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The Inevitable Hospital Stay Learning Kit

Outline and Objectives for Video Content
Total Video Time – 120+ minutes

Description

This program focuses on what happens when someone living with dementia goes to the hospital.

Unfortunately, your loved one will more than likely have multiple visits to the hospital, but not directly because of the dementia. Most visits are caused by other conditions such as falls, hip fractures, pneumonia, or other injuries.

The goal of this program is to help you understand why hospital stays can be the most dangerous place for someone living with dementia, and how you can help change that problem.

Objectives

By the end of this session learners will be able to:

- Learn what to discuss with family members and how to work as a team with the hospital staff.
- Learn how to ask the right questions and make the best choices when speaking with the doctor.
- Learn about the drugs that are commonly prescribed in hospitals that can have severe side effects for a person living with dementia.
- Learn what to bring to the hospital to create the best environment and reduce agitation.
- Learn how to detect pain and find comforting solutions.
- Learn why it is important to have a standing order for Tylenol rather than a PRN.
- Learn why having a feeding tube is not the best outcome.
- Discuss with your partner who should be in the hospital with your loved one and should they be there in shifts for full coverage?

Outline

- Discuss with your partner what are some of the challenges a person living with dementia faces in the hospital.
- Discuss with your partner how important it is to identify the proper pain medication that is required to keep your loved one comfortable.
- Discuss with your partner what preparations need to be put in place upon admission.

- Role play with your partner a discussion with the hospital staff about concerns of your loved one's dementia.
- Discuss with your partner what previous decisions and preferences have been put in place and how to make sure the hospital staff will follow through on their wishes.
- Discuss with your partner the risks of having a feeding tube.
- Describe with your partner what you should have in your hospital bag.