Ethical Issues and End-of-Life Considerations in Dementia Management

INTRODUCTION

This course is a recorded session from the 2016 online conference “Maximizing Functional Outcomes for Patients With Dementia.” Individuals with dementia and their loved ones face many challenges, including functional decline, loss of independence, and decisions related to end-of-life medical and social interventions, among others. This session reviews key principles and medical-legal precedents related to the ethical issues that SLPs might encounter when working with individuals with dementia, focusing on changes in communication, decision-making capacity, and ability to sustain nutrition and hydration. The conference included a total of 13 sessions, with the broad goal of describing a range of evidence-based clinical care techniques to get to the heart of patient-centered dementia care.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

You will be able to:

- identify how to discern an ethical dilemma from a clinical one
- describe practical problem-solving approaches used to manage ethical dilemmas in clinical practice
- apply ethical problem-solving strategies to individual clients’ situations

PROGRAM HISTORY and IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Sessions from Maximizing Functional Outcomes for Patients With Dementia online conference

**Online conference dates:** May 11–23, 2016; November 30–December 12, 2016

**Peer reviewed:** April 24, 2017

**End date:** April 24, 2020

To earn continuing education credit, you must complete the learning assessment on or before April 24, 2020.

To see if this program has been renewed after this date, please search by title in ASHA’s online store at www.asha.org/shop.

This course is offered for **0.2 ASHA CEUs** (Intermediate level, Professional area).
STATEMENT ON EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE

It is the position of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association that audiologists and speech-language pathologists incorporate the principles of evidence-based practice in clinical decision making to provide high-quality clinical care. The term evidence-based practice refers to an approach in which current, high-quality research evidence is integrated with practitioner expertise and client preferences and values into the process of making clinical decisions.

Participants are encouraged to actively seek and critically evaluate the evidence basis for clinical procedures presented in this and other educational programs.

Adopted by the Scientific and Professional Education Board, April 2006