

QUALITY OF LIFE FOR RESIDENTS WITH DEMENTIA THROUGH ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT



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INTRODUCTION

- The Good Samaritan Society's objective in building dementia care cottages is to provide safe and secure residences in a familiar, home-like setting.
- A key component is to provide meaningful activities.
- The goal is to preserve the resident's quality of life.

PROBLEMS

- Progression of Alzheimer's challenges staff in engaging residents.
- Staff become "task focused".
- Negative impact on resident's quality of life.

INTERVENTION

- Developed an electronic charting process with three domains: Activities of daily living, Household tasks and Leisure.
- Definitions: Active and passive engagement and non-engaged.
- Process: Development of activation form for documentation including a section for detailed comments. Input form onto electronic health record including documentation schedule. Train staff.

Acknowledgement of Information Technology Staff: Gil Rueck and Reem Pauls

BENEFITS

- Enhance staff awareness to stay "resident focused".
- Electronic charting can produce reports profiling resident level of engagement.
- Data identifies changes in resident status and information can be shared at resident care conferences.



DISCUSSION

- Ongoing staff training is essential for positive outcomes.
- An inter-rater reliability evaluation is in process.
- Activation continues to be an essential focus for resident's quality of life.