

## Evidence-based citations supporting family education programs

### *Effective Communication Strategies*

On this resource:

#### **Evidence-based citations demonstrating the benefits of caregiver education and outcomes through programming**

[Int Psychogeriatr](#). 2013 Mar;25(3):345-58.

#### **Communication skills training in dementia care: a systematic review of effectiveness, training content, and didactic methods in different care settings.**

Eggenberger E<sup>1</sup>, Heimerl K, Bennett MI.

*Why this study is useful.*

“This review shows that communication skills training in dementia care significantly improves the quality of life and wellbeing of people with dementia and increases positive interactions in various care settings. Communication skills training shows significant impact on professional and family caregivers' communication skills, competencies, and knowledge. Additional organizational features improve the sustainability of communication interventions.”

[Int Psychogeriatr](#). 2012 Dec;24(12):1927-42.

#### **Memory and communication support strategies in dementia: effect of a training program for informal caregivers.**

Liddle J<sup>1</sup>, Smith-Conway ER, Baker R, Angwin AJ, Gallois C, Copland DA, Pachana NA, Humphreys MS, Byrne GJ, Chenery HJ.

*Why this study is useful.*

“People with dementia have a range of needs that are met by informal caregivers. A DVD-based training program was developed using research-based strategies for memory and communication in dementia. The effectiveness of the training on the caregiver experience and the well-being of the person with dementia was evaluated. This approach to training for caregivers of people with dementia appears promising for its impact on knowledge and the caregiving experience.”

[Int Psychogeriatr](#). 2011 Mar;23(2):256-63.

#### **Memory and communication support in dementia: research-based strategies for caregivers.**

Smith ER<sup>1</sup>, Broughton M, Baker R, Pachana NA, Angwin AJ, Humphreys MS, Mitchell L, Byrne GJ, Copland DA, Gallois C, Hegney D, Chenery HJ.

*Why this study is useful.*

“Difficulties with memory and communication are prominent and distressing features of dementia which impact on the person with dementia and contribute to caregiver stress and burden. There is a need to provide caregivers with strategies to support and maximize memory and communication abilities in people with dementia. In this project, a team of clinicians, researchers and educators in neuropsychology, psychogeriatrics, nursing and speech pathology translated research-based knowledge from these fields into a program of practical strategies for everyday use by family and professional caregivers. Using a knowledge-translation framework, information and strategies can be provided to family and professional caregivers to help them optimize residual memory and communication in people with dementia.”

[Int Psychogeriatr](#). 2010 Mar;22(2):189-200. doi: 10.1017/S1041610209990615. Epub 2009 Jul 29.

**A systematic review of communication strategies for people with dementia in residential and nursing homes.**

Vasse E<sup>1</sup>, Vernooij-Dassen M, Spijker A, Rikkert MO, Koopmans R.

“The impairment of verbal skills of people with dementia challenges communication. The aim of this review was to study the effects of nonpharmacological interventions in residential and nursing homes on (1) communication between residents with dementia and care staff, and (2) the neuropsychiatric symptoms of residents with dementia. This review indicates that care staff can improve their communication with residents with dementia when strategies are embedded in daily care activities or interventions are single-task sessions at set times. These results offer the possibility of improving the quality of care, but not of directly reducing neuropsychiatric symptoms.”