

PAC Launches New Education Kits

*by Deborah Tyler, OT,
PAC Client Relationship Director*

“I have dementia training required for my Memory Care Staff!”

“I have a new employee who needs to have four hours of dementia education by Friday!”

“Do you have quizzes and certificates to go with your videos?”

“I have staff in different locations, and it’s hard to get them together to watch any dementia videos!”

These are some of the questions and situations posed regularly to the PAC Team who answers phone and email inquiries. In response to this, PAC developed some Education Kits which are neatly and affordably packaged to contain streaming video content, initial licensing, certificates of completion, pre/post assessments, and additional materials that can be printed for reference; essentially everything a facility or organization might need to do some introductory dementia-awareness work with their staff.

Because the content is streamed digitally, access is immediate and can be done as a group gathered in one room or individually in different locations. There is no waiting for a DVD to arrive in the mail, hoping it gets there before a deadline! The included assessments can measure learning when given as a pretest, then, after the content is viewed as a posttest. There are two options for using the assessments: they can be done as an overall quiz of the material or as “chapter-led” assessments in smaller bites—perfect for shorter group education sessions. If it is challenging to gather staff for a long orientation or staff meeting, the learning can be done one module at a time with a brief quiz for each section. Certificates are printed and filled out by the facility and can be kept as a record of the education completed.

One of the discoveries we made as we were developing these Education Kits is that we need to make a clear distinction between state regulated dementia training and continuing education requirements (CEUs). The Education Kits are not yet intended to meet CEU requirements. Another discovery was how diverse the dementia education requirements are per state and for type of facility. Some states, such as Florida, are very specific about the hours of training and even the amount of time required to address each topic. Many states may differentiate between the training that an administrator or direct care staff needs vs. the training needed by an employee that does not have “direct contact” with a person living with dementia. Not surprisingly, other states appeared to be very lax in their requirements with no minimum number of hours or specific content. Requirements for Assisted Living Facilities with Memory Care are often very different than a Skilled Nursing Facility. We quickly realized that we would not be able to create a “one size fits all” education package that we could claim meets all state requirements. For this reason, we

added a disclaimer that puts the responsibility back on the facility to be familiar with their own particular requirements when choosing a package.

Hours of education vary so drastically, and some educators want to go above and beyond what their state specifies for dementia training; so the Education Kits are organized by the number of hours the video content delivers. There are three that can be purchased individually: *PAC Skills Make the Difference*, *Dementia Care Provision*, and *Becoming Dementia Aware*. There are also various combinations of these videos, and for the facilities that want to do it up big, a “Super Bundle” that includes all three!

PAC Skills Make the Difference is a great awareness video and appropriate for all employees—direct care staff, support staff, and leadership.

Dementia Care Provision builds awareness by addressing some of the clinical concerns and risk management issues that are common with dementia—a popular choice for direct care partners and their supervisory staff.

Becoming Dementia Aware is a thorough awareness video with several modules, starting with some basics about brain function and then moving on to how we respond with our care interventions.

All three kits cover basic Positive Approach® to Care skills and techniques, and in true Teepa fashion, are lively and engaging while presenting material that learners can relate to and use!

If you have not yet checked out what these Education Kits are all about, [click on this link](#) and see for yourself how helpful and practical they are for raising the level of awareness about dementia! For some facilities, this is the first touch they will have with PAC—we hope they will see the value and uniqueness of our offerings and come back for more!