



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
Governor

DAVID R. SCRASE, M.D.
Acting Cabinet Secretary

Notice of Upcoming Regulations for Long-Term Care Facility Dementia Training

This Notice is to advise each long-term care facility in New Mexico that new regulations will be written and effective by December 31, that will direct each facility to engage their employees in dementia training programs that will be approved and made available by NMDOH on January 1, 2022

This training is mandatory pursuant to the Long-Term Care Facility Dementia Training Act, 24-17B-1 NMSA. A copy of the Act is attached for your reference.

The training programs will be available on the TRAIN site of NMDOH to allow ease of access for your employees to take the training and receive a certificate upon completion of the training.

Pursuant to the statute:

This training will apply to every direct care service staff member, defined by the statute as a person employed by or contracted with a long-term care facility, either directly or through a third-party agreement, to provide in-person direct care services to long-term care facility residents or contracted with a long-term care facility, either directly or through a third-party agreement, to provide at least ten hours per week in direct care services by video, audio, or telephonic means.

The statute defines a long-term care facility to mean every long-term care facility licensed by the state.

Each facility or contractor is ordered by the statute to provide training from NMDOH standardized training programs which will be available by December 31, 2021. The facility or contractor is also ordered to provide continuing education as prescribed by NMDOH to each direct care staff member it employs.

Pursuant to statute, these training programs and continuing education will cover:

- Standards approved by the department for recognizing and treating Alzheimer's disease, dementia
- Person centered care
- Activities of daily living, and
- Any other subject within the scope of long-term care facility dementia training identified by NMDOH.

In addition, the below objectives will be covered in the required programing:

- Identify differences between the cognitive, functional, and behavioral changes of normal aging and those associated with mild cognitive impairment and dementia.
- List the most common types of dementia.
- Identify the prevalence, risk factors, signs and symptoms, and rate of progression of dementia.
- Identify the stages of dementia.
- Describe when to refer People Living with Dementia to a neurologist, geriatric psychiatrist, neuropsychologist, or a national Alzheimer's Disease Center.
- Identify common components of an individualized primary care plan for persons with middle stage dementia.
- Identify 3 common components of an individualized primary care plan for persons with late-stage dementia.
- List 3 common medical issues related to middle stage dementia.
- List 3 common medical issues related to late-stage dementia.
- Describe the benefits of having a person-centered interprofessional dementia care team.
- Describe the responsibilities of all members of the interprofessional dementia care team.
- Describe how responsibilities may evolve as the disease progresses
- List legal and financial considerations to discuss with a patient and appropriate care partner(s) upon a diagnosis of dementia.
- Identify domains that are included in a capacity assessment for a person living with dementia.
- Identify ethical issues related to participation in dementia research.
- Recognize signs of elder abuse.
- List signs and symptoms of end-stage dementia.
- Identify barriers to optimal care among various groups.
- Discuss techniques for effective communications with diverse populations

DIVISION OF HEALTH IMPROVEMENT



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
Governor

DAVID R. SCRASE, M.D.
Acting Cabinet Secretary

Pursuant to the statute training may be online or in-person and shall be a training program of at least four hours and approved by the department pursuant to Section 5 of the Long-Term Care Facility Dementia Training Act. Each training program will be at least 4 hours long. The person conducting the training shall have at least 2 years of work experience related to Alzheimer's disease, dementia, health care, gerontology, or other related field, and successfully completed training equivalent to the requirements that will be provided pursuant to the ACT, including passage of any skills competency or knowledge test required by NMDOH.

The statute sets forth a time frame for new employees hired after January 1, 2022, to have completed the training within 60 days of employment, and existing employees who have not received equivalent training within the past 24 months to have also completed the training within 60 days of January 1, 2022.

Every long-term care facility contractor subject to the Act will provide a copy of each direct care service staff member's certificate of dementia training to every long-term care facility where that staff member provides direct care service.

Additional details are contained with the Act, a copy of which is attached for your reference.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Burmeister".

Christopher Burmeister

Director

Department of Health Improvement

DIVISION OF HEALTH IMPROVEMENT

2040 South Pacheco Street, 2nd Floor, Suite 202 • Santa Fe, New Mexico • 87505
(505) 476-9025 • FAX: (505) 476-8980 • nmhealth.org/about/dhi