



Anthony's Assisted Living Blog

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National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners Staff Education Week Begins

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The National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners (NCCDP) was formed in 2001 to promote standards of excellence in dementia and Alzheimer's education to professionals and other caregivers who provide services to dementia clients.

While you would think that standards should be uniform, state regulations governing nursing homes, assisted living, and other care entities are different in each state for the requirements for Alzheimer's and Dementia Education. Some states have no requirements, some are vague, some require just two hours of education while other state standards are extensive. The Goal of the NCCDP is to promote national standards for comprehensive and extensive Alzheimer's and Dementia Education.

As the number of dementia cases continues to increase nationally and worldwide, there is a great necessity to insure that care givers are well trained to provide appropriate, competent, and sensitive direct care and support for the dementia patient. And that alone is one reason to pay attention to the work of the Council.

Today begins The National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners Alzheimer's and Dementia Staff Education Week. To honor that week, the Council is making available a [free tool kit](#) that includes Power Point in-services designed to be taught in 30 minutes to health care professionals and front line staff.

The Tool Kit and Education Week was developed to bring national and international awareness to the importance of providing comprehensive dementia education by means of face to face interactive classroom training to all health care professionals and in the process exceed state requirements regarding dementia education.

There are no national standards for dementia education. The Council recommends an initial eight hours of dementia education to all staff.

In addition, the Council offers a certification for Dementia Care Managers. It is an earned credential that recognizes the highest standard in Alzheimer's and Dementia education for health care professionals that oversee, manage and supervise the day-to-day operations of dementia units. Many unit managers often receive little training as a Dementia Unit Manager.

One reason I am so enthusiastic about the Council is that I am fully aware of the lack of consistent standards both in care delivery and care inspection across the aging continuum so anything that promotes and elevates standards of care attracts my attention.

So you may want to check out the Council particularly this week and download the tool kit which includes:

- Power Point In-services
- Nurse Educator of the Year Nomination Forms
- Nomination Forms for NCCDP Alzheimer's and Dementia Staff Education Week Contest
- Proclamations for Senators and Mayor
- Letters to the Editors
- 97 Ways to Promote Alzheimer's and Dementia Staff Education Week
- Resources and Important Web Sites

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