



# DPEN Curriculum

## Nursing Education for Dementia Care

In 2020, a dedicated team launched the Dementia Palliative Education Network (DPEN). The **mission** of DPEN is to educate and prepare dementia care team members to feel capable, supported, valued, and engaged.

DPEN is changing nursing education by creating modules for competency-based training. They focus on the comprehensive care of older adults living with dementia.

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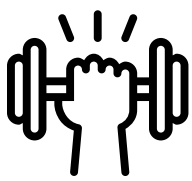
### Foundations

The educational modules focus on nurses' core competencies and scope of practice, using the ***Managing Dementia Care: Six Domains of Health framework*** by Dr. Soo Borson.



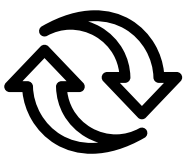
### Flexibility

Flexible to use, the curriculum can stand alone or be used as part of existing courses. This helps to ensuring adaptability to diverse educational settings.



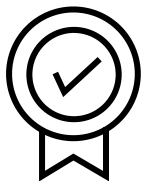
### Strengths of Modules

- Easy to navigate
- Interactivity enhances learning outcomes
- Six Domains of Health Framework helpful for organizing care
- Many nursing interventions and screening tools immediately applicable to practice



### Synchronous Strengths

- Synthesizing information
- Review module content and case study questions
- Coach learners on communicating with health care team members, patients, and care partners



### Student Tested

- Improved knowledge of how to communicate, collaborate with, and teach care partners and patients
  - Expanded understanding of the nurse role
  - Increased confidence and competency with management of behavioral challenges
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The DPEN curriculum crosses disciplinary boundaries and offers insights for all clinical environments. By empowering healthcare professionals with knowledge, this curriculum has the potential to revolutionize care practices and outcomes across many care settings.

# Available Modules

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## Core Modules

1. Introduction to Comprehensive Dementia Care and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Dementia Care
2. The Older Adult Population
3. Dementia as a Disease
4. Medical Management of Dementia
5. Medical Management in the Context of Dementia
6. Mood and Behavior Management in Dementia Part 1
7. Mood and Behavior Management in Dementia Part 2
8. Care Partner Needs Part 1
9. Care Partner Needs Part 2
10. Pulling It All Together: Care Planning



## Supplemental Modules

1. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in Dementia Care
2. Bias, Health Disparities & Systemic Inequities
3. Legal and Ethical Issues
4. The Roles of the Nurse Care Manager
5. Nurse Leadership
6. Nursing Roles in Different Settings
7. Structural and Cultural Competency in Dementia Care
8. End-of-Life and Palliative Care
9. De-escalation and Extreme Behaviors
10. Urgencies and Emergencies
11. Care Transitions
12. Dementia-Capable Health Systems
13. Nursing Care of the Patient with Parkinson's Disease



## Try it Out

- DPEN's modules can be integrated into your learning management system, such as Canvas.
- We provide pre- and post-curriculum evaluation tests.
- Each module includes a pre- and post-test, case study, and nursing implications.

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The DPEN Curriculum is nearly ready for nation-wide dissemination through UW School of Nursing:  
**[dpen.nursing.uw.edu](https://dpen.nursing.uw.edu)**



For more information, email **[schulm5@uw.edu](mailto:schulm5@uw.edu)**