses include the latest research, knowledge and practice from across Alzheimer's Society. Our training is outcome-focused, activity-based and engaging. You can be confident that you are investing in specialist training from an expert organisation that has been providing training since 1979.

Course timetable:

Time	Activity
15 minutes	Welcome ▪ Introductions and housekeeping ▪ Learning agreement ▪ Learning outcomes
20 minutes	An eye for detail ▪ Activity- Seeing the bigger picture and recognising when changes are occurring
65 minutes	Exploring advanced dementia ▪ Activity- what does a person with advanced dementia experience? ▪ Seasons of dementia- approaches to 'staging' dementia ▪ Activity- 'Please see me' – exploring our own psychological needs
15 minutes	Break
20 minutes	Connecting through the senses: Identifying and promoting wellbeing
25 minutes	Communication with and without words ▪ Activity- expressing a need without verbal communication
10 minutes	Review of the day, closing questions and evaluation

Further your learning:

Completion of this course will equip delegates with the knowledge to further their learning by attending our follow-on courses:

- **End of life care for people with dementia (half day):** Improve your knowledge and understanding of end of life care for people with dementia and how to support a person to experience a good death
- **Responding to distressed behaviours (one day):** Increase your knowledge and skills in responding to challenging situations with empathy and respect
- **Meaningful engagement with people living with dementia (one day):** Develop the skills and understanding to meaningfully engage with people with dementia and improve their wellbeing

Contact the team on dementiatraining@alzheimers.org.uk to find out more.