

Long Term Care  
Intensive Train the Trainer Series

## Managing Difficult Behaviors

# The Environment

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Teaching Cues	Content	Resources
<p><b>Title</b></p> <p><b>The environment affects the behavior of a person with dementia.</b></p>	<p><b>The Environment</b></p> <p>Module Overview: People with dementia depend on a predictable environment to function at their best. When the environment has confusing cues or distractions, challenging situations can occur. This module will explore some of the factors related to the environment that contribute to challenging situations. We will look at some possible causes for wandering and sleeplessness, and how our approach can affect the situation. We will examine activities and their role in providing stimulation in the environment.</p>	<p><b>Slide 1</b></p>
<p><b>Objectives</b></p>	<p>The objectives for this module are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify elements in the environment that may contribute to challenging behaviors</li> <li>2. Recognize triggers for wandering and strategies for assisting the person with dementia.</li> <li>3. Describe factors related to sleeplessness</li> <li>4. Discuss the purpose of activities.</li> <li>5. Identify key elements of successful activities.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Objectives</b></p>
<p><b>Introductory Comments</b></p>	<p>In any care setting, the environment plays an important role for the person with dementia. Many times we cannot change the environment, but it is helpful for us to be aware of how it is affecting the person with dementia.</p>	
<p><b>The Environment</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The person depends more on the environment for cues as the dementia progresses. As the person's ability to process information becomes more impaired, the person depends on the environment more and more to give them clues about what is happening.</li> <li>▪ This may be affected by vision and hearing loss seen with normal aging.</li> <li>▪ When people with dementia become confused, energy is drained as they</li> </ul>	<p><b>The environment</b></p>