

Supporting Older Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Program Description

This presentation will focus on how healthcare professionals and caregivers of individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) can support them through the aging process, specifically when there are indicators of dementia present. Participants will learn about the aging process, including similarities and differences between neurotypical and neurodiverse populations. Special attention will be paid to differential diagnosis and diagnostic overshadowing of individuals with I/DD and dementia.

Participants will learn about the National Task Group on Intellectual Disabilities and Dementia Practices (NTG), which has developed various practice guidelines, national training curriculum, a robust compilation of articles and resources, and a dedicated screening and early detection instrument that is helpful for both I/DD and aging fields. By reviewing the latest research findings and engaging in interactive activities, attendees will identify action steps to support older adults with I/DD and dementia.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this workshop, participants should be able to:

1. Explain what the NTG is and what it offers.
2. Distinguish between ‘typical’ aging and ‘atypical’ aging.
3. Describe and identify instances of diagnostic overshadowing for adults with I/DD and dementia.
4. Explain how dementia may appear differently in adults with I/DD

Target Audience

Self-advocates, caregivers of adults with I/DD, direct support staff, social workers, care managers, psychologists, psychiatrists, counselors, mental health professionals, nurses, health and human services practitioners, physicians, residents, CNAs, any other healthcare professional working with older adults

Contact Hours

3.0 contact hours

Program Agenda

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Introduction to NTG, NAPA, aging, I/DD, and Dementia Screening, Differential Diagnosis
10:30 AM – 10:45 AM	Break
10:45 AM – 12:15 PM	Healthcare Advocacy; Care Strategies, Cultural Considerations
12:15 PM	Adjourn

Faculty

Kim Schlegel, MSW, LCSWA, CMC, is a social worker at the Carolina Institute for Developmental Disabilities (CIDD). She is currently the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) Coordinator at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for the North Carolina – Psychiatric Assess Line (NC–PAL) I/DD Team. She has supported individuals with I/DD and their families for over twenty years in roles including I/DD Care Manager, music therapist, staff supervisor, direct support staff, parent/family trainer, staff trainer, and temporary guardian. Ms. Schlegel is dedicated to creating and offering support to individuals with I/DD and their families to ensure they have support to live their best lives in all environments.