STAR-VA: A Multi-Component Psychosocial Intervention for Managing Challenging Behaviors in Residents with Dementia in Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Community Living Centers

STAR-VA Overview

STAR-VA is an interdisciplinary behavioral approach to managing challenging behaviors among Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Community Living Center (CLC) residents with dementia. The STAR-VA intervention entails four core components: (1) Creating realistic expectations of individuals with dementia; (2) Promoting effective communication with individuals with dementia; (3) Identifying and changing activators and consequences of challenging behaviors (ABCs), and (4) Increasing personally relevant pleasant events through a structured process. In STAR-VA, a CLC Mental Health Provider and Registered Nurse are trained to train the entire CLC team to collaborate on behavioral assessment and care planning.

STAR-VA was adapted from the Staff Training in Assisted Living Residences (STAR) program developed by Dr. Linda Teri and colleagues at the University of Washington (e.g., Teri et al., 2010; Teri, Huda, Gibbons, Young, & van Leynseele, 2005).

Publications

**STAR-VA**


**STAR**


**STAR-VA Intervention Manual**


**Orientation to STAR-VA: Virtual Broadcast**

This 90-minute broadcast provides an overview of the core components of the STAR-VA intervention and its application in two case examples. This orientation would be helpful to administrators, nursing staff, and other team members looking to understand how a structured, team-based, behavioral approach can help the team help residents with dementia.

The broadcast may be viewed at this link:  [STAR-VA orientation broadcast](#)

**For Further Information**

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