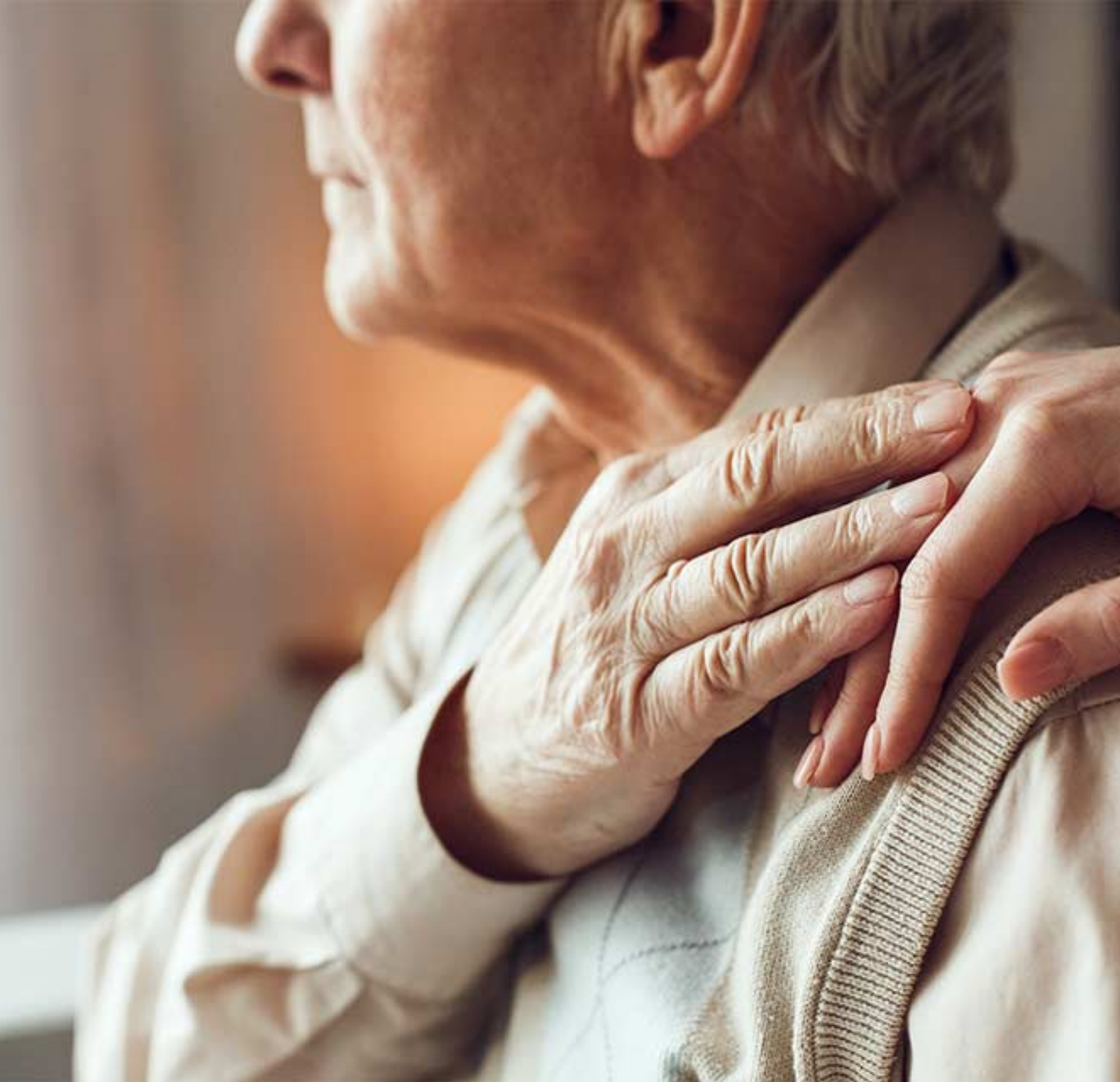




Caring for Persons with Dementia Course Calendar

Caring For Persons with Dementia - Self Directed Learning at Your Own Pace

This online self-directed course provides learners with practical knowledge and skills for supporting individuals living with dementia across home, community, retirement, long-term-care, and health-care environments.

The course emphasizes person-centred care, effective communication, recognition of unmet needs, management of responsive behaviours, assistance with activities of daily living, safety, dignity, independence, and emotional well-being. Through realistic scenarios, learners develop practical strategies for responding to common and challenging situations encountered when caring for persons living with dementia.

Course Highlights:

100% online and self-paced

No scheduled meeting times

Includes 8 module tests and a final exam

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain dementia and distinguish dementia-related changes from normal aging.
2. Identify common forms and presentations of dementia.
3. Apply person-centred principles when supporting persons living with dementia.
4. Adapt verbal and non-verbal communication to meet changing cognitive and communication abilities.
5. Interpret responsive behaviours as potential expressions of unmet needs.
6. Select appropriate strategies for responding to agitation, resistance, repetition, wandering and other responsive behaviours.
7. Support activities of daily living while promoting dignity, choice and independence.
8. Identify environmental and personal factors affecting the safety of persons living with dementia.
9. Recognize significant changes in condition that require reporting or further assessment.
10. Differentiate gradual dementia-related changes from sudden changes that may indicate delirium or illness.
11. Apply appropriate approaches to emotional, social and behavioural challenges.
12. Recognize the needs of families and other care partners.
13. Apply strategies that support caregiver well-being and professional boundaries.
14. Describe approaches that promote dignity and comfort throughout advanced dementia and end-of-life care.

Course Topics:

There are 8 modules in this program and 8 tests plus a final exam. You must receive 50% on the test to progress to the next module. Students will be allowed 3 attempts to pass each test. It is in the best interest of the student if they try the test the first time without looking at their notes. The tests are not meant to be “open book”.

Course Fee:

The cost of the course is \$99.00 CAD payable on the OCHT e-store.

International Students:

This course is self-directed and online so students from outside of Canada are also welcome to enrol.

Enrolment:

Students will be contacted after they have either applied at ocht.ca or requested information.

Certificate:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be issued a Certificate of Completion and an Official Transcript.

List of Modules in the Program

Module	Topic	Key Content
1	Understanding Dementia	What dementia is; dementia vs. normal aging; how dementia affects the brain; common terminology; myths and misconceptions
2	Types and Progression of Dementia	Alzheimer's disease; vascular dementia; Lewy body dementia; frontotemporal dementia; mixed dementia; stages/progression; recognizing changing care needs
3	Person-Centred Dementia Care	Seeing the person rather than the diagnosis; dignity and respect; individual preferences; life history; culture and identity; promoting independence and choice
4	Communication and Dementia	How dementia affects communication; verbal and non-verbal communication; simplifying communication; active listening; responding to repeated questions; validation and reassurance; what not to say
5	Understanding Responsive Behaviours	Understanding behaviour as communication; common triggers; agitation; aggression; wandering; repetitive behaviours; calling out; resistance to care; identifying unmet needs
6	Supporting Activities of Daily Living	Dressing; bathing; grooming; toileting; eating and drinking; sleep; mobility; maintaining routines; adapting tasks; encouraging independence without creating unnecessary risk
7	Safety, Risk and Changes in Condition	Falls; wandering/elopement; home/environmental safety; medication-related concerns; dehydration and nutrition; recognizing pain; delirium vs. dementia; recognizing sudden changes requiring medical attention
8	Emotional, Social and End-of-Life Support	Anxiety, fear and frustration; loneliness and social isolation; meaningful activities; supporting families; caregiver stress and burnout; advanced dementia; comfort and dignity; grief and loss