



Guiding Principles behind our Research

Develop programs and resources that are:

- Consumer-driven
- Clinically relevant
- Evidence-based
- Designed using adult learning principles
- Effective and sustainable



AGE Research & Evaluation Service

We work with organizations across Canada to evaluate their implementation of GPA.



Learn more at www.ageinc.ca

GPA is available in English and French.



Advanced Gerontological Education (AGE) Inc. is a national not-for-profit social enterprise. We develop and distribute the **Gentle Persuasive Approaches (GPA) in Dementia Care** curriculum, now in its 4th edition. Almost 500,000 healthcare providers have completed GPA education. GPA is regularly evaluated — collaboratively, in context, across settings, over time. Following is a sample of research. Visit www.ageinc.ca to see all our research.

THE CHORD GPA EVALUATION PROJECT

“An Education Intervention to Enhance Staff Self-Efficacy to Provide Dementia Care in an Acute Care Hospital in Canada: Non-Randomized Control Study.” The study determined that GPA addressed the concerns expressed by acute care staff and provided needed knowledge and skills to manage dementia with more dignity, compassion and in a person centred fashion.” Published in the *American Journal of Alzheimer’s Disease & Other Dementias*, Vol. 31, Issue 8, 1-14, 2016.

THE EXPERIENCE OF HOSPITAL STAFF IN APPLYING GPA IN DEMENTIA CARE

Hospital staff often lack knowledge and skills in dementia care. There is a need to understand how person-centred care theory can be operationalized in staff’s practices to improve dementia care. 310 staff and leaders in a hospital participated in GPA and completed a post-education survey. After 1 year, two follow-up focus groups were conducted with interdisciplinary staff across medicine and mental health programmes. The author’s analysis identified three themes to enable person-centred care: (a) changing attitudes, (b) changing practices and (c) changing conditions. Published in *Journal of Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing*, Vol. 26, Issue 2, 19-28, 2019.

INTRODUCING AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM ON AN ORTHOPAEDIC UNIT FOR STAFF CARING FOR PATIENTS WITH DEMENTIA AND DELIRIUM

The GPA curriculum, originally designed for long-term care staff, was introduced into an acute care setting. GPA’s person-centered approach to supporting and responding to persons with behaviors associated with dementia was shown to be applicable for staff on an orthopaedic surgery unit where staff had reported significant challenges and care burdens when faced with behaviors such as shouting, explosiveness, and resistance to care. Published in *Orthopaedic Nursing*, Volume 34, Issue 2, 101-107, 2015.

MOVING FORWARD: EVALUATING A CURRICULUM FOR MANAGING RESPONSIVE BEHAVIOURS IN A GERIATRIC PSYCHIATRY INPATIENT POPULATION.

(Third-party evaluation.) Staff confidence in their ability to care for persons with responsive behaviors increased after attending a GPA workshop. Staff reported being highly satisfied with the curriculum, found it applicable to their practice, indicated it was useful for patients with delirium and would recommend it to others. Published in *The Gerontologist*, Volume 49, Issue 4, 570-576, 2009.

IN DEVELOPMENT

GPA Bathing Program

Complementary new curriculum following GPA education. Applies GPA knowledge and skills in a bathing context for staff. Highly anticipated to meet a need in the sector.

[Learn more.](#)

COLLABORATION

GPA for Family and Friend Caregivers

New Brunswick Healthy Seniors Pilot Project. Featured in the [2020 Annual Report on Canada’s Dementia Strategy](#). (pp 46 & 47). GPA will meet a critical need in this sector.

PRESENTATIONS

Professional Practice Development: GPA Bathing eLearning improved staff confidence in bathing care.



Visit www.ageinc.ca to view all AGE research presentations.