

Dementia knowledge set	QCF Level 2 award in awareness of dementia
Core dementia knowledge – dementia support	Units: DEM 201,202,205,207 Learning by: SCIE Open Dementia E-learning Programme

The learner will:	The learner can:	SCIE Dementia programme module ref:
Understand what dementia is.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain what is meant by the term ‘dementia’ • Describe the key functions of the brain that are affected by dementia • Explain why depression, delirium and age related memory impairment may be mistaken for dementia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 1 section .2 • Module 4 section 3
Understand key features of the theoretical models of dementia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline the medical model of dementia • Outline the social model of dementia • Explain why dementia should be viewed as a disability 	N/A
Know the most common types of dementia and their causes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List the common causes of dementia • Describe the likely signs and symptoms of the most common causes of dementia • Outline the risk factors for the most common causes of dementia • Identify prevalence rates for different types of dementia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 3.1/ Module 3.2 • Module 1.3 • Module 3.5

The learner will:	The learner can:	SCIE Dementia programme module ref:
Understand factors relating to an individual's experience of dementia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe how different individuals may experience living with dementia depending on age, type of dementia and level of ability and disability • Outline the impact that the attitudes and behaviours of others may have on an individual with dementia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 2.1/ Module 2.2 • Module 2.3/ Module 2.4/ Module 2.5
Understand approaches that enable individuals with dementia to experience well-being.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe what is meant by a person centred approach • Outline the benefits of working with an individual with dementia in a person centred manner 	N/A
Understand the role of carers in the care and support of individuals with dementia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the role that carers can have in the care and support of individuals with dementia • Explain the value of developing a professional working relationship with carers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 2.4/ Module 2.5
Understand the roles of others in the support of individuals with dementia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the roles of others in the care and support of individuals with dementia • Explain when it is necessary to refer to others when supporting individuals with dementia • Explain how to access the additional support of others when supporting individuals with dementia 	N/A

The learner will:	The learner can:	SCIE Dementia programme module ref:
Understand the factors that can influence communication and interaction with individuals who have dementia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain how dementia may influence an individual's ability to communicate and interact • Identify other factors that may influence an individual's ability to communicate and interact • Outline how memory impairment may affect the ability of an individual with dementia to use verbal language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 7.3 • Module 7.1
Understand how a person centred approach may be used to encourage positive communication with individuals with dementia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain how to identify the communication strengths and abilities of an individual with dementia • Describe how to adapt the style of communication to meet the needs, strengths and abilities of an individual with dementia • Describe how information about an individual's preferred methods of communication can be used to reinforce their identity and uniqueness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 7.1
Understand the factors which can affect interactions with individuals with dementia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain how understanding an individual's biography/history can facilitate positive interactions • List different techniques that can be used to facilitate positive interactions with an individual with dementia • Explain how involving others may enhance interaction with an individual with dementia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 7.4/ Module 2.2 • Module 7.2/ Module 7.3/ Module 7.4

The learner will:	The learner can:	SCIE Dementia programme module ref:
Understand and appreciate the importance of diversity of individuals with dementia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the importance of recognising that individuals with dementia have unique needs and preferences • Describe ways of helping carers and others to understand that an individual with dementia has unique needs and preferences • Explain how values, beliefs and misunderstandings about dementia can affect attitudes towards individuals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 5.1 • Module 2.2
Understand the importance of person centred approaches in the care and support of individuals with dementia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe how an individual may feel valued, included and able to engage in daily life • Describe how individuals with dementia may feel excluded • Explain the importance of including the individual in all aspects of their care 	N/A
Understand ways of working with a range of individuals who have dementia to ensure diverse needs are met	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe how the experience of an older individual with dementia may be different from the experience of a younger individual • Describe what steps might be taken to gain knowledge and understanding of the needs and preferences of individuals with dementia from different ethnic origins • Describe what knowledge and understanding would be required to work in a person centred way with an individual with a learning disability and dementia 	N/A

Learning outcomes SCIE Modules

1. What it is and what it isn't

By the end of this module you should be able to:

- Challenge some common myths and negative attitudes about dementia
- Describe what dementia is
- List common signs and symptoms of dementia
- Describe some of the complex difficulties people with dementia face and some causes of these difficulties

2. Living with dementia

By the end of this module you should be able to describe:

- Key aspects of the personal experiences of people with dementia
- The importance of recognising the individuality of people with dementia and their unique strengths, preferences and needs
- How a person's life history impacts on how they interact with the world around them today
- The impact of dementia on family and friendship networks
- Key aspects of the personal experiences of carers of people with dementia

3. What causes dementia

By the end of this module you should be able to:

- Describe the causes of dementia
- List some of the more common diseases and disorders that cause dementia
- Describe some of the similarities and differences between different types of dementia
- Describe the key functions of, and results of damage to, the three most affected lobes of the brain
- Identify some factors that can increase and decrease the risk of dementia

4. Diagnosis and who can help

By the end of this module you should be able to:

- Identify reasons why an early diagnosis is important

- Describe the emotional impact of receiving a diagnosis of dementia
- Describe the process involved in diagnosing a dementia
- List some key dangers of labelling people
- Describe the multidisciplinary nature of a robust network of help and support for people with dementia and their families
- Describe a range of medical and non-medical treatments in dementia and know how to access more information on them.

5. Common difficulties and how to help

By the end of this module you will:

- Have a better understanding of the unique nature of every individual's experience of dementia
- Be able to describe ways in which some of the most common symptoms of dementia can affect people's everyday lives
- Appreciate how it can feel to be faced with the symptoms of dementia
- Be able to draw on a range of strategies to compensate for the difficulties caused by some common symptoms of dementia
- Be able to recognise and minimise causes of avoidable difficulties

6. The emotional impact of dementia

By the end of this module you will:

- Be able to describe some of the feelings commonly experienced by people with dementia and their relatives
- Recognise responses that can be helpful
- Recognise that understanding the perspective of a person with dementia is vital to avoid causing emotional distress
- Have a deeper understanding of why our communication must be sensitive to the feelings and needs of people with dementia.

7. Positive communication

By the end of this module you will:

- Recognise factors that can impact on successful communication
- Have learnt some new communication techniques that you can use to help people with dementia to express themselves and understand what we are saying
- Have a better understanding of how to respond when a person with dementia is expressing a different reality
- Understand how to avoid causing distressing situations by recognising and responding to clues about the needs of the person with dementia.