

Strategies for Implementing Person-Centered Dementia Care



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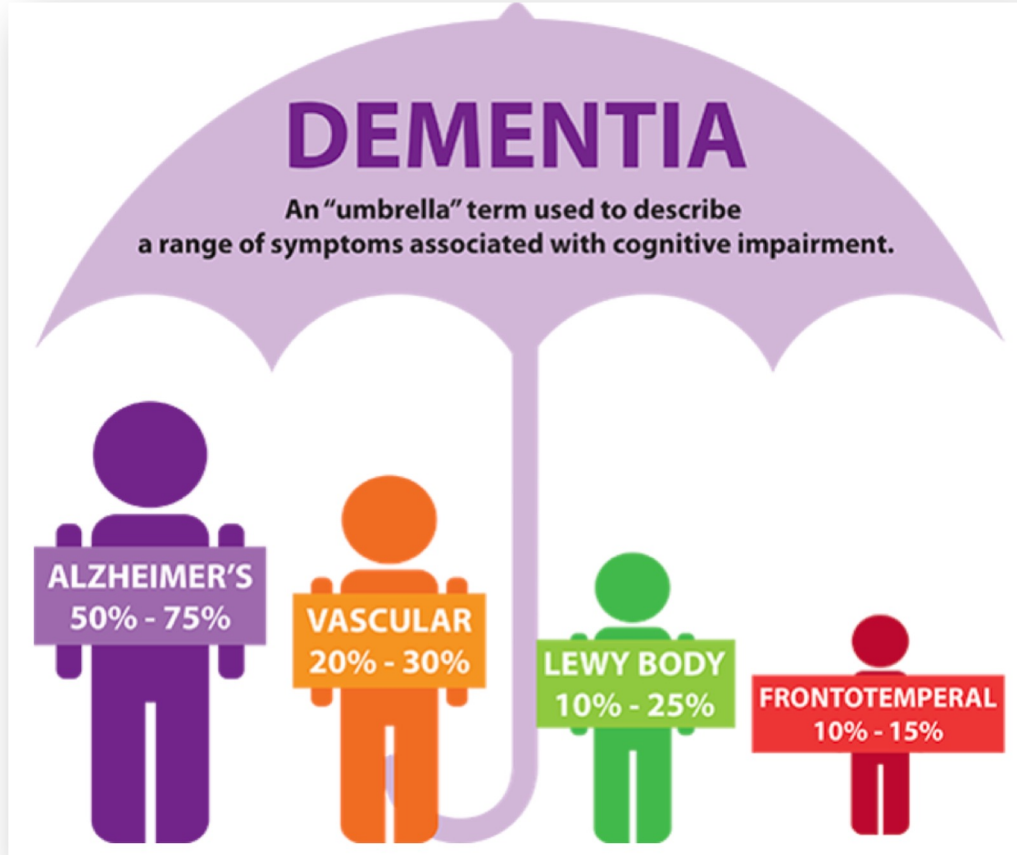
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Dementia Overview

What is Dementia?



Dementia is an Umbrella Term

- Dementia is a brain disease impacting memory and other areas of the brain, severe enough to interfere with everyday life
- There are many different types of dementia
- Alzheimer's disease is the most common type, vascular dementia the second most common type
- Alzheimer's disease is different than other types, but they're all *dementia*

What is Known About Dementia Caregiving?



Most of the care is provided at home by family and friends

- Most (80%) people with dementia live at home.
- The majority of support is provided by family or friends (unpaid).
- Over half (53%) of caregivers indicate that a decline in their health compromises their ability to provide care.

Still, a substantial workforce is involved in every stage

- An estimated 1.2 million additional direct care workers will be needed between 2020 and 2030—*more new workers than in any other single occupation in the US.*

What is Known About Dementia Caregiving?

Different from other types of caregiving

- More physically and emotionally demanding.
- More time consuming.
- Takes more people.
- Much more than activities of daily living (ADLs).
- Lasts longer than other types of caregiving.
- Takes a heavier toll on work and family life.
- Impacts family relationships.
- Can limit a caregiver's ability to take care of themselves.



What is Known About Dementia Caregiving?

Person-Centered Care is seen as a way of improving dementia care outcomes by placing individuals with dementia and their caregivers at the center of care delivery.



Dementia Caregiving





Person-Centered Care Applied to Dementia Care

Person-Centered Care





People Living
with Dementia

COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY

Person-Centered Care

- Valuing and respecting persons with dementia and those who care for them
- Treating people with dementia as individuals with unique needs
- Seeing the world from a different perspective
- Creating a positive social environment







Strategies to Advance Person-Centered Dementia Care

Person-Centered Dementia Care: Best Practice Case Example

ComForCare, an international home care agency, is elevating person-centered care for clients living with dementia at home, improving outcomes for clients, families, and care teams through an innovative training program known as **DementiaWise**®.

Background

- #1 care request = Dementia care
- Training the entire home care team in person-centered dementia care is vital
- Franchisees need evidenced based practice, tools that work and knowledge that translates theory into practice

DementiaWise®

- Purpose: create better days
- Key features: video modules, areas lost/preserved, ongoing training and collaboration methodology for improved care
- Recognition through the Alzheimer's Association

Person-Centered Dementia Care: Best Practice Case Example

ComForCare™
DementiaWise



GAME-CHANGING
APPROACHES TO
DEMENTIA CARE
WORKSHOP
REGISTRATION

<https://www.comforcare.com/dementiacare/dementiawise.html>

Person-Centered Dementia Care: Best Practice Case Example

Impact of DementiaWise®

- Program evaluation study conducted by student and faculty researchers at Duke University Occupational Therapy Doctorate Program and Partnerships for Health
- Looking at the program's impact from the point of view of home care teams
 - Self-efficacy
 - Job satisfaction

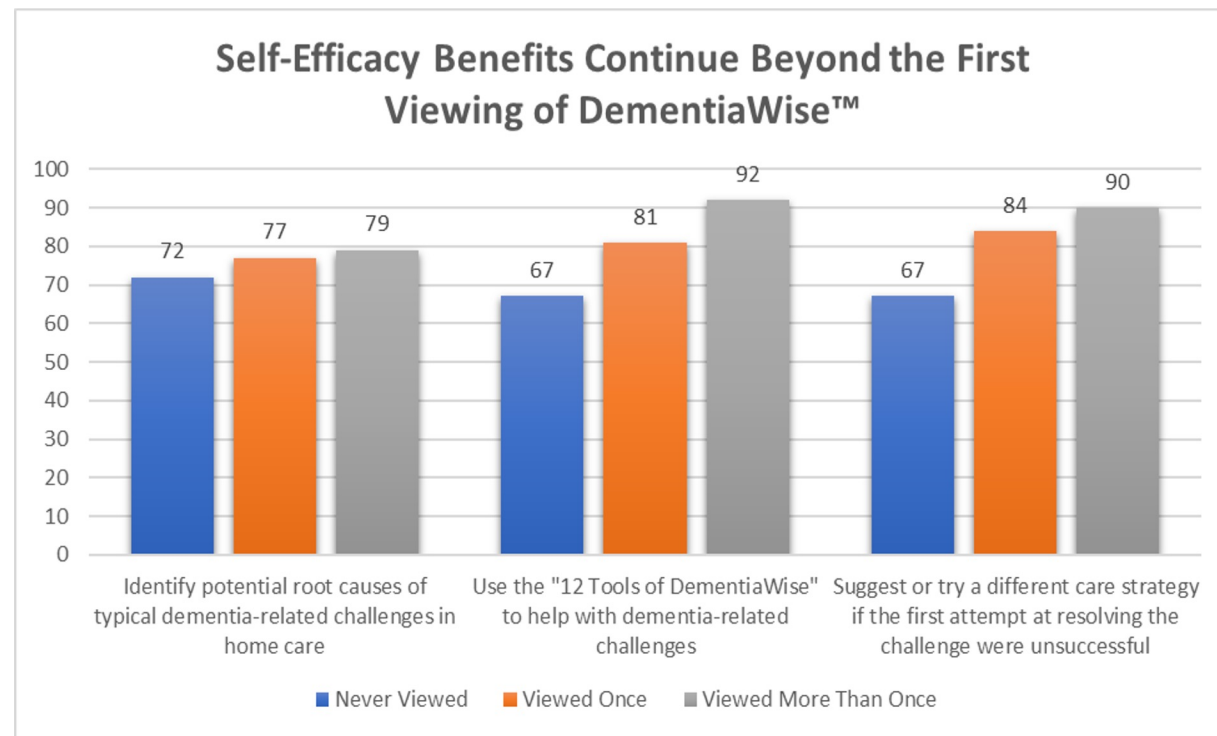
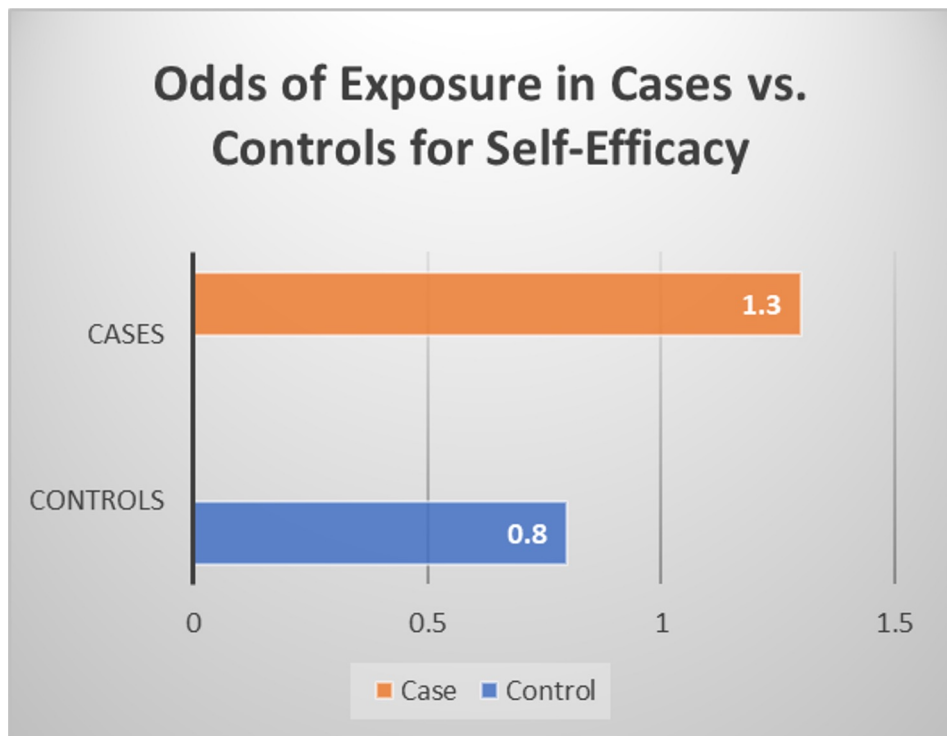


Study Findings

Home care workers who completed DementiaWise® training **felt better equipped** and **empowered to collaboratively care** for clients living with dementia and their families (self-efficacy) and experienced **greater job satisfaction** compared to teammates who had not yet completed DementiaWise®

Closer Look: DementiaWise[®] Impact Self-Efficacy

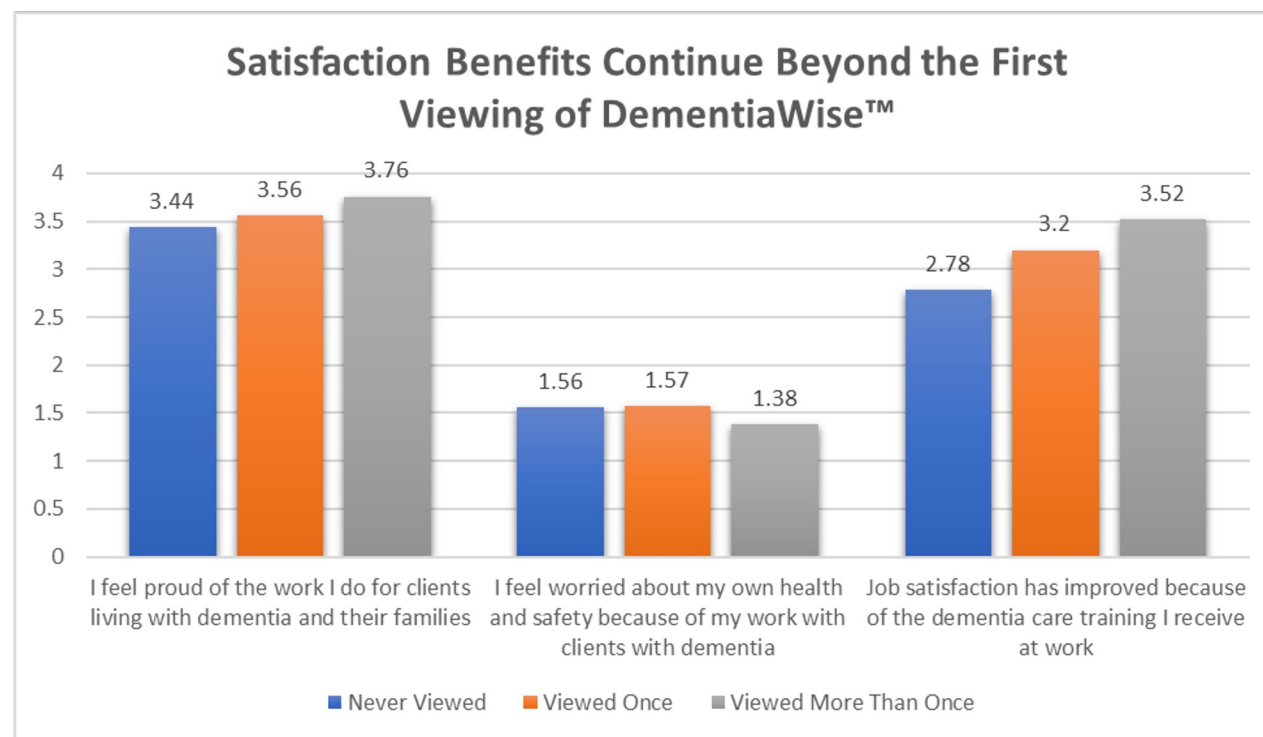
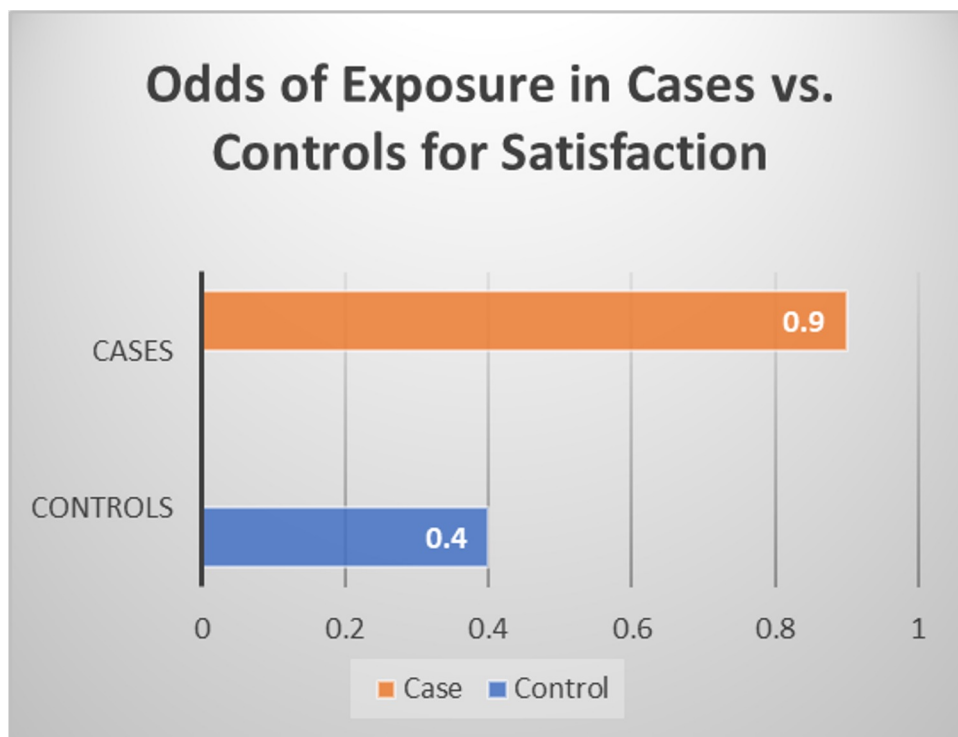
- The odds of higher self-efficacy in those who watched/rewatched DementiaWise[®] was 1.6 times the odds of higher self-efficacy in those who have not yet watched DementiaWise[®].
- Home care team members reported continued self-efficacy gains when they viewed the training videos more than once. Those who refreshed their training annually or semi-annually felt the most capable to apply dementia care strategies and collaborative problem solving, which suggests DementiaWise[®] has long-range benefits for these teams.



Closer Look: DementiaWise® Impact

Employee Satisfaction

- DementiaWise® training was positively associated with higher satisfaction among home care team members at ComForCare, as the odds of higher satisfaction in those who watched DementiaWise® were 2.2 times the odds of higher satisfaction in those who had not yet watched DementiaWise®.
- Home care team members who viewed the training more than once reported the greatest satisfaction gains. Those who refreshed their training annually or semi-annually felt more pride in their work with clients living with dementia and their families, less worry about their own health and safety regarding dementia care, and greater overall job satisfaction because of their dementia care training at work



Person-Centered Dementia Care: Best Practice Considerations

Plan of Care Strategies:

- Continuously get to know the people you support
- Value and respect the individual with dementia and their myriad caregivers, promoting well-being and health for everyone involved
- Tailor activities based on the individual's unique needs, personal experiences, preferences, and strengths, not just losses
- Recognize every experience and interaction as an opportunity to have authentic and meaningful engagement
- Offer guidance and choices to individuals and care partners starting early



Person-Centered Dementia Care: Best Practice Considerations

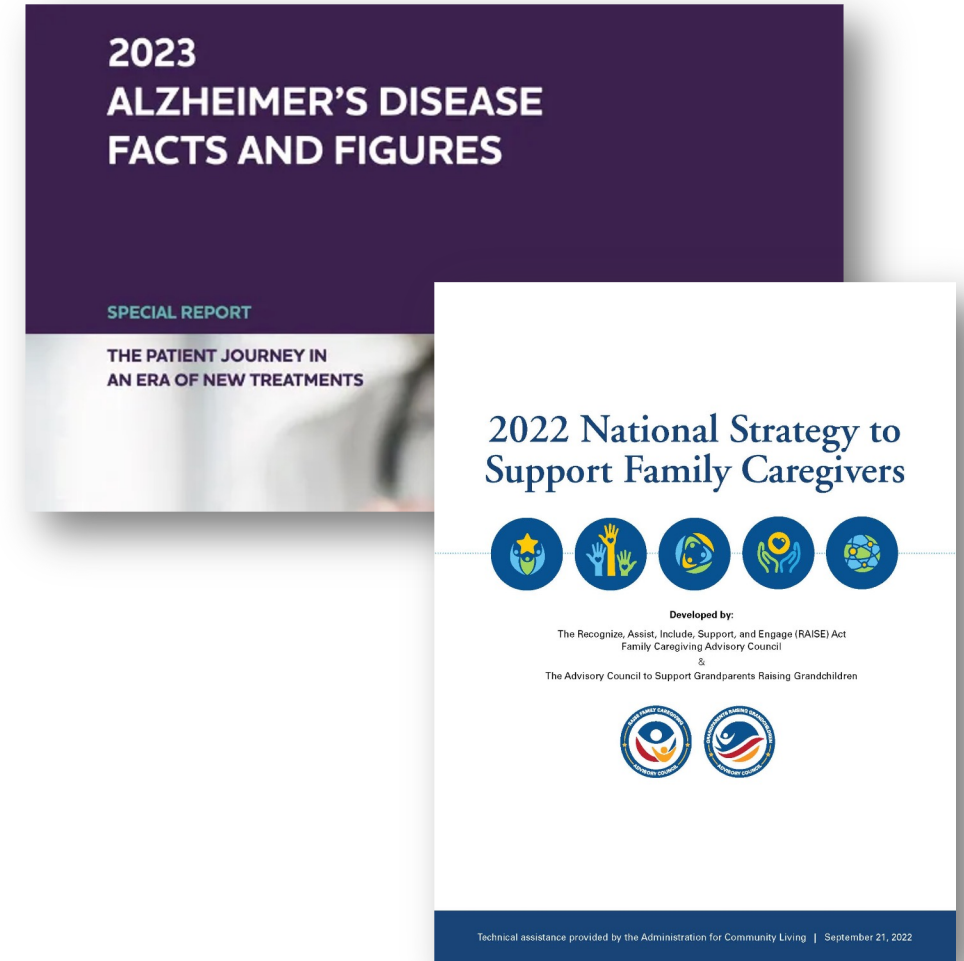
Workforce Development Strategies:

- Align with Alzheimer's Association best practices
- Focus on knowledge transfer, not just data dump
- Target the whole team
- Depict caregiving in context
- Use challenging cases to situate real-world problem solving
- Add knowledge/skills just in time for application
- Highlight communication, collaboration, and cooperation
- Weigh pros/cons of buying 'off the shelf' or creating your own program
- Ongoing caregiver education should be a brand standard
- Ease of implementation
- Frequent check-ins



Resources

- Alzheimer's Association 2023 Facts and Figures
- Alzheimer's Association Best Practices for Person-Centered Dementia Care
- Alzheimer's Foundation of America
- Dementia Action Alliance
- DementiaWise®
- NIA Imbedded Pragmatic AD/ADRD Clinical Trials (IMPACT) Collaboratory
- Partnerships for Health
- PHI National
- Recognize, Assist, Include, Support, and Engage (RAISE) Family Caregivers Act and the 2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers



Let's Connect!



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